

Mobile App Development

with React Native

Thorsten Blum, June 18, 2020

Thorsten Blum

- Computer Science at Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
 - Media Arts at HfG Karlsruhe
- Freelance software developer for 10+ years
 - Mobile apps, web apps, and other software
- References
 - Apps: Things, ~~Magical Weather~~, Xtrail, Larifari, and many others
 - Clients: Daimler, HeidelbergCement, Siemens, Schindler, Silicon Valley Startups

Agenda

- Quick **JavaScript** introduction
- Mobile app development
 - Native vs. cross-platform (vs. hybrid)
 - React Native
- Let's build a small **Weather App**
 - Using <https://snack.expo.io/> online development environment

JavaScript

JS

- Created by Brendan Eich in 1995
 - 10 days (syntax Java-like, but it's not Java)
 - JS is now everywhere (frontend, backend, apps, etc.)
- Most web sites/apps require JavaScript to work properly
 - HTML + CSS + JS
 - twitter.com, spiegel.de, sz.de, etc.
- React Native uses JavaScript

Mobile App Development

Native vs. Cross-Platform

- Native apps
 - iOS: Swift/Objective-C
 - Android: Java/Kotlin
- Cross-platform apps (iOS and Android)
 - Xamarin: C#/.Net
 - **React Native: JavaScript**

Mobile App Development

with React Native

- React Native - "a framework for building native apps using React"
 - React.js and React Native are developed by Facebook
 - JavaScript
- Local app development setup is relatively easy
 - Setting up the development environment
- We'll be focusing on snack.expo.io today

Weather App

- Let's build a small weather app together
 - Weather data from <https://openweathermap.org>
 - Spoiler: we won't win a design award just yet
- 8 tasks in total - let's get started