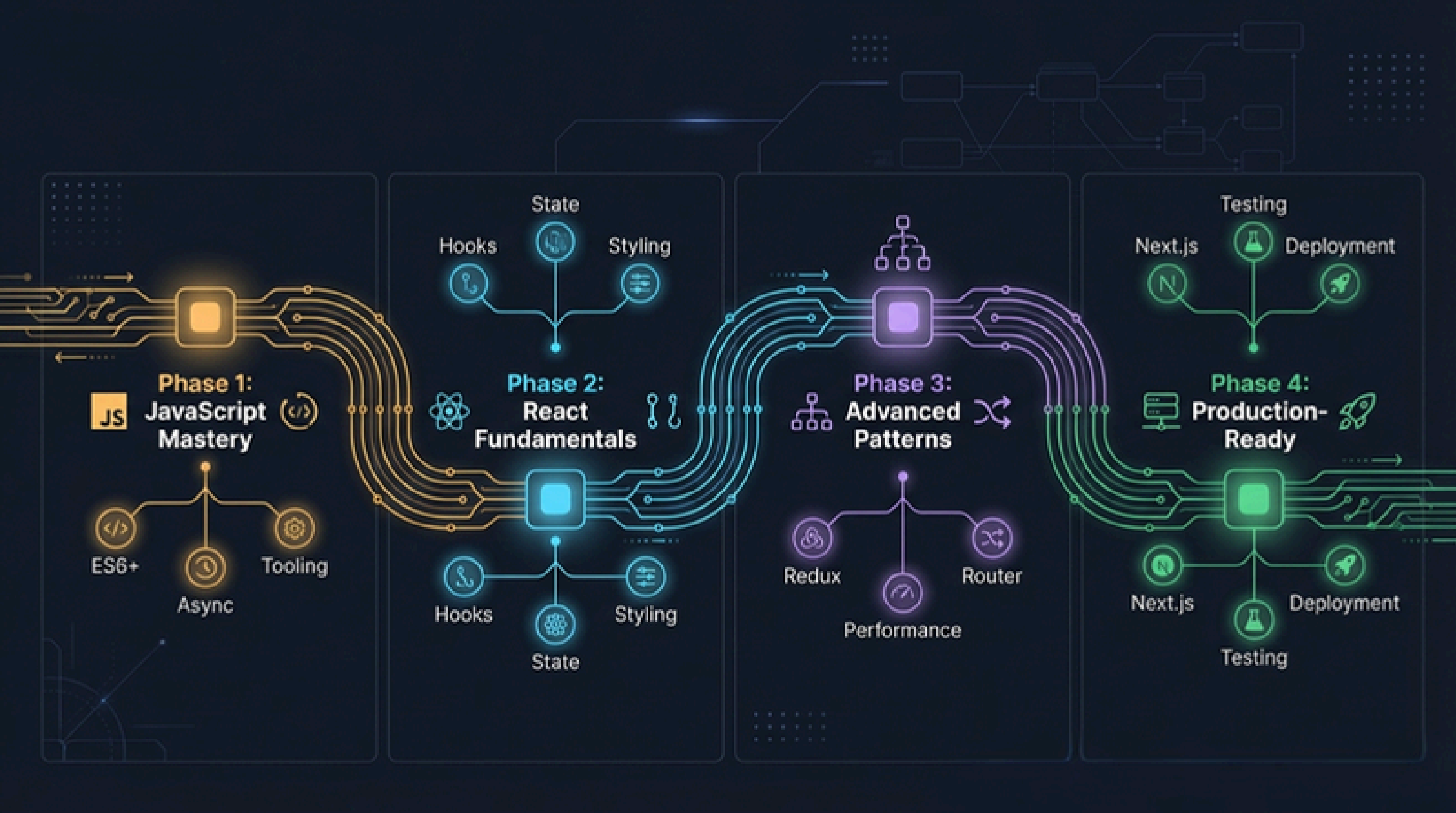




# React Developer Roadmap 2026

From JavaScript Basics to Production-Ready Architecture

Curated by Balaji Yadav | [www.balajiyadav.me](http://www.balajiyadav.me)



