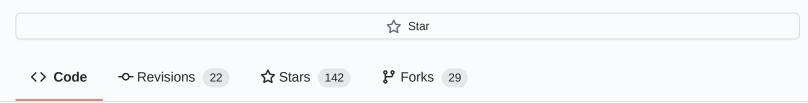
matthewjberger / notes.md

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How to make an electron app using Create-React-App and Electron with Electron-Builder.

```
    notes.md
```

Note: This post is a summary of information paraphrased from an excellent blog post by Christian Sepulveda.

Prerequisites

- Create-React-App
- Yarn

Instructions

Create the app and download the necessary dependencies.

```
create-react-app my-app
cd my-app
yarn add electron --dev
yarn add electron-builder --dev
yarn global add foreman # for process management
yarn install
```

Add electron-quick-start's main.js to src folder as electron-starter.js.

Make the mainWindow.loadurl call look like this instead:

```
// load the index.html of the app.
const startUrl = process.env.ELECTRON_START_URL || url.format({
   pathname: path.join(__dirname, '/../build/index.html'),
   protocol: 'file:',
   slashes: true
});
mainWindow.loadURL(startUrl);
```

Create a file called electron-wait-react.js in src directory:

```
const net = require('net');
const port = process.env.PORT ? (process.env.PORT - 100) : 3000;
process.env.ELECTRON_START_URL = `http://localhost:${port}`;
const client = new net.Socket();
let startedElectron = false;
const tryConnection = () => client.connect({port: port}, () => {
        client.end();
        if(!startedElectron) {
            console.log('starting electron');
            startedElectron = true;
            const exec = require('child_process').exec;
            exec('npm run electron');
        }
    }
);
tryConnection();
client.on('error', (error) => {
    setTimeout(tryConnection, 1000);
});
```

Ensure that the name, description, author, and version fields of your package.json are filled out. Then make the package.json look like this at the bottom:

```
"homepage": "./",
  "main": "src/electron-starter.js",
  "scripts": {
    "start": "nf start -p 3000",
   "build": "react-scripts build",
    "test": "react-scripts test --env=jsdom",
    "eject": "react-scripts eject",
    "electron": "electron .",
    "electron-start": "node src/electron-wait-react",
    "react-start": "react-scripts start",
    "pack": "build --dir",
    "dist": "npm run build && build",
   "postinstall": "install-app-deps"
},
"build": {
    "appId": "com.electron.electron-with-create-react-app",
        "iconUrl": "https://cdn2.iconfinder.com/data/icons/designer-skills/128/react-256.p
    },
    "directories": {
        "buildResources": "public"
   }
}
```

Note: The electron-builder quick-start instructions can be found here.

Create a file called Procfile in the root folder of the app and put the following code in it:

```
react: npm run react-start
electron: npm run electron-start
```

Run using:

yarn start



hi, thx for this work.

I'm looking for to use mysql module under "creat-react-app & electron". Connection can't be established beacause "Net" module isnt provided. Do you have a solution? thank you

amalantony commented on 22 Aug 2017

You need to stress that adding the "homepage": "./" in package.json is mandatory. This ensures that create-react-app builds the static assets for electron as opposed to a web application.

taewo commented on 15 Sep 2017

Hi! thanks to your post.

It is just working in local.

If i want packaging create-react-app(use npm electron-packager), How can i do this?

And then use npm electron-installer-dmg .

notdrone commented on 9 Oct 2017

@taewo you'll need to do npm run build before this to generate the static files

To add HMR (Hot Module Reloading) just replace the contents of your src/index.js file with this:

```
import React from 'react';
import ReactDOM from 'react-dom';
import ' /indox occ';
```

```
import ./index.css;
import App from './App';
import registerServiceWorker from './registerServiceWorker';
registerServiceWorker();
function render(Component) {
 ReactDOM.render(
    <Component />,
    document.getElementById('root')
  );
}
render(App);
if (module.hot) {
  module.hot.accept('./App', () => {
    const NextApp = require('./App').default;
    render(NextApp);
 })
}
```

To add **SASS** support just follow these guidelines:

https://github.com/facebookincubator/create-react-app/blob/master/packages/react-scripts/template/README.md#adding-acss-preprocessor-sass-less-etc

and then replace the start-js script with nf start -p 3000

mhebrard commented on 31 Jan 2018

How do I build my electron app?

npm start works fine, both web and desktop

npm run build works fine, build folder ready for web version
but I cannot build the desktop version... which command, which script plz.

Pau1fitz commented on 1 Feb 2018

@mhebrad did you try yarn run dist?

Nahasean94 commented on 14 Feb 2018

@pau 1 fitz.. What will that do? Mine says "command dist not found"

@mhebrad...how did you solve this issue? Even after adding "homepage" :". /" to my package.json to mine, referencing it in index.html of my electron app does not work... I get a blank page with one only the title of the page I added in the html page.. Plus any other custom html that I added. Anything wrote in react does not work... Anyone please help..



May I suggest adding npm-run-all to devDependencies and put this in scripts

```
"start": "run-p \"reactStart\" \"electronStart\"",
    "electronStart": "electron .",
    "reactStart": "react-scripts start",
```

Also need to add BROWSER="NONE" to your .env file so your browser dosen't open.

This allows electron to start when you run start.



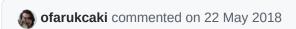
@Nahasean94 @mhebrard I think i got a solution.

So i tried just doing yarn dist: didnt work due to the build config specified here not being good enough now.

