Switching To Angular 2

Build SEO-friendly, high-performance single-page applications with Angular 2

Fully revised and updated to RC4

Foreword by Misko Hevery, Creator of AngularJS and Angular 2

Minko Gechev

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Synopsis

Key Features
Get up to date with the latest changes to Angular 2, including the improvements to directives, change detection, dependency injection, router, and more
Understand Angular 2's new component-based architecture
Start using TypeScript to supercharge your Angular 2 applications

Book Description
AngularJS is a JavaScript framework that makes building web applications easier. It is used today in large-scale, high-traffic websites that struggle with under-performance, portability issues, as well as SEO unfriendliness, and complexity at scale. Angular 2 changes that. It is the modern framework you need to build performant and robust web applications.

Switching to Angular 2 • is the quickest way to get to grips with Angular 2 and will help you transition into the brave new world of Angular 2. We'll start with an overview which sets the changes of the framework in context with version 1.x. After that, you will be taken on a TypeScript crash-course so we can take advantage of Angular 2 in its native, statically-typed environment. We'll look at the new change-detection method in detail, how Directives and Components change how you create websites with Angular, the new Angular 2 router, and much more.

By the end of the book, you'll be ready to start building quick and efficient Angular 2 applications that take advantage of all the new features on offer.

What you will learn
Understand the changes made from Angular 1.x with side-by-side code samples to help demystify the Angular 2 learning curve
Start working with Angular 2’s new method of implementing directives
Use TypeScript to write modern, powerful Angular 2 applications
Dig in to the change-detection method, and other architectural changes to make sure you know what’s going on under the hood of Angular 2
Get to work with the new router in Angular 2
Use the new features of Angular 2 including pipes, or the updated features such as forms, services, and the DI module
Master server-side rendering in Angular 2 to keep your new applications SEO friendly

About the Author
Minko Gechev is a software engineer who strongly believes in open source software. He has developed numerous such projects, including AngularJS 1.x and Angular 2 style guides, angular2-seed, a static code analyzer for Angular 2 projects, aspect.js, angular-aop, and many others. He runs training courses in JavaScript, Angular, and other web technologies.

Minko loves to experiment with theoretical concepts from computer science and apply them in practice. He has spoken about Angular and software development at worldwide conferences and meetups, including ng-vegas, AngularConnect, ITWeekend Kiev, AngularJS-SF, and Angular Berlin.

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The Building Blocks of an Angular 2 Application
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Getting Started with Angular 2 Components and Directives
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Explaining Pipes and Communicating with RESTful
At the time of this posting, this book had a combined rating of 1 star, so you can see there is a little difference of opinion here! It wasn’t easy deciding to buy the book with the 1 star rating staring at me, but I thought I would take the leap because of my high regard for the angular2-seed project with the author has created on GitHub. I’m glad I did because I have had several aha moments while reading the book and I’m only 60% of the way through. So far I’ve found the discussions of using OnPush data binding with immutable data and the specifics of injection to be the best I’ve read anywhere. I don’t think the book is perfect -- some terms are used before they are defined, for example, but overall I think the perspective provided by this book to be extremely valuable, especially in providing a deep understanding of why the changes from Anular1 are what they are. Please note the target audience is developers who have had experience with Angular 1 (thus the 'Switching' in the title). This eliminates the bane of many tech books that waste time and space reviewing fundamental concepts, so that the meet of the subject is often short-changed. I’m very
grateful that Minko did not take that approach here.

If you are looking for a complete understanding behind the why and what of Angular 2 (as contrasted against Angular 1), this book is for you. The background and flow provide a gradual learning process that walks you through how things came to be, starting with fundamental concepts behind component based architecture, talking through change detection in 1.x leading to why getting "In the zone.js" with Angular 2 is superior and smarter. One of the biggest challenges for Angular 1.x developers or anyone coming to Angular 2 fresh is grasping TypeScript. Although not required, the development story is vastly improved with it. Expect to get an excellent crash course on TypeScript here; very helpful to newbies and intermediates alike as a solid refresher. An overview of the `typings` tool to keep things in good shape as well as a reality check on what ambient type definitions are is also included. Heard the Dependency Injection is revamped? Yeah, well that’s covered too right down to the nitty gritty with child injectors and visibility of injected services to child components. Sound scary? Don’t worry, you’ll learn all about it and love it, trust me. This is **not** a "let’s build an incredibly sophisticated application with Angular 2 and I’ll show you examples of how to do it", but rather "let’s understand every fundamental piece with examples to help you build that sophisticated application with Angular 2". I find the background information, detail, and flow of this book to be incredibly well written to establish a solid understanding of the subject matter. Much applause and thanks to Minko for the time in preparing this material and to Misko for keeping him straight!

I recommend this book for those who already have some knowledge of AngularJS 1.x and want to upgrade their applications for Angular 2 or just want to find book to learn Angular 2 and write new apps, using full power of the knowledge all aspects of Angular 2. Core ideology of Angular 2 is still very similar to AngularJS 1.x, despite of syntax and structural differences, so your knowledge of AngularJS 1.x will boost your process of learning Angular 2, and this book uses this advantage. This book covers a lot of things, from simple components to WebWorkers, explaining not only how things work, but also why they were implemented this way. Core things are explained very detailed and I think it’s very important to know everything about "building blocks" of the framework. I also like how book is structured: components in Angular 2 have a lot of additional features and ways of usage, and author is trying to explain them step by step, without details of all additional features, to not overload reader’s understanding of main thing, explained in that particular chapter. And in later chapters, dedicated to each of these additional features, we can read detailed explanation of them.
It' amazing how much content is covered in this book! Finally, we have a proper guide, that describes all new changes without omitting important details. The title certainly caught my attention. We all know, what type of faces we all had, while watching the first example of the new version in the project's website. That's right - the blue screen of death! The documentation seemed written in some strange language... In this book you will find the necessary scalding point to continue your journey in "Angularland". I understand the negative comments, because some users expect great endless descriptions. You won't find any superfluous text, but many useful examples and beautifully structured code. If we want to advance as programmers, it's time to realize, that we need to build better habits of writing, even in the earlier stage of development. As a bonus to the expected material for such kind of book, I would choose the "TypeScript Crash Course" (chapter 3) and the complete new point of view in "Working with the Angular 2 Router and Forms" (chapter 6). Thanks to the author for that hard work! All best with his new projects and code adventures!

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