

Creating and Reading Signals



Deborah Kurata

Developer | Content Creator | MVP | GDE

@deborahkurata | https://www.youtube.com/@deborah_kurata



Create a Signal

`signal`
constructor function

```
quantity = signal<number>(1);
```

Optional type:
string
number
array
object

Required initial
value

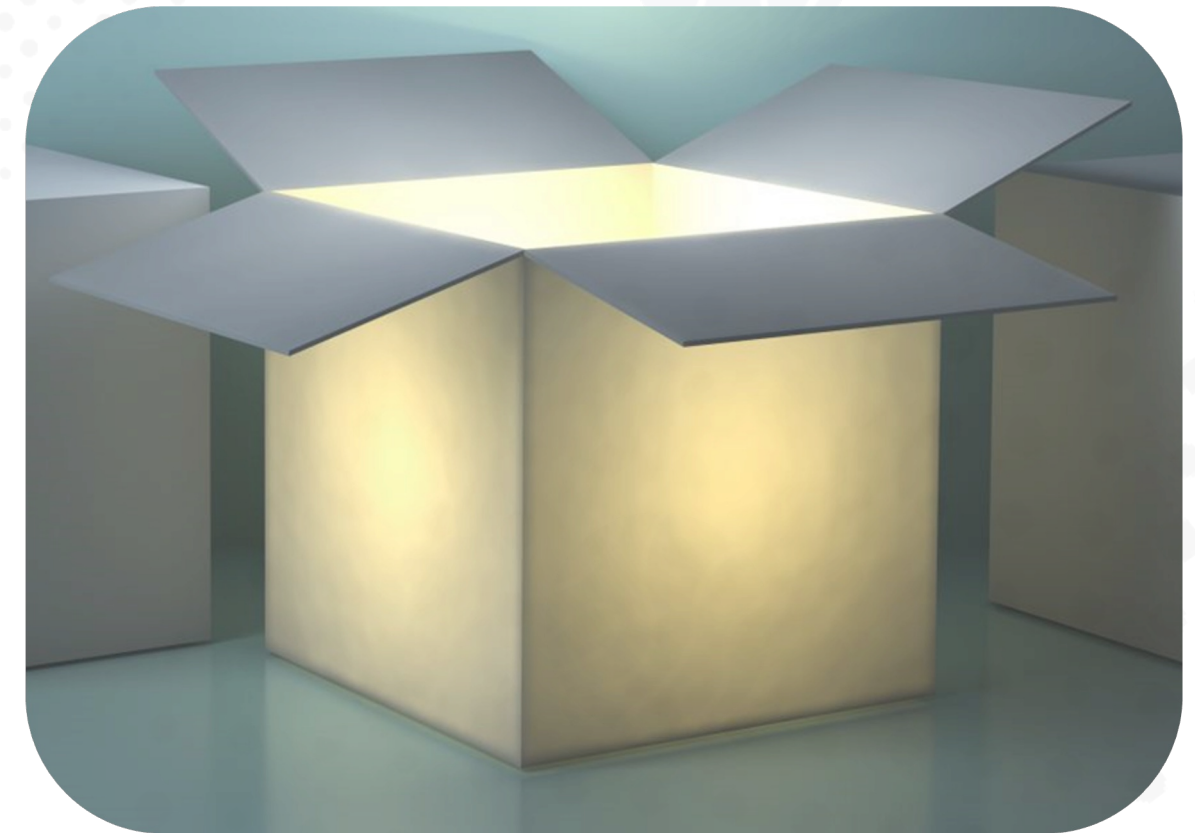


Read a Signal

signal name

```
quantity();
```

"open the box"



