React (also known as React.js or ReactJS) is an open-source, front end, JavaScript library[3] for building user interfaces or UI components. It is maintained by Facebook and a community of individual developers and companies.[4][5][6] React can be used as a base in the development of single-page or mobile applications. React's main task is rendering data in the dom, but can be lifted up by many libraries such as react-router or material-ui.

React does not attempt to provide a complete "application library". It is designed specifically for building user interfaces[3] and therefore does not include many of the tools some developers might consider necessary to build an application. This allows the choice of whichever libraries the developer prefers to accomplish tasks such as performing network access or local data storage. Common patterns of usage have emerged as the library matures.

React was created by Jordan Walke, a software engineer at Facebook, who released an early prototype of React called "FaxJS".[31][32] He was influenced by XHP, an HTML component library for PHP. It was first deployed on Facebook's News Feed in 2011 and later on Instagram in 2012.[33] It was open-sourced at JSConf US in May 2013. [32]

React Native, which enables native Android, iOS, and UWP development with React, was announced at Facebook's React Conf in February 2015 and open-sourced in March 2015.

On April 18, 2017, Facebook announced React Fiber, a new core algorithm of React library for building user interfaces.[34] React Fiber was to become the foundation of any future improvements and feature development of the React library.[35][needs update]

On September 26, 2017, React 16.0 was released to the public.[36]

On February 16, 2019, React 16.8 was released to the public.[37] The release introduced React Hooks.[38]

On August 10, 2020, the React team announced the first release candidate for React v17.0, notable as the first major release without major changes to the React developer-facing API.[39]