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Lesson Objectives

- Why use routing?
- Defining a route table
- Navigation using hyperlink & code
- Supplying parameters to a route URL



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Routing



- Routing means loading sub-templates depending upon the URL of the page.
- We can break out the view into a layout and template views and only show the view which we want to show based upon the URL the user is accessing.
- Routes are a way for multiple views to be used within a single HTML page. This enables you page to look more "app-like" because users are not seeing page reloads happen within the browser.

Defining routes in application can:

- Separate different areas of the app
- Maintain the state in the app
- Protect areas of the app based on certain rules

The browser is a familiar model of application navigation:

Enter a URL in the address bar and the browser navigates to a corresponding page.

Click links on the page and the browser navigates to a new page.

Click the browser's back and forward buttons and the browser navigates backward and forward through the history of pages you've seen.

The Angular Router ("the router") borrows from this model. It can interpret a browser URL as an instruction to navigate to a client-generated view. It can pass optional parameters along to the supporting view component that help it decide what specific content to present.

```
import { RouterModule, Routes } from '@angular/router';
```

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AngularJS Routes



- AngularJS routes enable us to create different URLs for different content in our application.
- Having different URLs for different content enables the user to bookmark URLs to specific content.
- In Angular 2 routes are configured by mapping paths to the component that will handle them.

For instance, let consider an application with 2 routes:

- A main page route, using the `/#/home` path;
- An about page, using the `/#/about` path;
- And when the user visits the root path (`/#/`), it will redirect to the home path.

```
import { RouterModule, Routes } from '@angular/router';
```

A router has no routes until you configure it. The following example creates four route definitions, configures the router via the `RouterModule.forRoot` method, and adds the result to the `AppModule`'s imports array.

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Routing Setup



- To implement Routing to Angular Application

Import RouterModule and Routes from '@angular/router'

```
import { RouterModule, Routes } from '@angular/router';
```

- Define routes for application

```
const routes: Routes = [ { path: 'home', component: HomeComponent }];
```

- Install the routes using RouterModule.forRoot(routes) in the imports of NgModule

```
imports: [ BrowserModule, RouterModule.forRoot(routes)]
```

A router has no routes until you configure it. The following example creates four route definitions, configures the router via the RouterModule.forRoot method, and adds the result to the AppModule's imports array.

The appRoutes array of *routes* describes how to navigate. Pass it to the RouterModule.forRoot method in the module imports to configure the router. Each Route maps a URL path to a component. There are *no leading slashes* in the *path*. The router parses and builds the final URL for you, allowing you to use both relative and absolute paths when navigating between application views

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Components of Angular 2 routing



There are three main components are used to configure routing in Angular

Routes

- Describes the routes application supports

RouterOutlet

- A "placeholder" component that gets expanded to each route's content

RouterLink

- Directive is used to link to routes

Basic Routing Steps

Set `<base href="/">` tag

Use the `RouterConfig` on the root component

Use the `RouterOutlet` Component as placeholder

Use the `RouterLink` directive for Link

Router outlet

Given this configuration, when the browser URL for this application becomes `/heroes`, the router matches that URL to the route path `/heroes` and displays the `HeroListComponent` *after* a `RouterOutlet` that you've placed in the host view's HTML.

COPY CODE `<router-outlet></router-outlet> <!-- Routed views go here -->`

Router links

Now you have routes configured and a place to render them, but how do you navigate? The URL could arrive directly from the browser address bar.

The `RouterLink` directives on the anchor tags give the router control over those elements. The navigation paths are fixed, so you can assign a string to the `routerLink` (a "one-time" binding).


Had the navigation path been more dynamic, you could have bound to a template expression that returned an array of route link parameters (the *link parameters array*). The router resolves that array into a complete URL.

The **`RouterLinkActive`** directive on each anchor tag helps visually distinguish the anchor for the currently selected "active" route. The router adds the active CSS class to the element when the associated `RouterLink` becomes active. You can add this directive to the anchor or to its parent element.

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Router Part	Meaning
Router	Displays the application component for the active URL. Manages navigation from one component to the next.
RouterModule	A separate Angular module that provides the necessary service providers and directives for navigating through application views.
Routes	Defines an array of Routes, each mapping a URL path to a component.
Route	Defines how the router should navigate to a component based on a URL pattern. Most routes consist of a path and a component type.
RouterOutlet	The directive (<router-outlet>) that marks where the router displays a view.