# Choose Your Velocity

## Intensive Track

The Sprint

# 4 Weeks

JetBrains Mono

- 40-50 hrs/week
- 160-200 total hours
- Target: Career Changers

## Standard Track

The Marathon

# 12 Weeks

JetBrains Mono

- 15-20 hrs/week
- 180-240 total hours
- Target: Professionals

## Part-Time Track

The Trek

# 24 Weeks

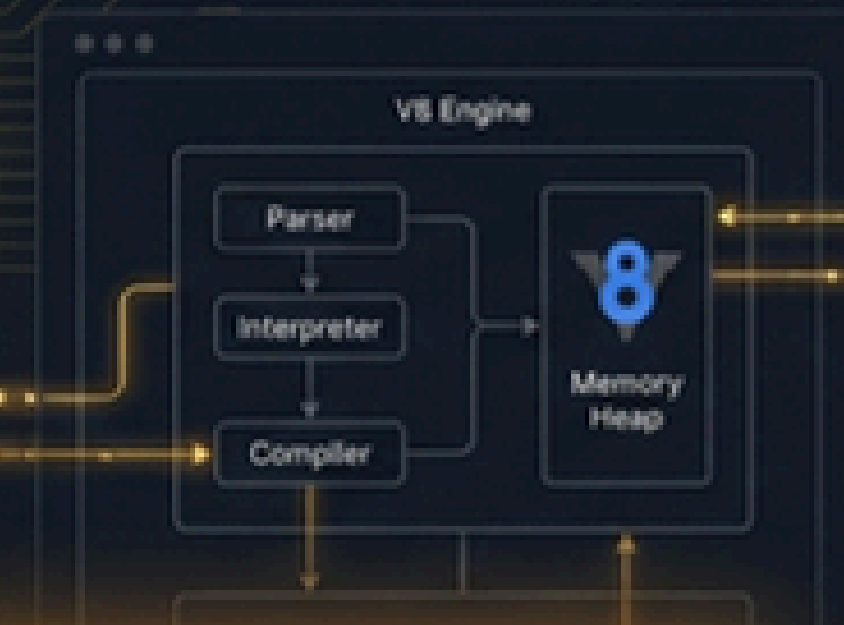
JetBrains Mono

- 8-10 hrs/week
- 192-240 total hours
- Target: Busy Schedules

# Phase 1: JavaScript Mastery

Modern React is built on Modern JavaScript.

JS



## </> Syntax & Data

- ES6+ Essentials (let/const, Arrow Functions)
- Array Methods (map, filter, reduce)
- Destructuring & Spread Operators

## </> Asynchronous

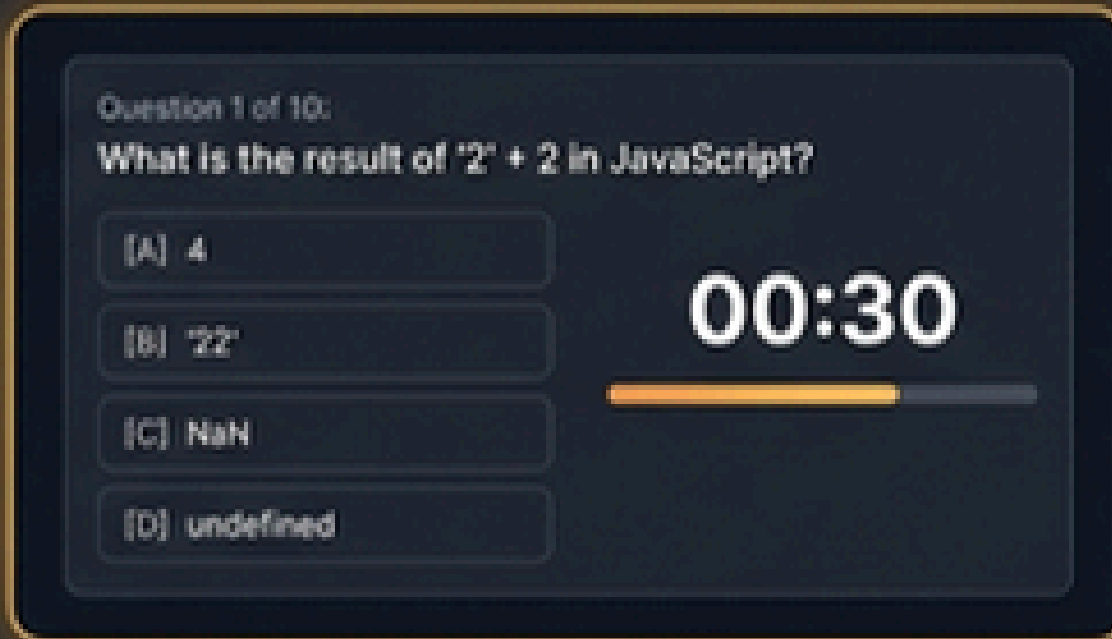
- Event Loop & Callbacks
- Promises & async/await
- Fetch API & Error Handling

