

7. Conditional Rendering and Lists

Last updated by | Subramanya Dixit | May 5, 2025 at 7:59 PM GMT+5:30

Why Conditional Rendering Is Important

It allows React components to dynamically change what's shown to the user, enabling better control over UI behavior based on app state or props.

Key Concepts

Conditional Rendering

Use logical or ternary operators to render components or elements based on conditions.

```
function Greeting({ isLoggedIn }) {  
  return (  
    <div>  
      {isLoggedIn ? <p>Welcome back!</p> : <p>Please log in.</p>}  
    </div>  
  );  
}
```



Short-circuit Evaluation

```
{isAdmin && <button>Delete User</button>}
```



if-else Rendering

Use conditional statements inside functions.

```
function Message({ type }) {  
  if (type === 'error') return <p>Error occurred!</p>;  
  if (type === 'success') return <p>Operation successful!</p>;  
  return null;  
}
```



Rendering Lists

Use `map()` to render multiple components from an array.

```
const users = ['Alice', 'Bob', 'Charlie'];  
  
function UserList() {  
  return (  
    <ul>  
      {users.map((user, index) => (  
        <li key={index}>{user}</li>  
      ))}  
    </ul>  
  );  
}
```



✓ Key Prop

Use a unique `key` prop to help React identify which items changed.

```
<li key={user.id}>{user.name}</li>
```



Visual Overview

flowchart TD

A[App State Changes] --> B[Evaluate Condition]

B --> C{True or False}

C -->|True| D[Render Component A]

C -->|False| E[Render Component B]



Guidelines

- Always include a `key` when rendering lists.
- Use ternary operators for inline logic.
- Avoid deeply nested if-else in JSX.
- Render fallback UI for empty lists or error states.

Practice Exercises

1. Show a different greeting message based on login state.
2. Render a list of items using `map()`.
3. Conditionally show a message when the list is empty.
4. Use a `key` prop correctly in a dynamic list.

Quiz Questions

1. What does `isLoggedIn ? <A /> : ` represent?

- a) `useEffect` hook
- b) `useState` setter

✓ c) Ternary conditional rendering

- d) JSX `map` function

2. What is the purpose of the `key` prop in lists?

- a) For styling
- b) For accessibility

✓ c) To help React track changes

- d) To render conditionally

3. What happens if you forget to include a `key` prop in a list?

- a) React shows an error
 - b) Nothing changes
 - ☒ c) React may inefficiently re-render items
 - d) List items become read-only
-

4. What does `{isAdmin && <Button />}` do?

- a) Always renders Button
 - ☒ b) Renders Button only if isAdmin is true
 - c) Throws an error if isAdmin is false
 - d) Creates a loop
-