

Writing your first React with GraphQL and Apollo Client

This lesson briefs you about the application we will build in this chapter.



In this chapter, you will learn how to combine React with GraphQL in your application using Apollo.

The **Apollo toolset** can be used to create a GraphQL client, GraphQL server, and other complementary applications, but for now, we will use the Apollo Client for your React client-side application. Along the way, we will build a simplified GitHub client that consumes [GitHub's GraphQL API](#) using Apollo instead of using plain HTTP requests as we did in one of the previous chapters.

Apollo Client can be used to perform queries and mutations.

Let's now focus on using Apollo Client in React by building another client application. Basically, you will learn how to:

- connect the data-layer to the view-layer
- send queries and mutations from the view-layer
- update the view-layer to reflect the results
- use GraphQL features like **pagination**, **optimistic UI**, **caching**, **local state management**, and **prefetching with Apollo Client** in React.

You can find the final project as [repository on GitHub](#).

Regarding the repository, the folders primarily represent **React** components. Some components will be reusable UI components such as the `Input` and `Link` components, while other components like `Repository` and `Profile` components are domain specific for the GitHub client application. Moreover, the *constants* folder has only one file to specify the application's routes, which will be introduced later. You may want to navigate from a page that shows repositories of an organization (`Organization` component) to a page which shows your repositories (`Profile` component).

The application in this chapter will use plain CSS classes and CSS files. By following the plain CSS classes, we can avoid difficulties that may occur with other tools. All the CSS files and their content can be found in the appendix section for this application. The components will use their class names without explaining them.

The next lessons would be purely dedicated to **JavaScript**, **React**, and **GraphQL**.