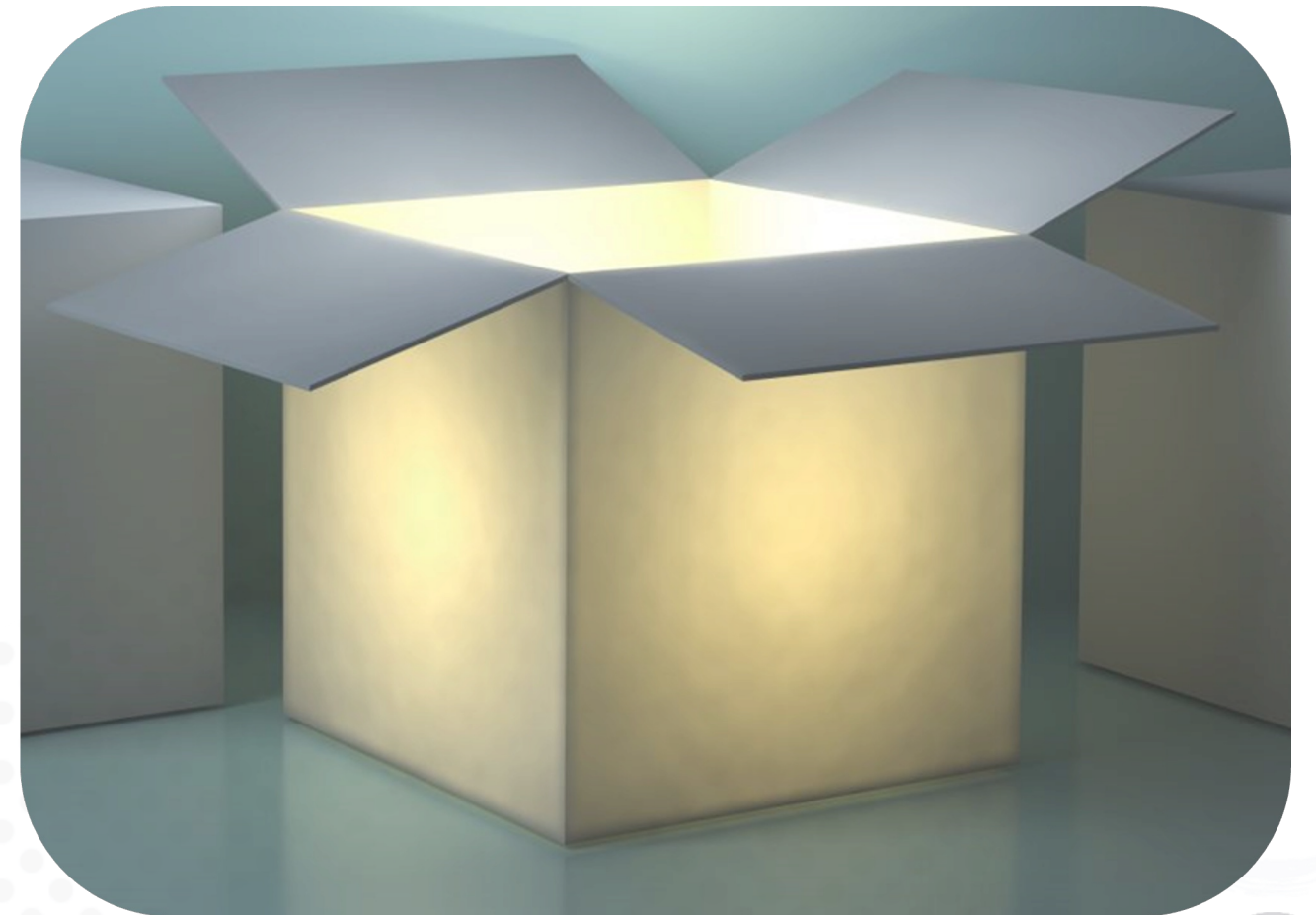
Reading a Signal

A signal only holds one value,
the **current value**

Reading the signal reads
the **current value**

Calls the signal's **getter function**

```
quantity();
```



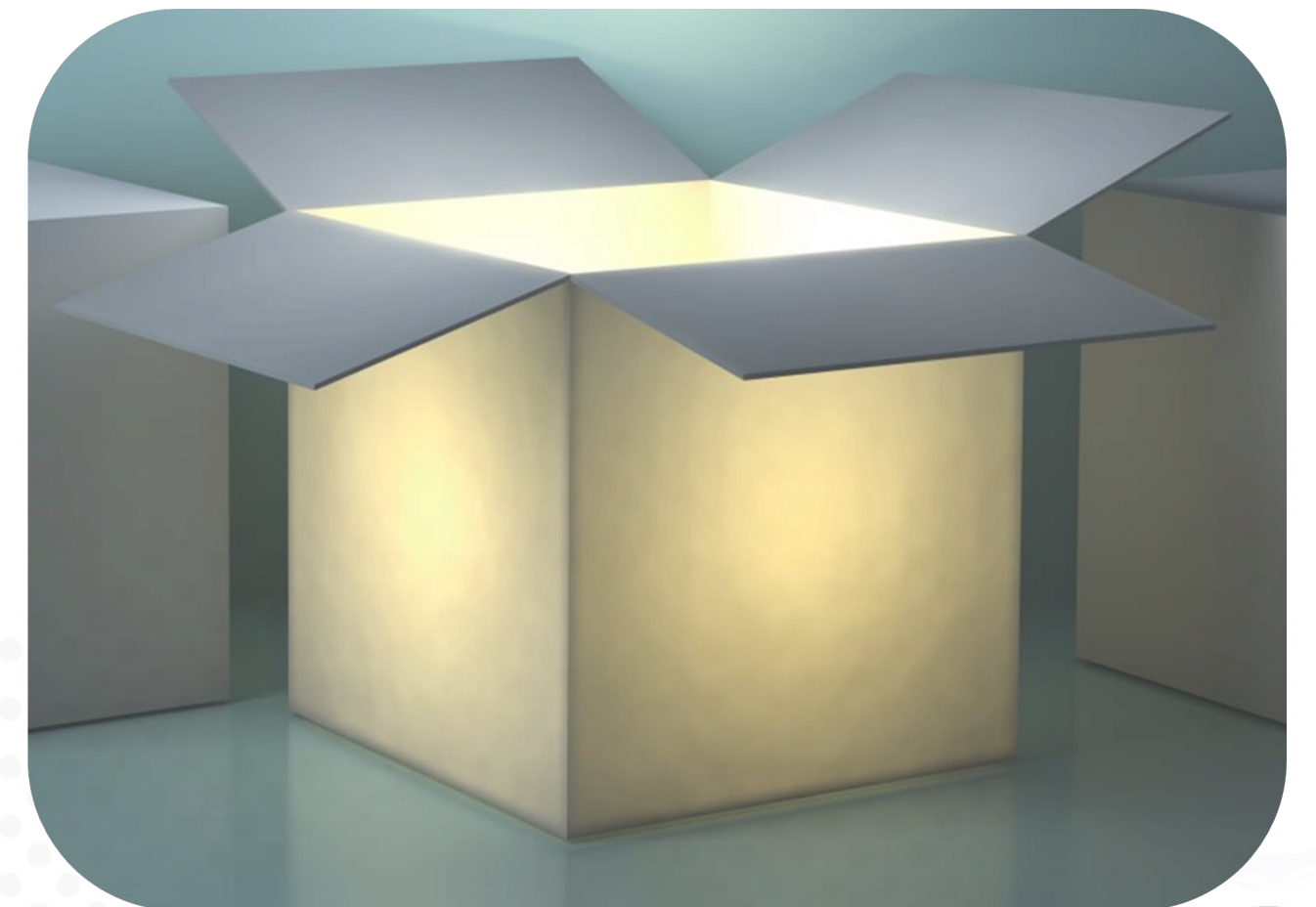
Reading a Signal in a **Template**

Displays the **current value**

Registers the signal as a **dependency** of the view

When the signal changes,
the portion of the view
is **re-rendered**

```
<div>  
  {{ quantity() }}  
</div>
```



