# Angular-8 Angular dev build vs prod build

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## Angular dev build vs prod build

> To generate a development build we can use

ng build

> To generate a production build we use

ng build --prod



**Source Maps**: Development build generate Source Maps where as production build does not.

#### **What are Source Maps**

To improve the performance, the application's JavaScript and CSS files are combined and compressed. It is extremely difficult to debug those compressed files. A source map holds information about the original files and can be used to map the code within a compressed file back to it's original position in a source file.

So with the help of these source maps we can easily debug our applications even after the files are compressed and combined.



By default, a development build produce source maps where as a production build does not. However, we can change this default behavior by using **--source-map** option along with the ng build command.

The following command produces a development build without source maps

ng build --source-map=false

On the other hand, if you want source maps along with your production build

ng build --prod --source-map=true



**Extracts CSS**: With the development build global styles are extracted to .js files where as with the production build they are extracted to .css files. To change this default behavior use **--extract-css** option

The following command produces a development build with global styles extracted to .css file(s) instead of .js ones.

ng build --extract-css



Minification & Uglification: A Prod Build is both minified and uglified, where as a Dev Build is not.

#### What is Minification

The process of removing excess whitespace, comments, and optional tokens like curly brackets and semicolons is called Minification.

#### What is Uglification

The process of transforming code to use short variable and function names is called uglification.

The minified and uglified version of the file is smaller in size than the full version, resulting in faster response times and lower bandwidth costs.



**Tree Shaking:** A Prod build is Tree Shaked, where as a Dev build is not.

#### What is Tree Shaking

Tree shaking is the process of removing any code that we are not actually using in our application from the final bundle. It's one of the most effective techniques to reduce the application size.

If you look at the bundles generated by the production build, they are significantly less in size compared with the bundles generated by the development build. This is because with the production build the code is tree shaked to remove dead code i.e the code that is not referenced by the application.



**Ahead-of-Time (AOT) Compilation:** With a production build we get AOT (Ahead-of-Time) compilation, i.e. the Angular component templates are pre-compiled, where as with a development build they are not.

Feature	Development Build	Production Build
Source Maps	Yes	No
Extracts CSS	.js file	.css file
Minifaction	No	Yes
Uglification	No	Yes
Tree Shaking	No	Yes
AOT	No	Yes





**Thank You** 

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