## </> Tooling

- NPM Basics & package.json
- ES Modules (import/export)
- Vite Setup

# Phase 1: Build & Validate

## Project A: Interactive Quiz App



Question 1 of 10:  
What is the result of '2' + 2 in JavaScript?

[A] 4  
[B] '22'  
[C] NaN  
[D] undefined

00:30

The screenshot shows a quiz interface with a question, four multiple-choice options, and a 30-second timer. The options are: [A] 4, [B] '22', [C] NaN, and [D] undefined. The timer is at 00:30.

**Focus:** DOM Manipulation, Local Storage, Event Handling.

## Project B: GitHub Profile Finder



Enter GitHub username...

Username: octocat  
Name: The Octocat  
Bio: Github mascot and developer advocate

Repos: 85	Followers: 5000	Following: 10
--------------	--------------------	------------------

The screenshot shows a GitHub profile finder interface. It features a search input field with the placeholder text "Enter GitHub username...". Below the search field, there is a profile card for the user "octocat". The profile card displays the GitHub logo, the username "octocat", the name "The Octocat", and the bio "Github mascot and developer advocate". At the bottom of the profile card, there are three statistics: "Repos: 85", "Followers: 5000", and "Following: 10".

**Focus:** Fetch API, Async/Await, JSON Parsing.

**Milestone:** Complete both projects + Solve 30 JavaScript challenges (Codewars/LeetCode).

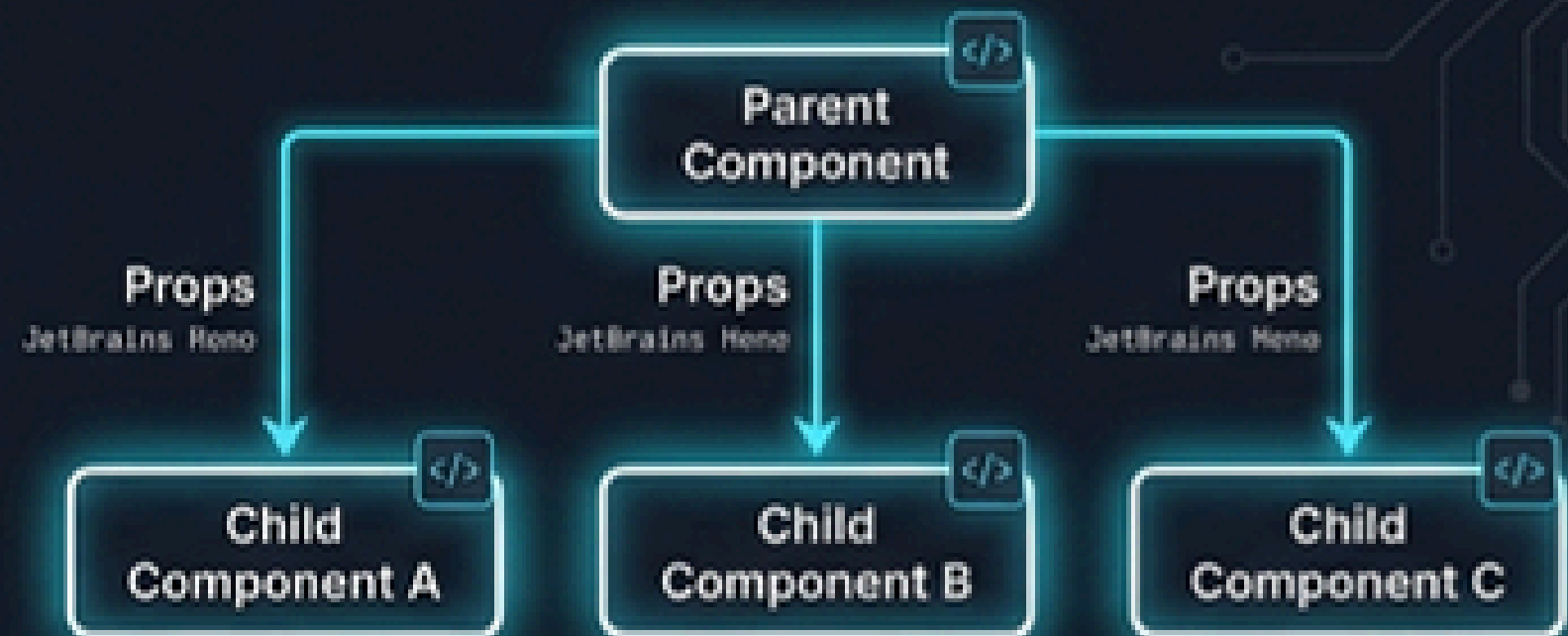
# Phase 2: React Fundamentals

Thinking in Components

## Architecture

Inter

- JSX Syntax & Expressions
- Props & Data Flow
- Lists & Keys



## State & Effects

JetBrains Mono

- useState (Local State)
- useEffect (Side Effects)
- Handling Events

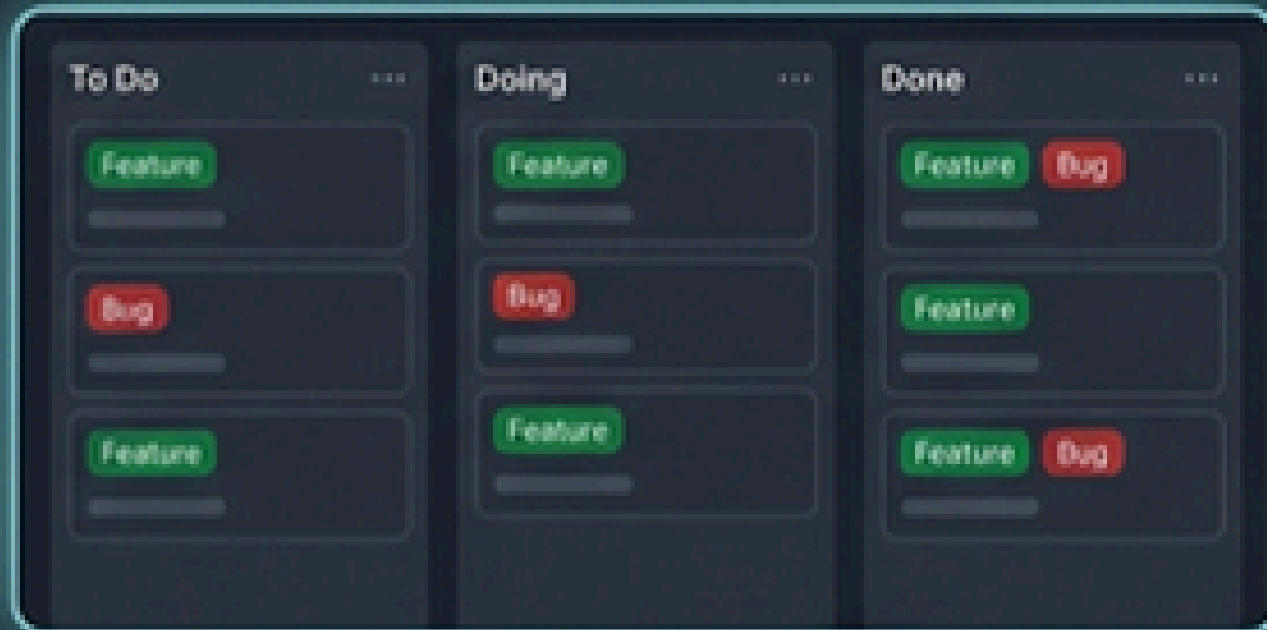
## Styling

JetBrains Mono

- CSS Modules
- Tailwind CSS
- Conditional Styling

# Phase 2: Build & Validate

## Project A: Task Manager



**Focus:** useState, CRUD Operations, Component Composition.

## Project B: Weather Dashboard



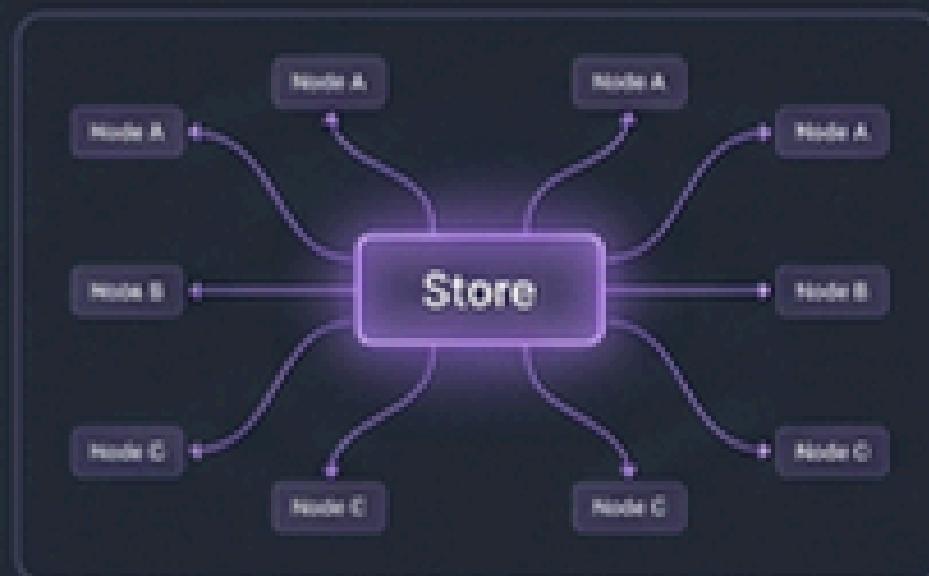
**Focus:** API Integration, Conditional Rendering.

