



The best kept secrets of Angular CLI

What is Angular CLI? https://cli.angular.io/

- It's a code generator
- It's a set of tools for development (local server, auto-refresh)
- It's a set of build tools (compile, lint, minify...)
- Also very helpful for testing

How to create a new Angular project

- First install Angular CLI globally, once for all:
 npm install -g @angular/cli
- Then you can create a project in any folder:
 ng new my-project
- Every ng command is an Angular CLI command
- ng new will install of the files required for your project and perform the initial npm install

First best kept secret: Dry run

• Sometimes we would like to try a command before it creates too many files:

ng new my-project --dry-run

• CLI tells us exactly what it would do, but doesn't change your file system when using the dry run option

Second best kept secret: Skip install

• Sometimes we would like to not run the first npm install:

ng new my-project --skip-install

• CLI will create your project files and only skip the final step, npm install

Best kept secret #3: Routing option

• If our app will use the component router, CLI can generate a sample config for it:

ng new my-project --routing

• The config will be empty but all wired up. Just add your routes!

Best kept secret #4: Prefix option

- By default, CLI will use a app prefix for all your components, directives, etc.
- We can change that default behavior:
 ng new my-project --prefix ac

 You can also change the prefix later on in .angular-cli.json

Best kept secret #5: Using SASS?

 CLI supports CSS by default, but you can ask it to use SASS instead:

ng new my-project --style scss

 You can also change the style config later on in .angular-cli.json

Ng serve

One our project is ready, we can serve it locally:
 ng serve

- The server runs port 4200 by default, which can be changed in .angular-cli.json
- That server has a nice auto-refresh feature

Best kept secret #6: Shortcut syntax

- CLI allows us to create new components:
 ng generate component HelloWorld
- And there is a shortcut syntax for that:
 ng g c HelloWorld
- Also works with s for service, f for pipe, etc.
- Can also use -d for --dry-run

Best kept secret #7: Auto-provide

• Let's generate a new service:

ng g s Data

- We get a warning that the service is not provided, which means it won't be injectable
- Let's fix it by asking CLI to update the module config:

ng g s Data -m app.module

The secret for testers

• Run all your unit tests:

ng test

- With a --code-coverage (alias -cc) option
- Run all you end-to-end tests with protractor and Webdriver:

ng e2e

Most useful secret: Environments

- CLI supports as many environments as you need
- You can define a set of variables (like URLs, resources, etc.) that are specific to your QA, UAT, dev or prod servers for instance.
- As always, this is defined in .angular-cli.json
- Then build or serve specifying the environment (default is dev):

ng serve --env=qa

Most fun secret: Eject

• If you want to get rid if CLI: ng eject

- This will give you access to the webpack config as well as some mpm scripts to replace CLI
- Use with caution! There's no way back.



Any questions?



Thank you!

All of these secrets and more: https://github.com/angular/angular-cli/wiki

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