

Using Distillery

Understanding OTP Releases

Hello! My name is Kenny and I work
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If you're wondering, we're hiring!

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Coverage

- ◆ What are OTP Releases?
- ◆ What is Distillery?
- ◆ Deployments that don't do hot upgrades.
- ◆ Dealing with dynamic configuration and making custom commands.

What are OTP Releases?

- ◆ OTP Releases are packaged releases that contain an entire shippable binary format that target a specific OS and CPU architecture.
- ◆ They're compiled into smaller and shippable payloads that do not include non-targeted dependencies.
- ◆ They're for production so that they can be built on one machine and deployed to many.

Distillery is a tool that turns an Elixir application into a compiled OTP Release.

mix release.init

There are multiple ways to deal with dynamic configuration, but the underlying idea is that dynamic configuration is different in compiled languages than interpreted ones.

Custom commands are a way to run short snippets of code, like database migrations and mix tasks, through the binary using a control mechanism. Essentially command line arguments.

Command Appendix

- ◆ `mix release.init`
 - ◆ initialize distillery configs
- ◆ `MIX_ENV=prod mix release --env=staging`
 - ◆ Compiles a OTP Release given specific settings
- ◆ `_build/<env>/rel/<release_name>/bin/<release_name> help`
 - ◆ Lists available commands as well as their descriptions (also can start and stop app this way)
- ◆ `_build/<env>/rel/<release_name>/versions/<ver>/`
 - ◆ Path to configurations and the tarball

Questions?

Code available at <https://github.com/k-cross/toy.git>