



# **Graphical User Interfaces**

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Notes are based on:

The Busy Coder's Guide to Android Development by Mark L. Murphy Copyright © 2008-2009 CommonsWare, LLC. ISBN: 978-0-9816780-0-9 & Android Developers http://developer.android.com/index.html

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# The Model-View-Control (MVC) Pattern

The *Model-View-Controller (MVC)* is an important software design pattern whose main goal is to separate the (1) user interface, (2) business, and (3) input logic.



How is this seen by the Android developer?

- **Model**. Consists of the Java code and objects used to manage the behavior and data of the application.
- **View**. Set of screens the user sees and interacts with.
- **Controller**. Implemented through the Android OS, responsible for interpretation of the user and system inputs. Input may come from a variety of sources such as the trackball, keyboard, touchscreen, GPS chip, background services, etc, and tells the Model and/or the View (usually through callbacks and registered listeners) to change as appropriate.

[Burbeck92] Burbeck, Steve. "Application Programming in Smalltalk-80: How to use Model-View-Controller (MVC)."*University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) Smalltalk Archive.* Available at: <u>http://st-www.cs.illinois.edu/users/smarch/st-docs/mvc.html</u>.

# The Model-View-Control (MVC) Pattern

#### Getting ready to create MVC conforming solutions

The Android developer should be aware of ...

- **Inputs** could be sent to the application from various physical/logical components. Reacting to those signals is typically handled by **callback methods**. Usually there are many of them, you want to learn how to choose the appropriate one.
- Moving to states in the **lifecycle** is tied to logic in the model. For instance, if forced to *Pause* you may want to save uncommitted data.
- A **notification** mechanism is used to inform the user of important events happening outside the application (such as arrival of a text message or email, phone calls, etc) and consequently choose how to proceed.
- **Views** are unlimited in terms of aesthetic and functionality. However physical constraints such as size, and hardware acceleration (or lack of) may affect how graphical components are managed.

## Android & the MVC Pattern

#### The View - User Interfaces (Uis)

Android **graphical interfaces** are usually implemented as XML files (although they could also be dynamically created from code).

An Android UI is conceptually similar to a common HTML page

- In a manner similar to a web page interaction, when the Android user touches the screen, the controller interprets the input and determines what specific portion of the screen and gestures were involved. Based on this information it tells the model about the interaction in such a way that the appropriate "callback listener" or lifecycle state could be called into action.
- Unlike a web application (which refreshes its pages after explicit requests from the user) an asynchronous Android background service could quietly notify the controller about some change of state (such as reaching a given coordinate on a map) and in turn a change of the view's state could be triggered; all of these without user intervention.

### **UI Design Patterns**

For a detailed discussion on **Android UI Design Patterns** see video:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M1ZBjlCRfz0&feature=player\_embedded



# The View Class

- The **View class** is the Android's most basic component from which users interfaces can be created. This element is similar to the Swing **JComponent** class for Java apps.
- A **View** occupies a rectangular area on the screen and is responsible for *drawing* and *event handling*.
- Widgets are subclasses of View. They are used to create interactive UI components such as buttons, checkboxes, labels, text fields, etc.
- Layouts are invisible containers used for holding other Views and nested layouts.





# Graphical UI $\leftrightarrow$ XML Layout



Actual UI displayed by the app

#### Text version: activity\_main.xml file

# **Using Views**

- An Android's **XML** view file consists of a **layout** holding a hierarchical arrangement of its contained elements.
- The inner elements could be simple widgets or nested layouts holding some complex viewgroups.
- An Activity uses the setContentView(R.layout.xmlfilename)
  method to render a view on the device's screen.



# **Using Views**

Dealing with widgets & layouts typically involves the following operations

- **1. Set properties:** For example setting the background color, text, font and size of a *TextView*.
- **2. Set up listeners:** For example, an image could be programmed to respond to various events such as: click, long-tap, mouse-over, etc.
- 3. Set focus: To set focus on a specific view, you call the method requestFocus() or use XML tag <requestFocus />
- 4. Set visibility: You can hide or show views using setVisibility(...).

### A brief sample of UI components

#### Layouts

:		ii 📶 💈 4	:35	
01-Hello-Layout				
vertical 1				
vertical 2				
vertical 3				
horizontal-1	horizontal-2	horizontal-	3	





#### **Linear Layout**

A LinearLayout places its inner views either in horizontal or vertical disposition.

