



# Building an Angular PWA:

– or –  
NGSW Workbox



Maxim Salnikov  
Angular GDE

*"How to create an Angular  
Progressive Web App?"*

Using the appropriate method

# Maxim Salnikov

*// Products from the future  
UI Engineer at ForgeRock*



- Google Developer Expert in **Angular**
- **Angular Oslo** / **PWA Oslo** meetups organizer
- **ngVikings** / **ngCommunity** organizer

 **@webmaxru**

# What is PWA at all?



**Progressive** web apps use **modern web APIs** along with traditional **progressive** enhancement strategy to create **cross-platform** web applications.

These apps work **everywhere** and provide several features that give them the same **user experience advantages** as native apps.

# Cross-platform?

Browser



Flagged

Mobile



Desktop





Maxim «PWAdvocate» Salnikov  
@webmaxru

Release notes of #Safari 12.1 include «behavior of websites saved to the home screen on #iOS to pause in the background instead of relaunching each time» fix (partial though). There is no #pwa term but we know what's this about :) Great job, @webkit team!  
[developer.apple.com/documentation/...](https://developer.apple.com/documentation/)

# #WSH?



Chrome Developers ✓  
@ChromiumDev

Full screen chrome inside of an Android app? ■

Trusted Web Activity (TWA) brings your web contents into an Android app 🎉

Read more on TWA & start on building 💪



"Introducing a Trusted Web Activity for Android"



Introducing a Trusted Web Activity for Android

A Trusted Web Activity (TWA) displays a full screen Chrome browser inside of an Android app with no browser UI. Although...

[blog.chromium.org](https://blog.chromium.org)

[https://developer.apple.com/documentation/safari\\_release\\_notes/safari\\_12\\_1\\_release\\_notes](https://developer.apple.com/documentation/safari_release_notes/safari_12_1_release_notes)

<https://blog.chromium.org/2019/02/introducing-trusted-web-activity-for.html>

# UX advantages?

Smart networking + Offline

Staying notified

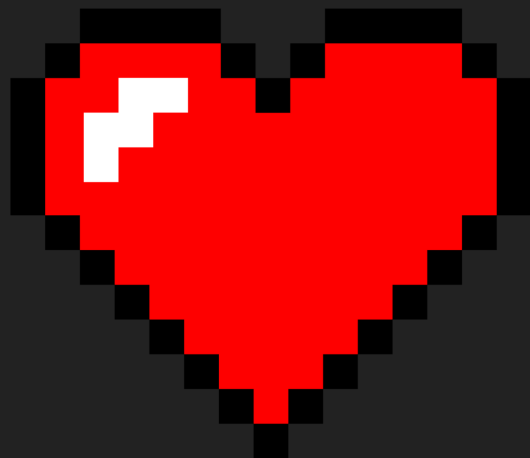
Other cool things



Service Worker API

Proper app experience

Web App Manifest



PWA



# Create Angular PWA

- Code service worker **manually**
- Use Angular Service Worker (**NGSW**)
- Use some **PWA libraries**

sw-precache



Minimum viable PWA



+

**Web App Manifest**

**Application shell**

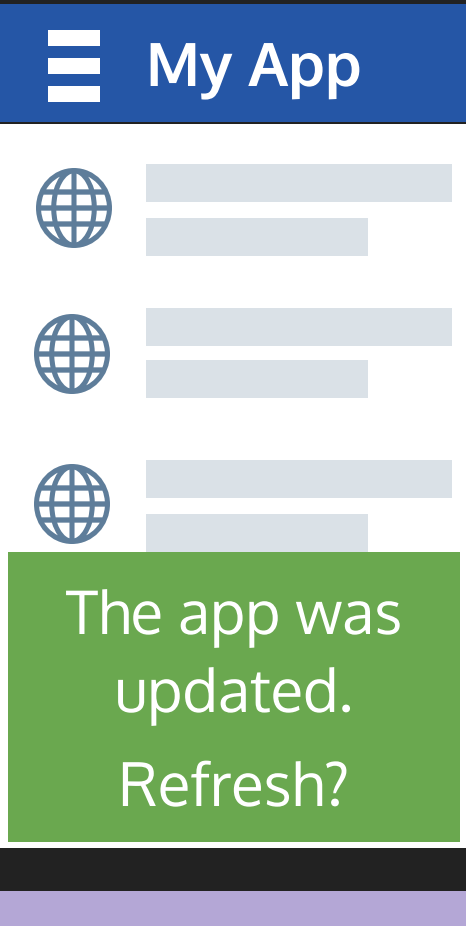
=



**Fast, responsive,  
mobile-first**

**Served via HTTPS**

# Let's build an App shell



- Pick only the files we need
- Create the list of files and their hashes
- **First load:** put these files into the Cache Storage
- **Next loads:** serve them from Cache Storage
  - If some files were updated (hashes comparison) put their new versions into the Cache Storage and remove old ones \*
  - On the **n+1 load** – serve the updated files