**Milestone:** Build both projects with clean component structure and responsive design.

# Phase 3: Advanced Patterns

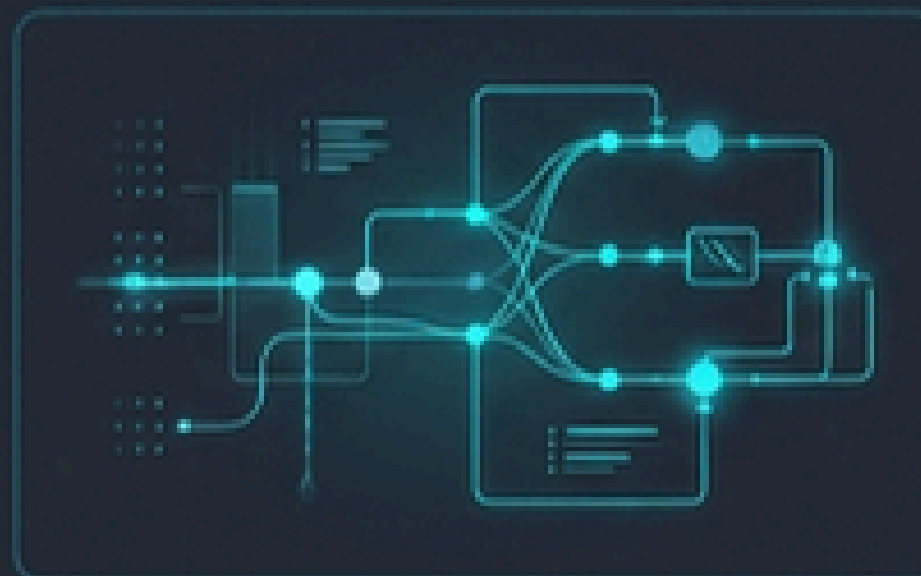
Managing Complexity at Scale

## Global State



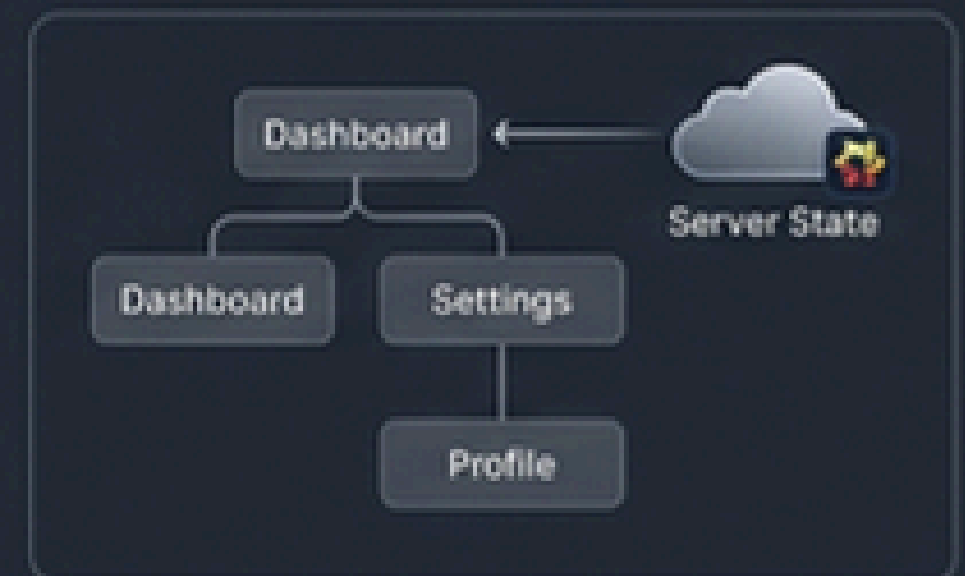
Context API  
Redux Toolkit (RTK)  
Zustand

