

JSX Limitations

```
return (  
  <h2>Hi there!</h2>  
  <p>This does not work :-(</p>  
);
```

You **can't return more than one "root" JSX element** (you also can't store more than one "root" JSX element in a variable).

Because this also isn't valid JavaScript

```
return (  
  React.createElement('h2', {}, 'Hi there!')  
  React.createElement('p', {}, 'This does not work :-(  
);
```

The Solution: Always Wrap Adjacent Elements

```
return (  
  <div>  
    <h2>Hi there!</h2>  
    <p>This does not work :-(</p>  
  </div>  
);
```

Important: Doesn't have to be a <div> - ANY element will do the trick.

A New Problem: “<div> Soup”

```
<div>
  <div>
    <div>
      <div>
        <h2>Some content - yeah, this can really happen.</h2>
      </div>
    </div>
  </div>
</div>
```

In bigger apps, you can easily end up with **tons of unnecessary <div>s** (or other elements) which add **no semantic meaning or structure** to the page but **are only there because of React's/ JSX' requirement**.

Introducing Fragments

OR

```
return (  
  <React.Fragment>  
    <h2>Hi there!</h2>  
    <p>This does not work :-(</p>  
  </React.Fragment>  
);
```

```
return (  
  <>  
    <h2>Hi there!</h2>  
    <p>This does not work :-(</p>  
  </>  
);
```

It's an **empty wrapper component**: It **doesn't render** any real HTML element to the DOM. But it **fulfills React's/ JSX' requirement**.

Understanding React Portals

```
return (  
  <React.Fragment>  
    <MyModal />  
    <MyInputForm />  
  </React.Fragment>  
);
```



Real DOM

```
<section>  
  <h2>Some other content ... </h2>  
  <div class="my-modal">  
    <h2>A Modal Title!</h2>  
  </div>  
  <form>  
    <label>Username</label>  
    <input type="text" />  
  </form>  
</section>
```

Semantically and from a “clean HTML structure” perspective, having this nested modal isn’t ideal. It is an **overlay to the entire page** after all (that’s similar for side-drawers, other dialogs etc.).

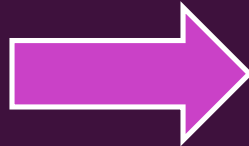
Understanding React Portals

It's a bit like styling a `<div>` like a `<button>` and adding an event listener to it: It'll work, but it's not a good practice.

```
<div onClick={clickHandler}>Click me, I'm a bad button</div>
```

Understanding React Portals

```
return (  
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    <MyModal />  
    <MyInputForm />  
  </React.Fragment>  
);
```

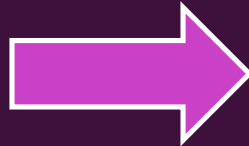


Real DOM

```
<section>  
  <h2>Some other content ... </h2>  
  <div class="my-modal">  
    <h2>A Modal Title!</h2>  
  </div>  
  <form>  
    <label>Username</label>  
    <input type="text" />  
  </form>  
</section>
```

Understanding React Portals

```
return (  
  <React.Fragment>  
    <MyModal />  
    <MyInputForm />  
  </React.Fragment>  
);
```



Real DOM

```
<div class="my-modal">  
  <h2>A Modal Title!</h2>  
</div>  
<section>  
  <h2>Some other content ... </h2>  
  <form>  
    <label>Username</label>  
    <input type="text" />  
  </form>  
</section>
```