1

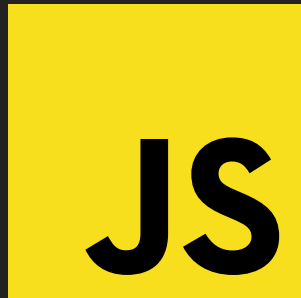
2



3

# Service Worker 101

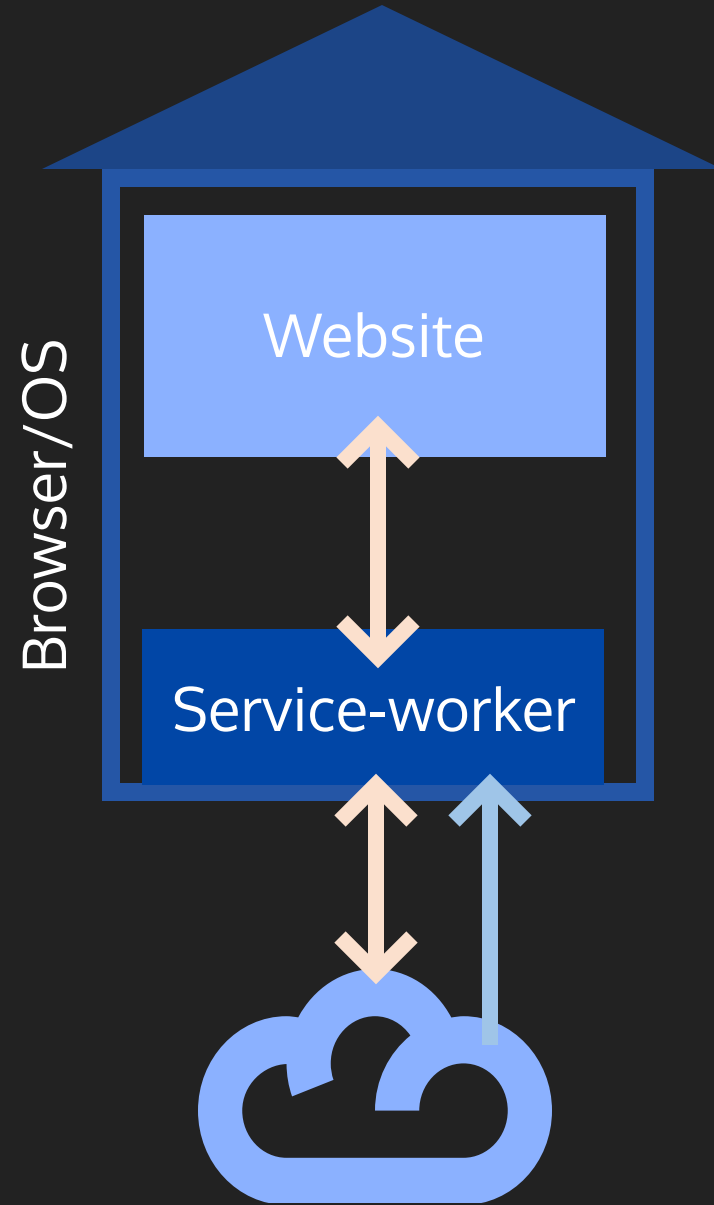
# Physically



-file(s)

Event-driven worker

# Logically



# Similar to SharedWorker

- Works in its own global context
- Works in a separate thread
- Isn't tied to a particular page
- Has no DOM access

# Different from SharedWorker

- Can run without any page at all
- Works only with HTTPS (localhost is an exception)
- Can be terminated by the browser anytime
- Has specified lifecycle model



# Managing cache

```
self.addEventListener('install', (event) => {  
    // Put app's html/js/css to cache  
})
```

```
self.addEventListener('activate', (event) => {  
    // Wipe previous version of app files from cache  
})
```

# In the real world

- Can't add **opaque responses** directly
- **Redirected requests** should be managed
- Always creating a new version of cache and deleting the old one is **not optimal**
- Control over **cache size** is required
- **Cache invalidation** for runtime caching is complex
- ...