#### **Relative Layout**

A RelativeLayout is a ViewGroup that allows you to position elements relative to each other.

#### **Table Layout**

A TableLayout is a ViewGroup that places elements using a row & column disposition.

## A brief sample of UI components

#### Widgets



TimePicker AnalogClock DatePicker A DatePicke is a widget that allows the user to

that allows the user to select a month, day and year.



Form Controls

Includes a variety of typical form widgets, like: *image buttons, text fields, checkboxes* and *radio buttons.* 



## A brief sample of UI components



#### AutoCompleteTextView

It is a version of the *EditText* widget that will provide auto-complete suggestions as the user types. The suggestions are extracted from a collection of strings.

Hello ListView		
American Samoa		
El Salvador		
Saint Helena		
Saint Kitts and Nevis		
Saint Lucia		
Saint Pierre and Miquelon		
Saint Vincent and the		

#### ListView

A *ListView* is a View that shows items in a vertically scrolling list. The items are acquired from a *ListAdapter*.



## **XML Layouts in Eclipse**

Android considers XML-based layouts to be *resources*, consequently layout files are stored in the **res/layout** directory inside your Android project.



## **XML Layouts in Eclipse**

A reasonable UI representation of an XML file can be seen in Eclipse by clicking the [Graphical Layout] tab of the res/layout/main.xml resource



# Tools for Android UI/XML Design

#### ASIDE - CREATING ANDROID UI & APPS

You could create Layout XML files using UI tools such as:

- Eclipse ADT UI Designer. It is getting better, integrates code & UI design in the same platform. Not yet at the same high level o Apple's iOS and Microsoft Visual Studio UI Tools.
- DroidDraw Very simple, incomplete, not integrated to the Eclipse IDE, aging! <u>http://www.droiddraw.org/</u>
- App Inventor (very promising & ambitious, 'hides' coding ...) <u>http://appinventor.googlelabs.com/about/index.html</u>





More on this issue later...

### How to create complex UIs?

- The **LinearLayout** is arguably the most common type of container.
- It offers a "box" model where inner elements could be placed side-byside or up-and-down.
- In general, complex UI designs could be made by combining simpler *nested* boxes and stacking them in either a *horizontal* or *vertical* orientation.



### **Common Layouts**

We will discuss the following common and useful layouts: Frame, Linear, Relative, Table, and Absolute.

#### 1. FrameLayout

- FrameLayout is the simplest type of layout.
- Useful as outermost container holding a window.
- Allows you to define how much of the screen (high, width) is to be used.
- All its children elements are *aligned to the top left corner of the screen.*;



# The LinearLayout

### **1. Linear Layout**

The widgets or inner containers held in a LinearLayout are collocated one next to the other in either a *column* or a *row*.

Configuring a **LinearLayout** usually requires you to set the following attributes:

- orientation,
- fill model,
- weight,
- gravity,
- padding ,
- margin

# The LinearLayout

1. Linear Layout

#### Orientation

The **android:orientation** property can be set to the values: **horizontal** for rows or **vertical** for columns.

android:orientation="horizontal"

android:orientation="vertical"

The orientation can be modified at runtime by invoking *setOrientation()* 

### **The LinearLayout - Orientation**



## The LinearLayout – Fill Model

#### **1.2 Linear Layout: Fill Model**

- Widgets have a "natural" size based on their included text.
- You may want to specify how tall & wide a widget should be even if no text is involved (as is the case of the empty text box shown below).



## The LinearLayout – Fill Model

#### **1.2 Linear Layout: Fill Model**

All widgets inside a LinearLayout **must** include 'width' and 'height' attributes to establish the issue of empty space around them.

android:layout\_width
android:layout\_height

Values used in defining height and width can be:

- 1. A specific dimension such as **125dip** (device independent pixels, a.k.a. **dp**)
- 2. wrap\_content indicates the widget should just fill up its natural space (if it is too big other options such as word-wrap could be used to make it fit).
- **3.** match\_parent (previously called 'fill\_parent') indicates the widget wants to be as big as the enclosing parent.