So i removed it completely and ran yarn dist again: (CRA is now supported by electron-builder so it makes its own proper config), but new problem.

The config looks for an electron.js file in the public folder to run the app.. so basically the electron-starter.js just without the devTools open. So i copied it into the public and renamed it to electron.js and ran yarn dist yet again. This time it worked, it builds the reactscript then the electron part, but be sure to wait for the process to be complete building everything. :D So to tidy things up, just change the main entry point in your package.json to 'public/electron.js' and use that instead of the electron-starter.js that was in src folder just to avoid using 2 of the same files basically.

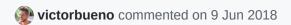
Hope this helps! :D



After building app, when I launched the only thing I see is a white screen with "React App" title. What I'm doing wrong? Any idea



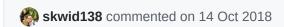
Hi, I am also getting the same problem as @ofarukcaki(blank page with no error in devtools). Could you solve it?



Add "extends": null to build block. See Issue 2030



@kingsukhoi | get | Uncaught | Exception: ReferenceError: url is not defined at App.createWindow in a modal on top of a white screen electron app



Using this gist and what @simonsankar said I created a repo with these changes as to use as a template. Hope it's helpful to someone.



I created Electron-Create-React-App-TypeScript Repository following this document. Thx a lot!





🥷 zcmgyu commented on 5 Feb 2019

I've injected electron-prebuilt-compile into project to use ES6 syntax (cannot use spread operator). So I added babel loader as well but Create-react-app will give a warning related to babel config.

If you don't mind could you please give me some idea to resolve it. (bow)



HadyZ commented on 22 Feb 2019

Hi, I moved step by step and I faced these errors can you help?

\$ npm start > airport-miami@0.1.0 start C:\Users\Dev\desktop\itxi\React\airport-miami > nf start -p 3000 2:23:22 PM react.1 | > airport-miami@0.1.0 react-start C:\Users\Dev\desktop\ itxi\React\airport-miami 2:23:22 PM react.1 | > BROWSER=none react-scripts start 2:23:22 PM react.1 | 'BROWSER' is not recognized as an internal or external command, 2:23:22 PM react.1 | operable program or batch file. 2:23:22 PM react.1 | npm 2:23:22 PM react.1 | ERR! code 2:23:22 PM react.1 | ELIFECYCLE 2:23:22 PM react.1 | npm 2:23:22 PM react.1 | ERR! errno 2:23:22 PM react.1 | 1 2:23:22 PM react.1 | npm 2:23:22 PM react.1 | ERR! airportmiami@0.1.0 react-start: BROWSER=none re act-scripts start 2:23:22 PM react.1 | npm 2:23:22 PM react.1 | ERR! Exit status 1 2:23:22 PM react.1 | npm ERR! 2:23:22 PM react.1 | npm ERR! Failed at the airport-miami@0.1.0 react-start script. 2:23:22 PM react.1 | npm ERR! This is probably not a problem with npm. There is likely additional logging output above. 2:23:22 PM electron.1 | > airport-miami@0.1.0 electron-start C:\Users\Dev\deskt op\itxi\React\airport-miami 2:23:22 PM electron.1 | > node src/start-react 2:23:22 PM react.1 | npm ERR! A complete log of this run can be found in: 2:23:22 PM react.1 | npm ERR! 2:23:22 PM react.1 | C:\Users\Dev\AppData\Roaming\npm-cache_logs\2019- 02-22T12_23_22_605Zdebug.log [DONE] Killing all processes with signal SIGINT 2:23:22 PM react.1 Exited with exit code null 2:23:42 PM electron.1 | (node:1068) MaxListenersExceededWarning: Possible Event Emitter memory leak detected. 11 connect listeners added. Use emitter.setMaxList eners() to



vince1393 commented on 6 Jan 2020

@simonsankar

increase limit

I tried what you recommended here and cant seem to figure it out. I've checked out a few of your repos and it looks like your dist command is the same.

the errorikeep getting on yarn dist is 'build' is not recognized as an internal or external command, operable program or batch file.

Did you have any luck solving this?



🔛 mieco commented on 9 Jan 2020

@vince1393

I got the same error, and I use electron-builder instead of build, it works for me.



@vince1393 Oh man I havent done any electron projects in a while, and I dont think i ran into that issue. Have you tried cloning either https://github.com/simonsankar/cra-electron-starter or https://github.com/skwid138/electron-create-react-app?



vince1393 commented on 14 Jan 2020

So i managed to get it to build by using electron builder. I switched my scripts to:

```
"scripts": { "start": "nf start -p 3000", "build": "react-scripts build", "test": "react-scripts test --
env=jsdom", "eject": "react-scripts eject", "electron": "electron .", "electron-start": "node src/electron-
wait-react", "react-start": "react-scripts start", "pack": "electron-builder --dir", "dist": "react-scripts
build && electron-builder --win -p always", "postinstall": "install-app-deps" }
```

I followed the file structure of this: https://github.com/getstream/winds

If anyone runs into this issue, I have a repo here that builds correctly using yarn dist https://github.com/vince1393/movie manager

Thanks @simonsankar and @mieco for your help!



🛐 simonsankar commented on 16 Jan 2020

Ahh thats great to hear!

I just cloned my starter and on my end it still works

Ill try out your edit next



x truonghongtrieu commented on 3 Apr 2020

Also need to add BROWSER="NONE" to your .env file so your browser dosen't open.

This allows electron to start when you run start.

Thanks @kingsukhoi

This is exactly what I am looking for:

Adding Browser="NONE" prevents the browser from opening so that only the Electron app is running.