# Intercepting requests

```
self.addEventListener('fetch', (event) => {  
  
  if (event.request.url.indexOf('/api') !== -1) {  
    event.respondWith(  
      // Network-First Strategy  
    )  
  } else {  
    event.respondWith(  
      // Cache-First Strategy  
    )  
  }  
})
```

# In the real world

- All kinds of **fallbacks** needed for the strategies
- There are more complex strategies like **Stale-While-Revalidate**
- Good to have **routing**
- Good to have the possibility to provide some **extra settings** for different resource groups
- ...

# Pros

- Great flexibility!

# Cons

- Great responsibility!

# Tools help with

- Implementing **complex** algorithms
- Adopting **best practices**
- Focusing on **YOUR** task
- Following specifications **updates**
- Handling **edge cases**

# Angular Service Worker

## NGSW

# Automation





# Scaffold

```
$ ng add @angular/pwa
```

- Add service worker registration code to the root module
- Generate default service worker configuration file
- Generate and link default Web App Manifest
- Generate default icons set
- Enable build support in Angular CLI config

# Build

```
$ ng build --prod
```

- Builds service worker manifest based on configuration file
- Copies Angular Service Worker and safety workers

**dist/project-name**

1 | ngsw.json

2 | ngsw-worker.js

# NGSW manifest

```
{  
  "hashTable": {  
    "/favicon.ico": "84161b857f5c547e3699ddffc6d8d",  
    "/index.html": "64397c08d1f0da35f8e38e05c5512",  
    ...  
  },  
  ...  
}
```

# Configuration file

ngsw-config.json / assetGroups

```
{  
  "name": "app",  
  "installMode": "prefetch",  
  {  
    "files": [  
      "/favicon.ico",  
      "/index.html",  
      "/*.css",  
      "/*.js"  
    ]  
  }  
}
```

# Serve (dev)

```
$ ng serve  
$ ng serve --prod
```



## Static dev webserver

- serve
- superstatic
- lite-server



## Angular PWA

About

Runtime Caching

App Shell Upd

Welcome to the Angular PWA!

Elements Console Sources Network Performance Memory **Application** Security >> ⋮ ✕

### Application

Manifest

Service Workers

Clear storage

### Storage

Local Storage

Session Storage

IndexedDB

Web SQL

Cookies

### Cache

Cache Storage

Application Cache

### Frames

top

### Service Workers

☐ Offline ☐ Update on reload ☐ Bypass for network

localhost

[Update](#) [Unregister](#)

Source [ngsw-worker.js](#)

Received 12/10/2018, 09:08:48

Status ● #1645 activated and is running [stop](#)

Clients [http://localhost:5000/](#) [focus](#)

Push

Push

Sync

Sync

▶ Service workers from other domains



- Application shell
- Runtime caching
- Replaying failed network requests
- Offline Google Analytics
- Broadcasting updates

Have our own service worker!

# Working modes


- Workbox CLI
- Webpack plugin
- Node module

```
# Installing the Workbox Node module  
$ npm install workbox-build --save-dev
```



# Build script

## workbox-build-inject.js



```
// We will use injectManifest mode
const {injectManifest} = require('workbox-build')

// Sample configuration with the basic options
var workboxConfig = {...}



// Calling the method and output the result
injectManifest(workboxConfig).then(({count, size}) => {
  console.log(`Generated ${workboxConfig.swDest},
  which will precache ${count} files, ${size} bytes.`)
})
```

# Workbox manifest

```
[  
  {  
    "url": "index.html",  
    "revision": "34c45cdf166d266929f6b532a8e3869e"  
  },  
  {  
    "url": "favicon.ico",  
    "revision": "b9aa7c338693424aae99599bec875b5f"  
  },  
  ...  
]
```

# Build script configuration

## workbox-build-inject.js



```
// Sample configuration with the basic options
var workboxConfig = {
  globDirectory: 'dist/angular-pwa/',
  globPatterns: [
    '**/*.{txt,png,ico,html,js,json,css}'
  ],
  swSrc: 'src/service-worker.js',
  swDest: 'dist/angular-pwa/service-worker.js'
}
```

# Source service worker

src/service-worker.js

```
// Importing Workbox itself from Google CDN
importScripts('https://googleapis.com/workbox-sw.js');

// Precaching and setting up the routing
workbox.precaching.precacheAndRoute([ ])
```



2

1

# Build flow integration

package.json

```
{  
  "scripts": {  
    "build-prod": "ng build --prod &&  
                  node workbox-build-inject.js"  
  }  
}
```