### The LinearLayout – Fill Model

#### 1.2 Linear Layout: Fill Model



<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?> <LinearLayout android:id="@+id/myLinearLayout" android:layout width="fill parent" android:layout\_height="fill\_parent" android:orientation="vertical" **Row-wise** android:background="#ff0033cc" android:padding="4dip" xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android" > <TextView android:id="@+id/labelUserName" Use all the row android:layout width="fill parent" android:layout height="wrap content" android:background="#ffff0066" android:text="User Name" android:textSize="16sp" android:textStyle="bold" android:textColor="#ff000000" /> <EditText android:id="@+id/ediName" android:layout width="fill parent" android:layout height="wrap content" android:textSize="18sp" /> <Button android:id="@+id/btnGo" Specific size: 125dip android:layout width="125dip" android:layout height="wrap content" android:text="Go" android:textStyle="bold" /> </LinearLayout> 23

### The LinearLayout – Weight

#### 1.2 Linear Layout: Weight

Indicates how much of the extra space in the LinearLayout will be allocated to the view. Use **0** if the view should not be stretched. The bigger the weight the larger the extra space given to that widget.

#### Example

The XML specification for the window is very similar to the previous example.

The TextView and Button controls have the additional property android:layout\_weight="1"

whereas the EditText control has
android:layout\_weight="2"

Default value is 0



### The LinearLayout – Gravity

#### 1.3 Layout\_Gravity

- It is used to indicate how a control will align on the screen.
- By default, widgets are *left* and *top*-aligned.
- You may use the XML property android:layout\_gravity="..." to set other possible arrangements: *left, center, right, top, bottom,* etc.



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## The LinearLayout – Gravity

#### **1.3 CAUTION:** gravity vs. layout\_gravity

The difference between:

#### android:gravity

indicates how to place an object within a container. In the example the text is centered

android:gravity="center"

android:layout gravity

User Name

positions the view with respect to its

android: layout gravity="center"

User Name



## The LinearLayout – Padding

#### **1.4 Linear Layout: Padding**

- The padding specifies how much extra space there is between the boundaries of the widget's "cell" and the actual widget contents.
- Either use
  - android:padding property
  - or call method *setPadding()* at runtime.

## The LinearLayout – Padding

#### **1.3 Linear Layout: Padding and Marging**



# The LinearLayout – Padding

#### **1.3 Linear Layout: Internal Margins Using Padding**

#### Example:

The EditText box has been changed to display 30dip of padding all around

🏭 📶 💶 6:10 PM	🏭 📶 📧 6:12 PM		
AndDemoUI2	And DemoUI2		
User Name	User Name	<edittext< th=""></edittext<>	
maria macarena Go	$\rightarrow$ maria macarena	<pre>android:id="@+id/ediName" android:layout_width="fill_parent" android:layout_height="wrap_content"</pre>	
	Go	<pre>android:textSize="18sp" android:padding="30dip"</pre>	
		> 	
		•••	

## The LinearLayout – Margin

#### 1.4 Linear Layout: (External) Margin

- Widgets by default are tightly packed next to each other.
- To increase space between them use the **android:layout\_margin** attribute



#### 2. Relative Layout

The placement of widgets in a **RelativeLayout** is based on their *positional relationship* to other widgets in the container and the parent container.



#### Example:

A is by the parent's top C is below A, to its right B is below A, to the left of C

#### 2. Relative Layout - Referring to the container

Below there is a list of some positioning XML boolean properties (true/false) mapping a widget according to its location **respect to the parent's place**.

- **android:layout\_alignParentTop** the widget's top should align with the top of the container.
- **android:layout\_alignParentBottom** the widget's bottom should align with the bottom of the container
- **android:layout\_alignParentLeft** the widget's left side should align with the left side of the container
- android:layout\_alignParentRight the widget's right side should align with the right side of the container
- **android:layout\_centerInParent** the widget should be positioned both horizontally and vertically at the center of the container
- android:layout\_centerHorizontal the widget should be positioned horizontally at the center of the container
- android:layout\_centerVertical the widget should be positioned vertically at the center of the container

#### 2. Relative Layout – Referring to other widgets

The following properties manage positioning of a widget **respect to other** widgets:

- android:layout\_above indicates that the widget should be placed above the widget referenced in the property
- android:layout\_below indicates that the widget should be placed below the widget referenced in the property
- android:layout\_toLeftOf indicates that the widget should be placed to the left of the widget referenced in the property
- android:layout\_toRightOf indicates that the widget should be placed to the right of the widget referenced in the property

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#### 2. Relative Layout – Referring to other widgets – cont.