Reading a Signal in a **Reactive Function**

Tracks each referenced signal as a **dependency**

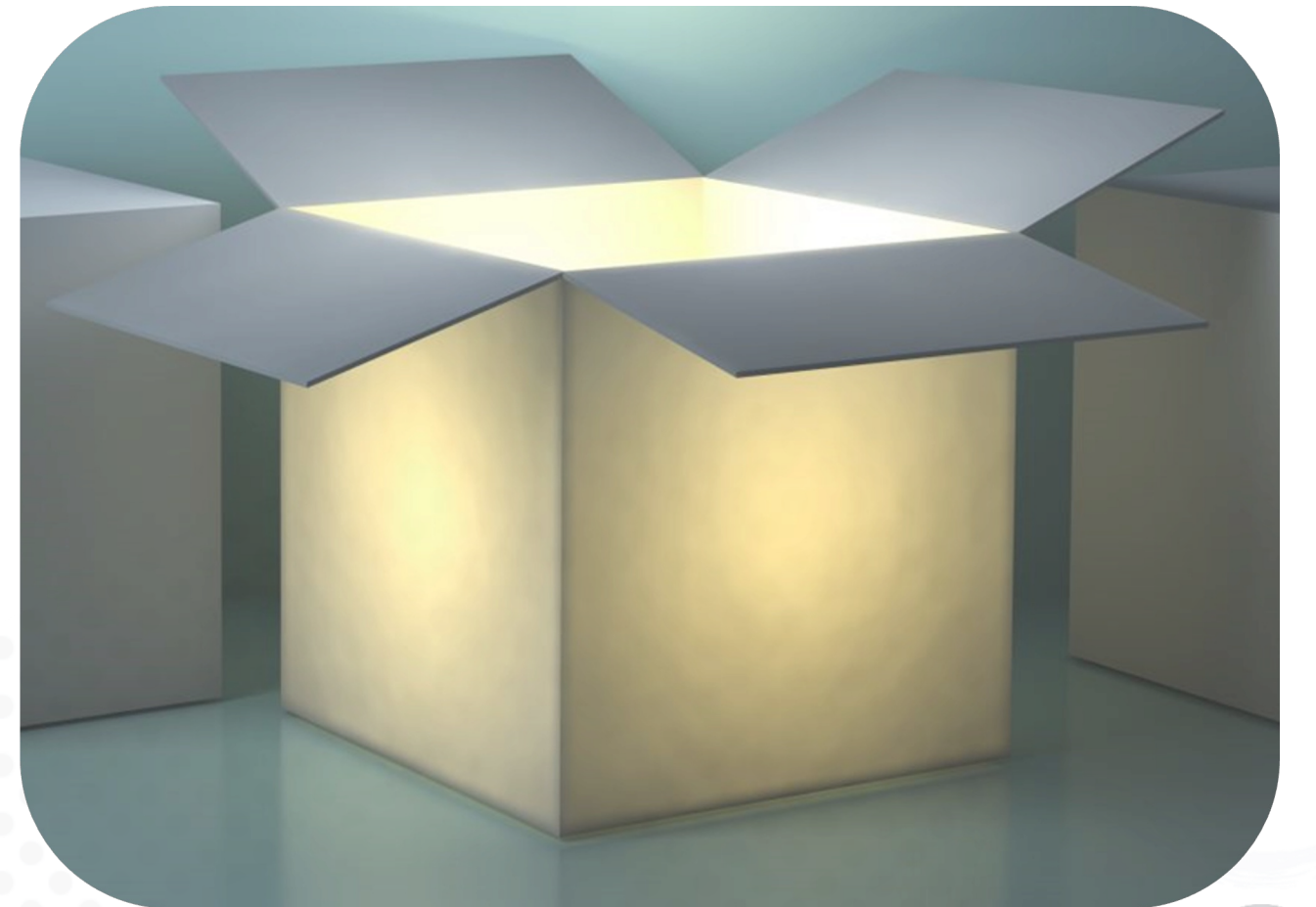
When a dependent signal changes,
the function is **re-executed**

Computed value is **memoized**

That result is **reused**

```
console.log(z());  
console.log(z());
```

```
z = computed(() =>  
  x() + y());
```



Sample Application

Product Selection

Hammer

Name: Hammer

Description: Curved claw steel hammer

Price: \$8.90

Quantity:

-

4

+

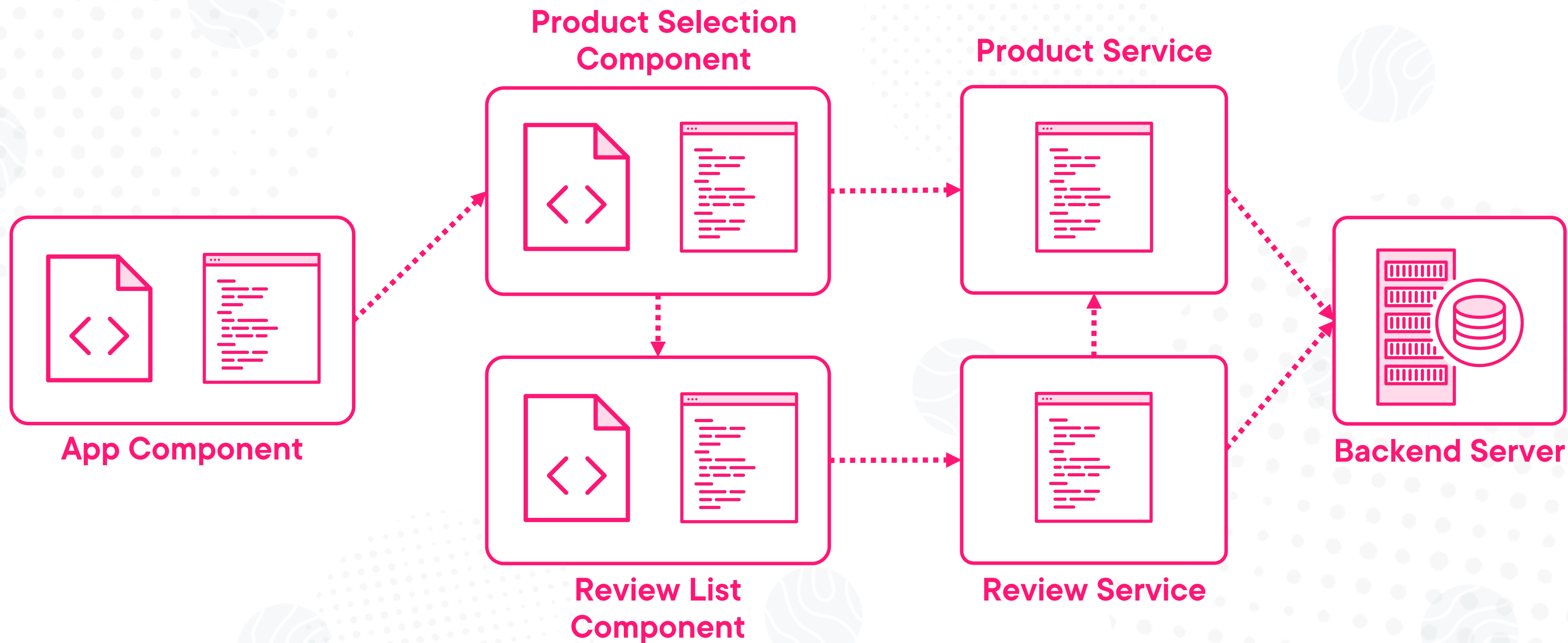
Total: \$35.60

Product Reviews

Title	Review	Username
Didn't work as I expected	I summon this hammer, and it does not heed my call	thor364
Dangerous!	I almost injured myself with this product	allthumbs
Now for wrath. Now for ruin	This hammer (and a dinner bell) worked even better than a horn for drawing attention	theoden
This was no foe-hammer	Product was much smaller than expected	glamdring



Sample Application Structure





Debugging Tips

Use an effect to log a signal value

```
eff = effect(() => console.log(this.quantity()));
```

Don't reassign a signal

```
quantity = signal(1);  
...  
this.quantity = this.quantity() + 1;
```

Use .set() or .update() instead

```
quantity = signal(1);  
...  
this.quantity.set(2);  
this.quantity.update(q => q + 1);
```





Debugging Tips (continued)

Notice when to use a signal vs. a signal value

Reference a signal:

- Two-way binding `[(ngModel)] = 'quantity'`
- Set `this.quantity.set(2);`
- Update `this.quantity.update(q => q + 1);`

Read a signal value:

- Interpolation `{{ quantity() }}`
- Logging `console.log(this.quantity());`
- Operations `() => price() * quantity();`



GitHub

<https://github.com/DeborahK/angular-signals-ps-course>

Beginning sample application files:

apm-begin

Final (completed) sample application files:

apm-end

File with clickable links to additional information:

MOREINFO.md

