Difference between [routerLink] and routerLink

What is the difference between `[routerLink]` and `routerLink` ? How should you use each one?

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`angular`   `routes`   `routerlink`   `angular-routerlink`

★

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edited Aug 23 '18 at 1:48	asked Dec 28 '16 at 22:42
astro8891	Eslam Tahoon
311 1 4 17	**448** 1 8 14

They're the same directive. You use the first one to pass a dynamic value, and the second one to pass a static path as a string. This is detailed in the documentation: angular.io/docs/ts/latest/api/router/index/... – JB Nizet Dec 28 '16 at 22:46

angular.io/guide/router#routerlink-binding – Ray Dec 19 '17 at 5:57

2 Answers

You'll see this in all the directives:

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When you use brackets, it means you're passing a bindable property (a variable).

```
<a [routerLink]="routerLinkVariable"></a>
```

✓

So this variable (routerLinkVariable) could be defined inside your class and it should have a value like below:

```
export class myComponent {

    public routerLinkVariable = "/home"; // the value of the variable is string!
```

```
export class myComponent {

    public routerLinkVariable = "/home"; // the value of the variable is string!


    updateRouterLinkVariable(){

        this.routerLinkVariable = '/about';
    }
```

Where as without brackets you're passing string only and you can't change it, it's hard coded and it'll be like that throughout your app.

```
<a routerLink="/home"></a>
```

UPDATE :

The other speciality about using brackets specifically for routerLink is that you can pass dynamic parameters to the link you're navigating to:

So adding a new variable

```
export class myComponent {
        private dynamicParameter = '129';
        public routerLinkVariable = "/home";
```

Updating the [routerLink]

```
<a [routerLink]="[routerLinkVariable,dynamicParameter]"></a>
```

When you want to click on this link, it would become:

```
<a href="/home/129"></a>
```

edited May 1 '18 at 10:04   answered Dec 28 '16 at 23:22

Assume that you have

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```
const appRoutes: Routes = [
  {path: 'recipes', component: RecipesComponent }
];

<a routerLink ="recipes">Recipes</a>
```

It means that clicking Recipes hyperlink will jump to http://localhost:4200/recipes

Assume that the parameter is 1

```
<a [routerLink] = "['/recipes', parameter]"></a>
```

It means that passing dynamic parameter, 1 to the link, then you navigate to http://localhost:4200/recipes/1

edited Dec 21 '17 at 5:38   answered Jul 3 '17 at 7:30

Sangwin Gawande   **matthew chick**
4,069   7   27   53   **129**   1   3

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