## Advanced Hooks



useReducer  
useMemo & useCallback  
Custom Hooks

## Routing & Data



React Router (Nested/Protected)  
TanStack Query (Server State)

# Phase 3: Build & Validate

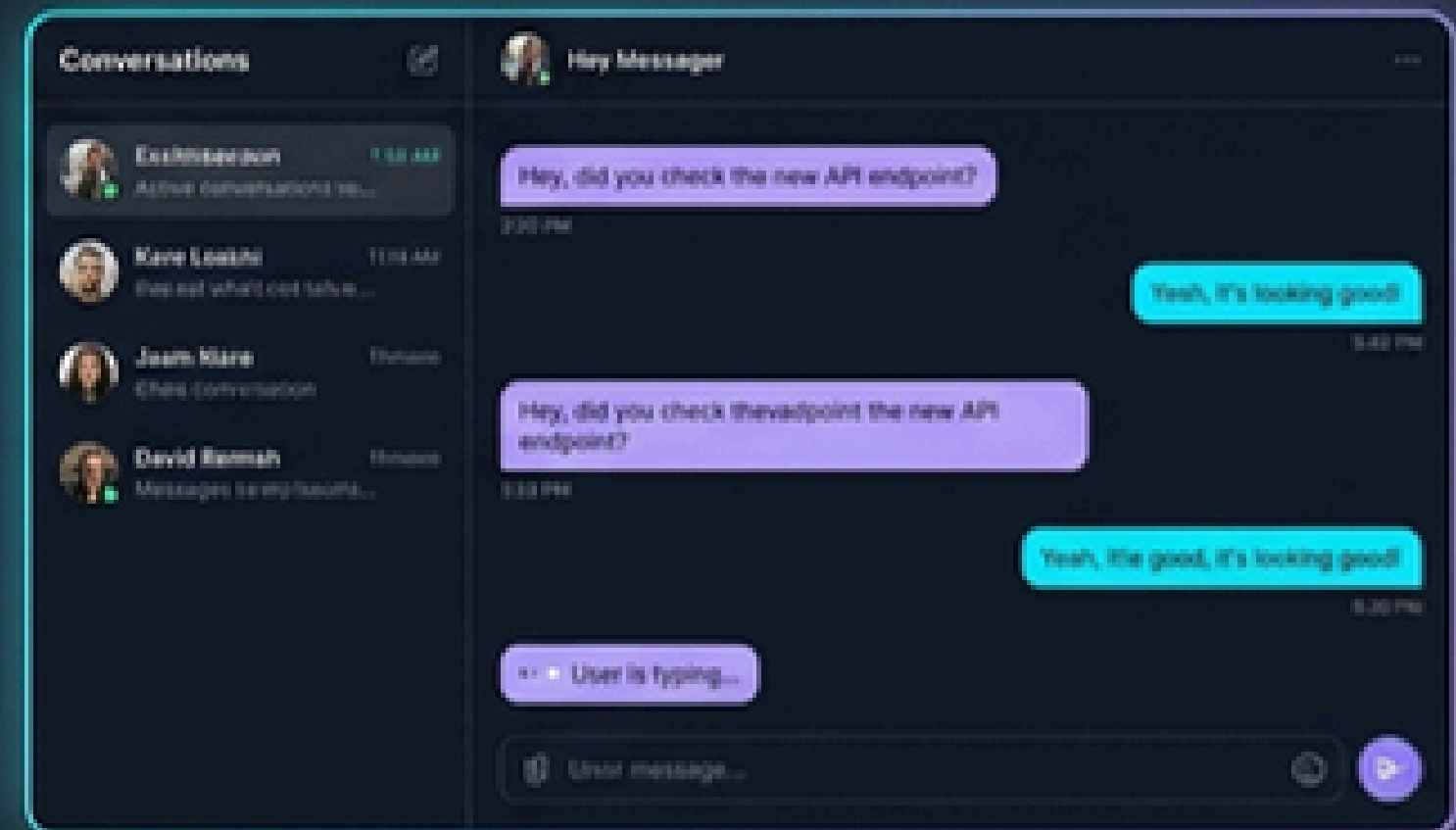
Constructing Complex Applications & Verifying Functionality

