**Directives:** In Angular, directives are classes that add behavior to elements in your Angular applications. They allow you to manipulate the DOM, create reusable components, and enhance the functionality of your templates. There are three main types of directives:

1. **Components**: These are directives with a template. They are the most common type and encapsulate the view, logic, and styles in a single unit. For example, a <my-component> would be a component directive.
2. **Structural Directives**: These change the structure of the DOM by adding or removing elements. Common structural directives include:
   * \*ngIf: Conditionally includes or excludes an element based on a boolean expression.
   * \*ngFor: Iterates over a collection and creates a template for each item.
   * \*ngSwitch: A set of directives for conditional rendering based on a matching expression.
3. **Attribute Directives**: These change the appearance or behavior of an existing element without altering its structure. They can modify properties, styles, or classes of the elements they are applied to. Examples include:
   * ngStyle: Dynamically sets the style of an element.
   * ngClass: Dynamically adds or removes classes from an element.

You create a directive by using the @Directive decorator, and you can apply it in your templates like an HTML attribute or an element tag, depending on its type. Directives are powerful tools for creating dynamic and interactive web applications in Angular.