

Adding navigation

This guide builds on the first step of the Getting Started tutorial, Get started with a basic Angular app.

At this stage of development, the online store application has a basic product catalog.

In the following sections, you'll add the following features to the application:

- Type a URL in the address bar to navigate to a corresponding product page.
- Click links on the page to navigate within your single-page application.
- Click the browser's back and forward buttons to navigate the browser history intuitively.

{@a define-routes}

Associate a URL path with a component

The application already uses the Angular **Router** to navigate to the **ProductListComponent**. This section shows you how to define a route to show individual product details.

1. Generate a new component for product details. In the terminal generate a new **product-details** component by running the following command:


```
ng generate component product-details
```
2. In **app.module.ts**, add a route for product details, with a **path** of **products/:productId** and **ProductDetailsComponent** for the component.
3. Open **product-list.component.html**.
4. Modify the product name anchor to include a **routerLink** with the **product.id** as a parameter.

The **RouterLink** directive helps you customize the anchor element. In this case, the route, or URL, contains one fixed segment, **/products**. The final segment is variable, inserting the **id** property of the current product. For example, the URL for a product with an **id** of 1 would be similar to **https://getting-started-myfork.stackblitz.io/products/1**.

5. Verify that the router works as intended by clicking the product name. The application should display the **ProductDetailsComponent**, which currently says "product-details works!"

Notice that the URL in the preview window changes. The final segment is **products/#** where **#** is the number of the route you clicked.

View product details

The `ProductDetailsComponent` handles the display of each product. The Angular Router displays components based on the browser's URL and your defined routes.

In this section, you'll use the Angular Router to combine the `products` data and route information to display the specific details for each product.

1. In `product-details.component.ts`, import `ActivatedRoute` from `@angular/router`, and the `products` array from `../products`.
2. Define the `product` property.
3. Inject `ActivatedRoute` into the `constructor()` by adding `private route: ActivatedRoute` as an argument within the constructor's parentheses.

`ActivatedRoute` is specific to each component that the Angular Router loads. `ActivatedRoute` contains information about the route and the route's parameters.

By injecting `ActivatedRoute`, you are configuring the component to use a service. The Managing Data step covers services in more detail.

4. In the `ngOnInit()` method, extract the `productId` from the route parameters and find the corresponding product in the `products` array.

The route parameters correspond to the path variables you define in the route. To access the route parameters, we use `route.snapshot`, which is the `ActivatedRouteSnapshot` that contains information about the active route at that particular moment in time. The URL that matches the route provides the `productId`. Angular uses the `productId` to display the details for each unique product.

5. Update the `ProductDetailsComponent` template to display product details with an `*ngIf`. If a product exists, the `<div>` renders with a name, price, and description.

The line, `<h4>{{ product.price | currency }}</h4>`, uses the `currency` pipe to transform `product.price` from a number to a currency string. A pipe is a way you can transform data in your HTML template. For more information about Angular pipes, see Pipes.

When users click on a name in the product list, the router navigates them to the distinct URL for the product, shows the `ProductDetailsComponent`, and displays the product details.

For more information about the Angular Router, see Routing & Navigation.

What's next

You have configured your application so you can view product details, each with a distinct URL.

To continue exploring Angular:

- Continue to [Managing Data](#) to add a shopping cart feature, manage cart data, and retrieve external data for shipping prices.
- Skip ahead to [Deployment](#) to deploy your application to Firebase or move to local development.

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