## Project A: E-Commerce Store



Stack: Redux Toolkit, Router. Features: Cart persistence, Auth.

## Project B: Real-Time Chat



Stack: WebSockets, Context. Features: Live history, multiple rooms.

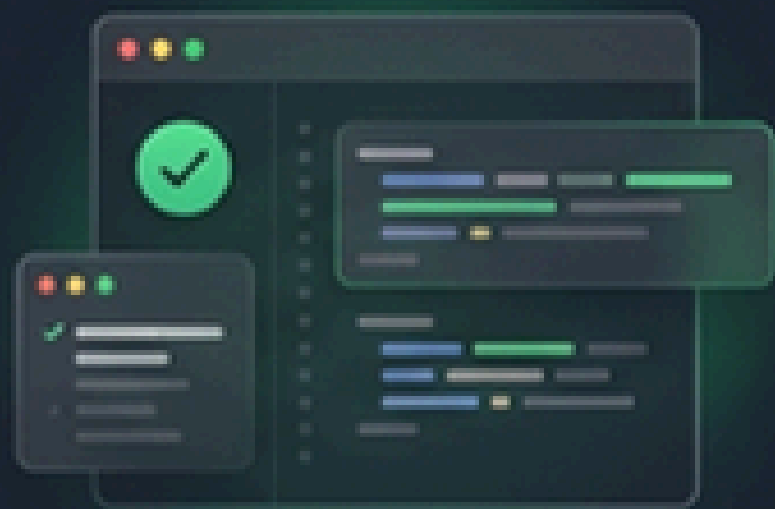
**Milestone:** Complete E-Commerce store with full cart functionality and checkout simulation.

# Phase 4: Production-Ready React

Ship with Confidence.

## Quality Assurance

- Jest & React Testing Library
- Unit vs Integration Testing
- Mocking APIs



## Performance & A11y

- Code Splitting
- Lighthouse Auditing
- Accessibility (ARIA)