# NGSW

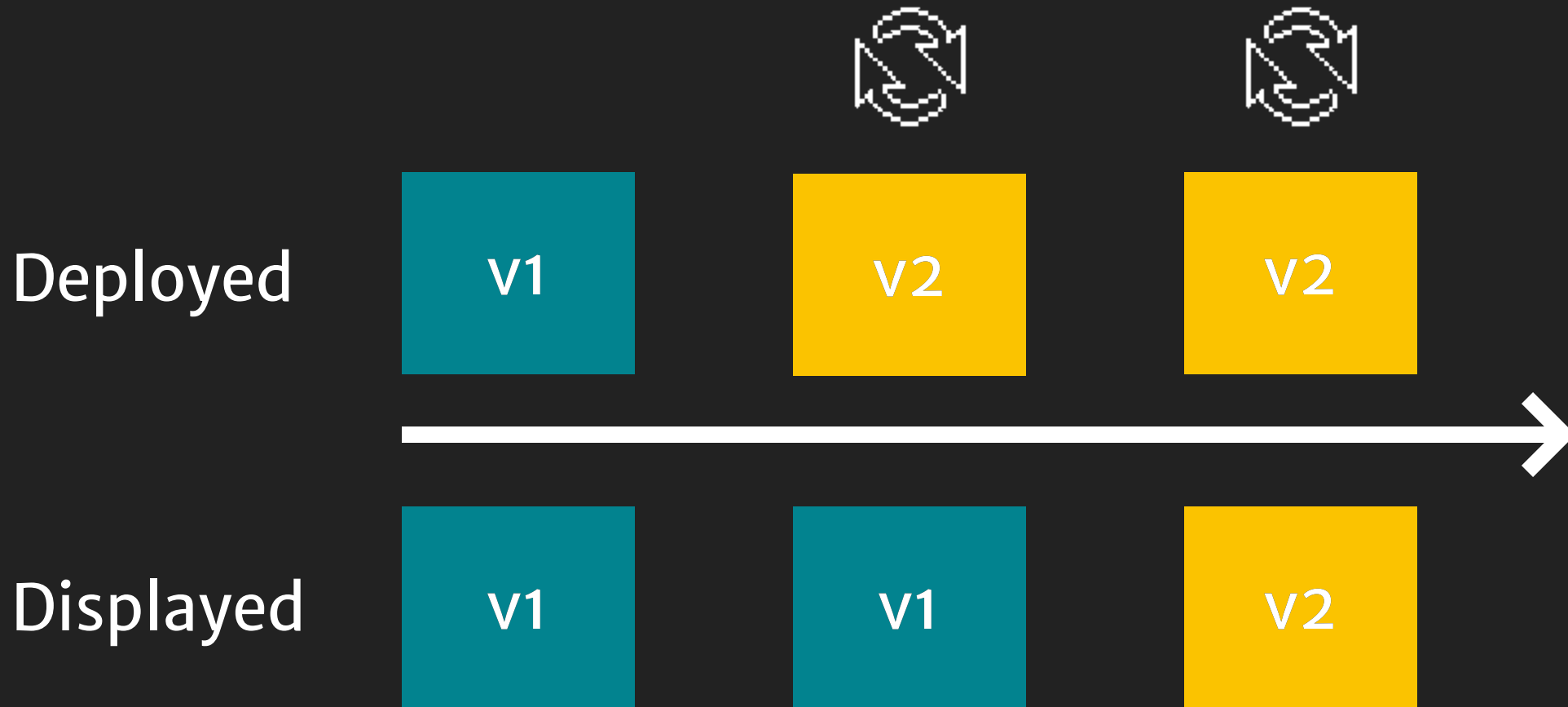
- One-liner to start
- Seamless integration
- Smart defaults



- Convenient build module
- Having our own service worker and extending it by Workbox modules

Better app update UX

# App version updates



A new version of the app is available. Click to refresh.



# SwUpdate service

updates.component.ts

```
import { SwUpdate } from '@angular/service-worker';
```

```
constructor(updates: SwUpdate) {}
```

```
this.updates.available.subscribe(event => {  
    if (confirm(`New Version is available! OK to refresh`)) {  
        window.location.reload();  
    }  
})
```

# Hint: Provide a version description

ngsw-config.json

```
{
  "appData": {
    "changelog": "New version: Dinosaur pic was added!"
  }
}
```

updates.component.ts

```
let changelog = event.available.appData['changelog']
let message = `${changelog} Click to refresh.`
```

New version: Dinosaur pic was added! Click to refresh.

