

Angular — date ago pipe (minutes / hours / days / months / years ago)



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In this article we will learn how to create user-friendly (human readable) date pipe in Angular.

Lets say we have this JSON data, as you can see the **date** field contains **date** in ISO format.

```
[
  {
    "title": "Shiba Inu",
    "subtitle": "Cute dog",
    "coverImage": "https://material.angular.io/assets/img/examples/shiba2.jpg",
    "avatar": "https://material.angular.io/assets/img/examples/shiba1.jpg",
    "details": "Lorem Ipsum is simply dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry.",
    "date": "2018-05-08T17:58:47Z"
  },
  {
    "title": "Puma Laou",
    "subtitle": "Cute dog"
```

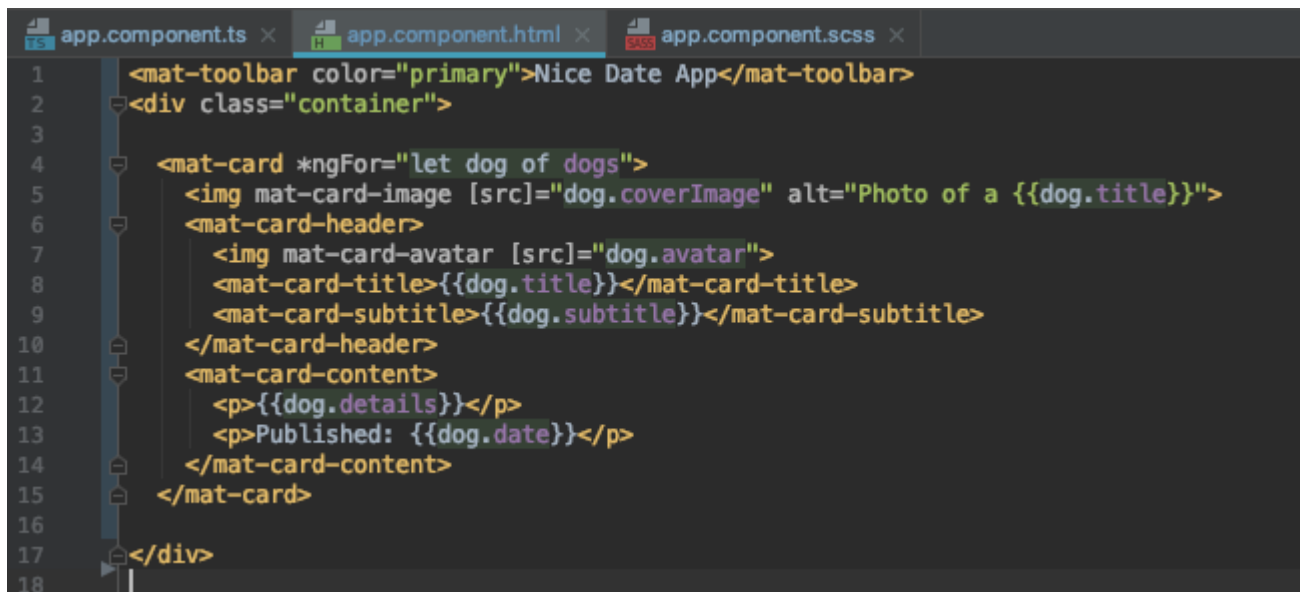
```

    "subtitle": "Cute dog",
    "coverImage": "https://material.angular.io/assets/img/examples/shiba2.jpg",
    "avatar": "https://material.angular.io/assets/img/examples/shiba1.jpg",
    "details": "Lorem Ipsum is simply dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry.",
    "date": "2018-10-08T16:58:47Z"
  },
  {
    "title": "Hana Maou",
    "subtitle": "Cute dog",
    "coverImage": "https://material.angular.io/assets/img/examples/shiba2.jpg",
    "avatar": "https://material.angular.io/assets/img/examples/shiba1.jpg",
    "details": "Lorem Ipsum is simply dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry.",
    "date": "2018-10-08T17:58:47Z"
  }
]

```

JSON Data 

And we run a for loop on the data in `*.component.html` file like below:



```

1  <mat-toolbar color="primary">Nice Date App</mat-toolbar>
2  <div class="container">
3
4    <mat-card *ngFor="let dog of dogs">
5      <img mat-card-image [src]="dog.coverImage" alt="Photo of a {{dog.title}}">
6      <mat-card-header>
7        <img mat-card-avatar [src]="dog.avatar">
8        <mat-card-title>{{dog.title}}</mat-card-title>
9        <mat-card-subtitle>{{dog.subtitle}}</mat-card-subtitle>
10     </mat-card-header>
11     <mat-card-content>
12       <p>{{dog.details}}</p>
13       <p>Published: {{dog.date}}</p>
14     </mat-card-content>
15   </mat-card>
16
17 </div>
18

```

It will display as follows 🐶:

Nice Date App



Shiba Inu
Cute dog

Lorem Ipsum is simply dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry.

Published: 2018-05-08T17:58:47Z



Puma Laou
Cute dog

Lorem Ipsum is simply dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry.

Published: 2018-10-08T16:58:47Z



Hana Maou
Cute dog

Lorem Ipsum is simply dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry.

