Angular Directives

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Angular Directives are the most important features of Angular. In this, tutorial We will look at three types of directives that Angular supports like Component, Structural, and Attribute Directives. We also look at the few of the most commonly used Angular directives.

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What is Angular Directive

The Angular directive helps us to manipulate the DOM. You can change the appearance, behavior, or layout of a DOM element using the Directives. They help you to extend HTML

There are three kinds of directives in Angular:

1. Component Directive
2. Structural directives
3. Attribute directives

Component Directive

Components are special directives in Angular. They are the directive with a template (view) We covered how to create Components in Angular tutorial.

Structural Directives

Structural directives can change the DOM layout by adding and removing DOM elements. All structural Directives are preceded by Asterix symbol

Commonly used structural directives

ngFor

The ngFor is an Angular structural directive, which repeats a portion of the HTML

template once per each item from an iterable list (Collection). The ngFor is similar to ngRepeat in AngularJS

Example of ngFor

```
1
2   <tr *ngFor="let customer of customers;">
3       <td>{{customer.customerNo}}</td>
4       <td>{{customer.name}}</td>
5       <td>{{customer.address}}</td>
6       <td>{{customer.city}}</td>
7       <td>{{customer.state}}</td>
8   </tr>
9
10
```

You can read more about the Angular ngFor Directive tutorial.

ngSwitch

The ngSwitch directive lets you add/remove HTML elements depending on a match expression. ngSwitch directive used along with ngSwitchCase and ngSwitchDefault

The example of ngSwitch

```
1
2   <div [ngSwitch]="Switch_Expression">
3       <div *ngSwitchCase="MatchExpression1"> First Template</div>
4       <div *ngSwitchCase="MatchExpression2">Second template</div>
5       <div *ngSwitchCase="MatchExpression3">Third Template</div>
6       <div *ngSwitchCase="MatchExpression4">Third Template</div>
7       <div *ngSwitchDefault?>Default Template</div>
8   </div>
9
```

You can read more about the Angular ngSwitch Directive tutorial.

ngIf

The ngIf Directives is used to add or remove HTML elements based on an expression. The expression must return a boolean value. If the expression is false then the element is removed, else the element is inserted

Example of ngIf

```
1
2  <div *ngIf="condition">
3      This is shown if condition is true
4  </div>
5
```

You can read more about Angular ngIf Directive tutorial.

Attribute Directives

An Attribute or style directive can change the appearance or behavior of an element.

Commonly used Attribute directives

ngModel

The ngModel directive is used the achieve the two-way data binding. We have covered `ngModel` directive in Data Binding in Angular Tutorial

ngClass

The `ngClass` is used to add or remove the CSS classes from an HTML element. Using the `ngClass` one can create dynamic styles in HTML pages

Example of ngClass

```
1
2  <div [ngClass]="'first second'">...</div>
3
```

ngStyle

[ngStyle](#) is used to change the multiple style properties of our HTML elements. We can also bind these properties to values that can be updated by the user or our components.

Example of ngStyle

```
1
2  <div [ngStyle]="{'color': 'blue', 'font-size': '24px', 'font-weight': 'bold'}">
3    some text
4  </div>
5
```

Building Custom Directives

You can also build custom directives in Angular. The Process is to create a JavaScript class and apply the **@Directive** attribute to that class. You can write the desired behavior in the class.

Summary

In this tutorial, we introduced you to the **directives in Angular**. In the next few tutorials, we will look at some of the important directives in detail

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1. [Angular Tutorial](#)
2. [Angular Directives](#)
3. [ngFor](#)

4. ngSwitch
5. ngIf
6. ngClass
7. ngStyle
8. ngFor Trackby
9. Custom Directive

1 thought on "Angular Directives"

WAPMORTY

MAY 12, 2022 AT 3:43 PM

Hey ! Thanks for your amazing work on this tutorial, really appreciate it.

I just noticed that you mention here the existence of 3 types of directives (Component directive, Structural directive and Attribute directive), but in your Introduction to this tutorial, you only mentioned 2 types of directives (Structural directives and Attribute directives).

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