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RouterLink	The directive for binding a clickable HTML element to a route. Clicking an element with a routerLinkdirective that is bound to a <i>string</i> or a <i>link parameters array</i> triggers a navigation.
RouterLinkActive	The directive for adding/removing classes from an HTML element when an associated routerLinkcontained on or inside the element becomes active/inactive.
ActivatedRoute	A service that is provided to each route component that contains route specific information such as route parameters, static data, resolve data, global query params, and the global fragment.
RouterState	The current state of the router including a tree of the currently activated routes together with convenience methods for traversing the route tree.
<i>Link parameters array</i>	An array that the router interprets as a routing instruction. You can bind that array to a RouterLink or pass the array as an argument to the Router.navigate method.
<i>Routing component</i>	An Angular component with a RouterOutlet that displays views based on router navigations.

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Routes



- To define routes for application, create a Routes configuration and then use `RouterModule.forRoot(routes)` to provide application with the dependencies necessary to use the router.
 - path specifies the URL this route will handle
 - component maps to the Component and its template
 - optional `redirectTo` is used to redirect a given path to an existing route

```
const routes: Routes = [  
  { path: '', redirectTo: 'home', pathMatch: 'full' },  
  { path: 'home', component: HomeComponent },  
  { path: 'about', component: AboutComponent },  
  { path: 'contact', component: ContactComponent },  
  { path: 'contactus', redirectTo: 'contact' },  
];
```

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RouterOutlet



- The router-outlet element indicates where the contents of each route component will be rendered.
- RouterOutlet directive is used to describe to Angular where in our page we want to render the contents for each route

```
@Component({  
  selector: 'my-app',  
  template: `<div class="container">  
    <router-outlet></router-outlet>  
  </div>`  
})
```

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RouterLink



- It generates link based on the route path.
- routerLink navigates to a route

```
<div>  
  <a [routerLink]="['Home']">Home</a>  
  <a [routerLink]="['About']">About  
  Us</a>  
</div>
```

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RouterOutlet & RouterLink



Component :

Template

```
<a [routerLink]="['Go']">Go</a>
```

```
<router-outlet>
```

HTML : `<a [routerLink]="['Go']">Go`

Code : `router.navigate(['Go']);`

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Routing Strategies



The way the Angular application parses and creates paths from and to route definitions is now location strategy.

HashLocationStrategy ('#/')

PathLocationStrategy (HTML 5 Mode Default)

```
//import LocationStrategy and HashLocationStrategy
import {LocationStrategy, HashLocationStrategy} from
'@angular/common';

//add that location strategy to the providers of NgModule
providers: [
  { provide: LocationStrategy, useClass: HashLocationStrategy }
]
```

HTML5 client-side routing

With the introduction of HTML5, browsers acquired the ability to programmatically create new browser history entries that change the displayed URL without the need for a new request. This is achieved using the `history.pushState` method that exposes the browser's navigational history to JavaScript.

So now, instead of relying on the anchor hack to navigate routes, modern frameworks can rely on `pushState` to perform history manipulation without reloads.

This way of routing already works in Angular 1, but it needs to be explicitly enabled using `$locationProvider.html5Mode(true)`.

In Angular 2, the HTML5 is the default mode.

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Route Parameters



Route Parameters helps to navigate to a specific resource. For instance product with id 3

- /products/3

route takes a parameter by putting a colon : in front of the path segment

- /route/:param

To add a parameter to router configuration and to access the value refer the code given below

```
const routes: Routes =([
  { path:'/products/:id', name:'Product',
    component:ProductComponent }
])
```

```
/*To access the parameter value */
routeParams.get('id')
```

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ActivatedRoute



In order to access route parameter value in Components, we need to import `ActivatedRoute`

```
import { ActivatedRoute } from  
'@angular/router'
```

inject the `ActivatedRoute` into the constructor of our component

```
export class ProductComponent {  
  id: string;  
  
  constructor(private route: ActivatedRoute) {  
    route.params.subscribe(params => { this.id = params['id'];  
  });  
}
```

Notice that `route.params` is an observable. We can extract the value of the param into a hard value by using `.subscribe`.


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Demo

DemoRouter

DemoRouterPassingParameter



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Summary

- Routing means loading sub-templates depending upon the URL of the page.
- To implement Routing to Angular Application

Import RouterModule and Routes from '@angular/router'

```
import { RouterModule, Routes } from '@angular/router';
```