# Option #1: BroadcastChannel

src/service-worker.js

```
workbox.precaching.addPlugins([  
  new workbox.broadcastUpdate.Plugin('app-shell')  
]);
```

updates.component.ts

```
const updateChannel = new BroadcastChannel('app-shell');  
  
updateChannel.addEventListener('message', event => {  
  // Inform about the new version & prompt to reload  
});
```

# Option #2: Service worker lifecycle

index.html

```
if ('serviceWorker' in navigator) {  
  navigator.serviceWorker  
    .register('/service-worker.js')  
}
```

# Requirements

- Feature detection
- Registration after app fully loaded and UI rendered
- Hook into service worker lifecycle update event
  - Was the **service worker updated?**
  - Was the **app itself updated?**

# register-service-worker

```
$ npm install register-service-worker
```

## main.ts

```
import { register } from 'register-service-worker'

platformBrowserDynamic().bootstrapModule(AppModule)
  .then(() => {
    register('/service-worker.js', {
      updated (registration) {
        // Inform & prompt
      }
    })
  })
})
```

3

<https://github.com/yyx990803/register-service-worker>

# NGSW



- Angular-style coding: services, DI, observables
  - Passing version info to display in the notification
- Possibility to use broadcastUpdate plugin also for receiving runtime caching updates

# Runtime caching



# Configuring strategies


ngsw-config.json / dataGroups

```
{  
  "name": "api-freshness",  
  "urls": [  
    "/api/breakingnews/**"  
  ],  
  "cacheConfig": {  
    → "strategy": "freshness",  
      "maxSize": 10,  
      "maxAge": "12h",  
      "timeout": "10s"  
    }  
}
```

# Configuring strategies

ngsw-config.json / dataGroups

```
{  
  "name": "api-performance",  
  "urls": [  
    "/api/archive/**"  
  ],  
  "cacheConfig": {  
    "strategy": "performance",  
    "maxSize": 100,  
    "maxAge": "365d"  
  }  
}
```



# Hint: Support API versioning

ngsw-config.json / dataGroups



```
{  
  "version": 2,  
  "name": "api-performance",  
  "urls": [  
    "/api/**"  
  ],  
  ...  
}
```

# Strategies and plugins

src/service-worker.js

```
workbox.routing.registerRoute(  
  new RegExp( '/app/v2/' ),  
  workbox.strategies.networkFirst()  
);
```



```
workbox.routing.registerRoute(  
  new RegExp( '/images/' ),  
  workbox.strategies.cacheFirst({  
    plugins: [...]  
  })  
);
```



# NGSW



- Code-free configuration of two strategies
- Runtime cache versioning

- Variety of strategies
- Maximum flexible configuration including adding own logic via the plugins


# Push notifications

# Subscription

push.component.ts

```
import { SwPush } from '@angular/service-worker';
```

```
constructor(push: SwPush) {}
```



```
subscribeToPush() {  
  this.push.requestSubscription({  
    serverPublicKey: this.VAPID_PUBLIC_KEY  
  })  
  .then(pushSubscription => {  
    // Pass subscription object to the backend  
  })  
}
```

# Sending: following convention

backend.js / sendNotification payload

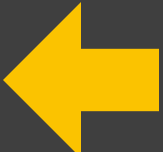




```
{
  "notification": {
    "title": "Very important notification",
    "body": "Angular Service Worker is cool!",
    "icon": "https://angular.io/assets/logo.png",
    "actions": [
      {
        "action": "gocheck",
        "title": "Go and check"
      }
    ],
    ...
  }
}
```



# Notifications handling

src/service-worker.js

```
self.addEventListener('push', (event) => {  
    self.registration.showNotification(...)   
})  
  
self.addEventListener('notificationclick', (event) => {  
    // React on notification actions   
})  
  
self.addEventListener('notificationclose', (event) => {  
    // React on notification closing   
})
```

# NGSW



- Convenient shortcut for the subscription
- Convention-based automatic notifications displaying
- [Soon] Notification clicks handling

- Full power and flexibility of Web Push specification because of having our own service worker

# Summary

# NGSW

- Easy to start
- Seamless integration with Angular
- Coding-free basic features
- Angular-friendly approach

Add -> Configure

Get what's included



- Framework-agnostic
- Rich functionality
- Maximum flexible configuration
- Full power of our own service worker

Setup -> Configure -> Code

Get what you want

# bit.ly/go-pwa-slack

- 1900+ developers
- Major browsers/frameworks/libs reps

# Thank you!

**Maxim Salnikov**

@webmaxru

# Questions?

**Maxim Salnikov**

@webmaxru