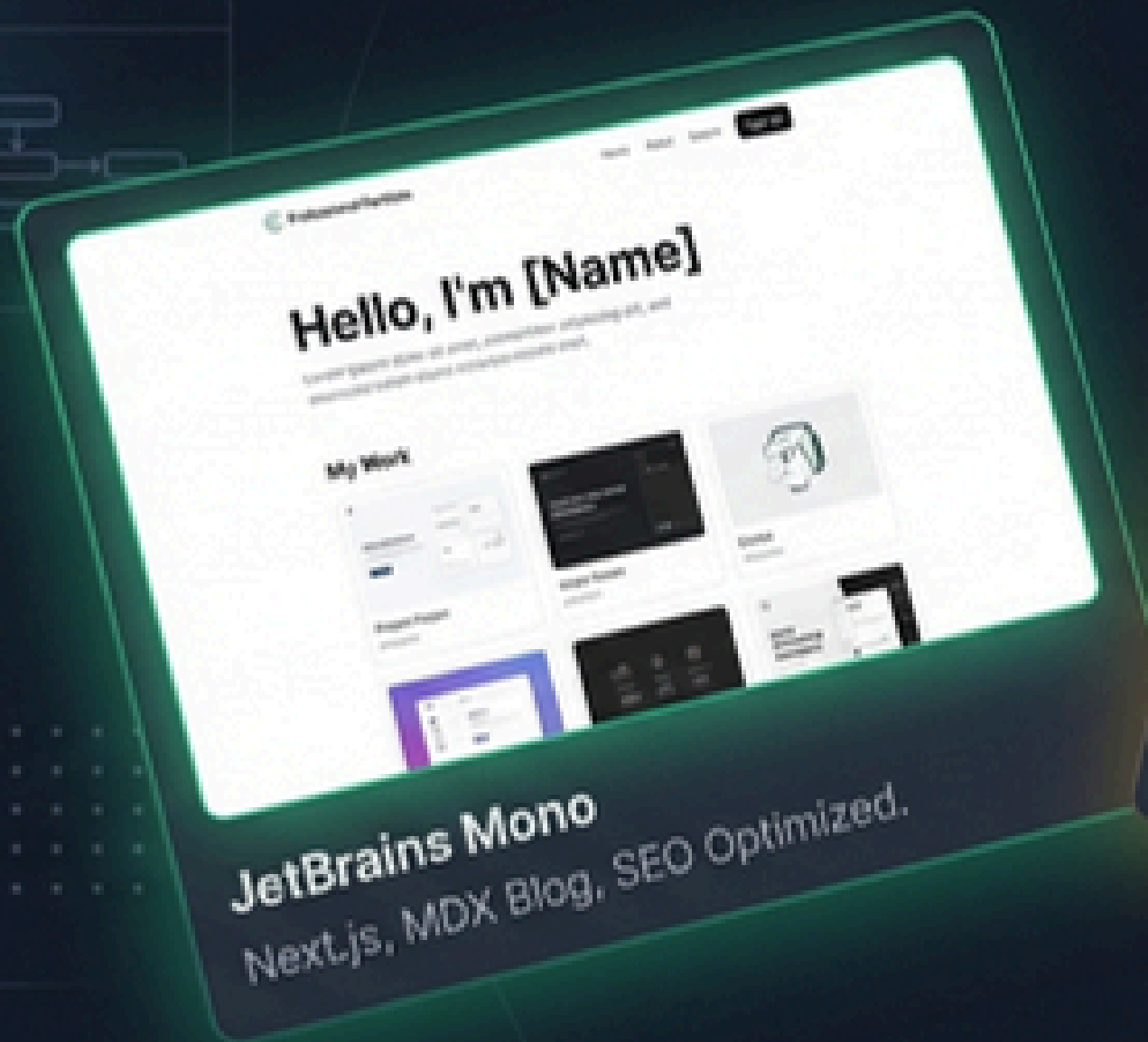


## Next.js Ecosystem

- App Router
- Server Components (RSC)
- SSR vs SSG



# Phase 4: The Portfolio Pieces



✅ **Final Milestone:** Deploy portfolio with 80%+ test coverage and Lighthouse score >90.

# Your Arsenal

## Docs



- Official React Docs
- MDN Web Docs

## Styling



- Tailwind CSS
- Styled Components

## State



- Redux Toolkit
- TanStack Query

## Testing



- Jest
- Testing Library

## Deployment



- Vercel
- Netlify

## Community



- GitHub Open Source
- Discord

# The Destination

## Target Roles

✓ React Developer

✓ UI Engineer

✓ Full Stack Developer

## Keys to Success

```
// Build projects, don't just watch tutorials.
```

```
// Read error messages; they are your best teachers.
```

```
// Contribute to open source.
```

```
// Master fundamentals before libraries.
```

Start Coding Today.

[www.balajiyadav.me](http://www.balajiyadav.me)

Roadmap Design & Curation by Balaji Yadav