Published: 2018-10-08T17:58:47Z

Date (No Pipe)

Using the built in Date Pipe like `<p>Published: {{dog.date | date}}</p>` will display the date like a human readable format but not necessarily in a user-friendly format.

Nice Date App



Shiba Inu
Cute dog

Lorem Ipsum is simply dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry.

Published: May 8, 2018



Puma Laou
Cute dog

Lorem Ipsum is simply dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry.

Published: Oct 8, 2018



Hana Maou
Cute dog

Lorem Ipsum is simply dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry.

Published: Oct 8, 2018

Date (Default Date Pipe)

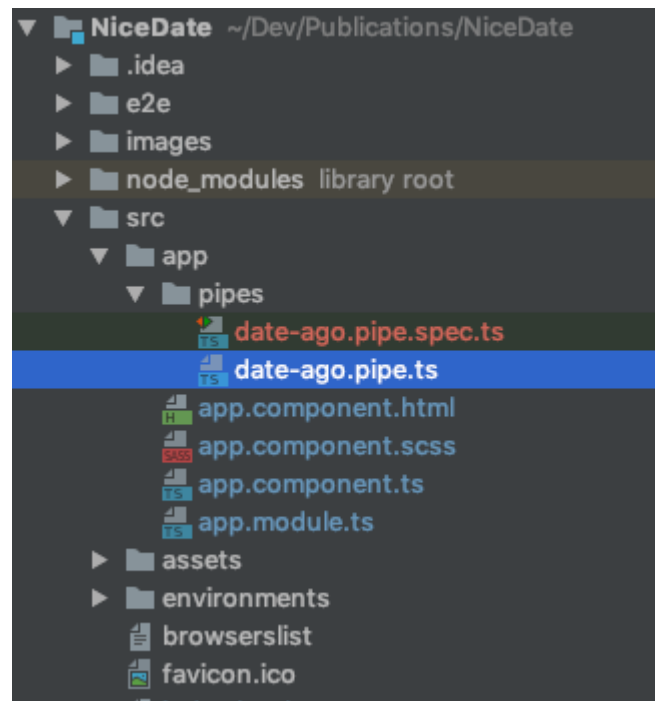
Now let's generate our very own user-friendly Date Pipe. Use the command in a terminal window `ng g p pipes/DateAgo` to use the Angular CLI to generate Custom Date Pipe inside the pipes folder.

```
Terminal
+ swuser-129-8-206-180:NiceDate thunder$ ng g p pipes/DateAgo
x CREATE src/app/pipes/date-ago.pipe.spec.ts (192 bytes)
x CREATE src/app/pipes/date-ago.pipe.ts (203 bytes)
UPDATE src/app/app.module.ts (730 bytes)
```

```
swuser-129-8-206-180:NiceDate thunder$
```

Angular CLI

Now the generate file structure will look like the following. Feel free to delete the `date-ago.pipe.spec.ts` file, if you do not care about testing.



File Structure

Now inside the `date-ago.pipe.ts` file, let's write some code.

```
1  import {Pipe, PipeTransform} from '@angular/core';
2
3  @Pipe({
4      name: 'dateAgo',
5      pure: true
6  })
7  export class DateAgoPipe implements PipeTransform {
8
9      transform(value: any, args?: any): any {
10         if (value) {
11             const seconds = Math.floor((+new Date() - +new Date(value)) / 1000);
12             if (seconds < 29) // less than 30 seconds ago will show as 'Just now'
13                 return 'Just now';
14             const intervals = {
15                 'year': 31536000,
16                 'month': 2592000,
17                 'week': 604800,
18                 'day': 86400,
19                 'hour': 3600,
20                 'minute': 60,
21                 'second': 1
22             };
23             let counter;
24             for (const i in intervals) {
25                 counter = Math.floor(seconds / intervals[i]);
26                 if (counter > 0)
27                     if (counter === 1) {
28                         return counter + ' ' + i + ' ago'; // singular (1 day ago)
29                     } else {
30                         return counter + ' ' + i + 's ago'; // plural (2 days ago)
31                     }
32             }
33         }
34         return value;
```



```
35     }  
36  
37 }
```

date-ago.pipe.ts hosted with ❤ by GitHub

[view raw](#)

Finally, don't forget to import our Custom Date Pipe in `app.modules.ts` file and add it to the `declarations: [...DateAgoPipe]` array. (Do this if you did not use the Angular CLI to generate the Date Pipe, otherwise the import should already be there as Angular CLI does it for you.)

Now, just update the HTML code from `<p>Published: {{dog.date | date}}</p>` to `<p>Published: {{dog.date | dateAgo}}</p>` and watch the magic happen.

Nice Date App



Shiba Inu
Cute dog



Puma Laou
Cute dog



Hana Maou
Cute dog

10/14/2019

Lorem Ipsum is simply dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry.

Published: 5 months ago

Angular — date ago pipe (minutes / hours / days / months / years ago)

Lorem Ipsum is simply dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry.

Published: 1 hour ago

Lorem Ipsum is simply dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry.

Published: 48 minutes ago

Date (Custom **Date** Ago Pipe)

Voila 😁, thats it. You now have a custom user readable and user friendly **Date** Pipe for your awesome Angular App 😁.

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