- android:layout\_alignTop indicates that the widget's top should be aligned with the top of the widget referenced in the property
- android:layout\_alignBottom indicates that the widget's bottom should be aligned with the bottom of the widget referenced in the property
- android:layout\_alignLeft indicates that the widget's left should be aligned with the left of the widget referenced in the property
- android:layout\_alignRight indicates that the widget's right should be aligned with the right of the widget referenced in the property
- android:layout\_alignBaseline indicates that the baselines of the two widgets should be aligned

#### 2. Relative Layout – Referring to other widgets

When using relative positioning you need to:

- 1. Put identifiers ( **android:id** attributes ) on *all elements* that you will be referring to.
- 2. XML elements are named using: @+id/... For instance an EditText box could be called: android:id="@+id/txtUserName"
- 3. You must refer only to widgets that have been defined. For instance a new control to be positioned below the previous EditText box could refer to it using: android:layout\_below="@+id/txtUserName"

#### 2. Relative Layout – Example

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
```

<RelativeLayout xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android" android:id="@+id/myReLativeLayout" android:layout\_width="fill\_parent" android:layout\_height="fill\_parent" android:background="#ff000099" >

#### <TextView

android:id="@+id/LbLUserName" android:layout\_width="fill\_parent" android:layout\_height="wrap\_content" android:layout\_alignParentLeft="true" android:layout\_alignParentTop="true" android:background="#ffff0066" android:text="User Name" android:textColor="#ff000000" android:textStyle="bold" > </TextView>



```
<EditText
```

android:id="@+id/txtUserName"
android:layout\_width="fill\_parent"
android:layout\_height="wrap\_content"
android:layout\_alignParentLeft="true"
android:layout\_below="@+id/lblUserName"
android:padding="20dip" >
</EditText>

#### <Button

android:id="@+id/btnGo" android:layout\_width="wrap\_content" android:layout\_height="wrap\_content" android:layout\_alignRight="@+id/txtUserName" android:layout\_below="@+id/txtUserName" android:text="Go" android:textStyle="bold" > </Button>

#### <Button

android:id="@+id/btnCancel"
android:layout\_width="wrap\_content"
android:layout\_height="wrap\_content"
android:layout\_below="@+id/txtUserName"
android:layout\_toLeftOf="@+id/btnGo"
android:text="Cancel"
android:textStyle="bold" >
</Button>

</RelativeLayout>
## The Relative Layout

#### 2. Relative Layout (as of Sept 2012)



# The Table Layout

#### 3. Table Layout

- 1. Android's **TableLayout** uses a grid to position your widgets.
- 2. Cells in the grid are identifiable by *rows* and *columns*.
- 3. Columns might *shrink* or *stretch* to accommodate their contents.
- 4. The element **TableRow** is used to define a new row in which widgets can be allocated.
- 5. The number of columns in a TableRow is determined by the total of side-byside widgets placed on the row.



## 3. Table Layout

The number of columns in a row is determined by Android.

So if you have three rows, one with two widgets, one with three widgets, and one with four widgets, there will be at least four columns.

0		1	
0		1 2	
0	1	2	3

## 3. Table Layout

However, a single widget can take up more than one column by including the **android:layout\_span** property, indicating the number of columns the widget spans (this is similar to the **colspan** attribute one finds in table cells in **HTML**)

```
<TableRow>

<TextView android:text="URL:" />

<EditText

android:id="@+id/entry"

android:layout_span="3" />

</TableRow>
```

## 3. Table Layout

Ordinarily, widgets are put into the first available column of each row.

In the example below, the label ("*URL*") would go in the first column (*column 0, as columns are counted starting from 0*), and the TextField would go into a spanned set of three columns (columns 1 through 3).

		android:layo	ut_span="3"
<b>Label</b> (URL)	EditText	EditText-span	EditText-span
Column 0	Column 1	Column 2 Button Cancel	Column 3 Button OK
	:	android:	lavout colum="2"

3. Table Layout Example



#### Note to the reader:

Experiment changing layout\_span to 1, 2, 3



## 3. Table Layout

By default, each column will be sized according to the "*natural*" size of the widest widget in that column.

If your content is narrower than the available space, you can use the *TableLayout* property:

Its value should be a single column number (0-based) or a commadelimited list of column numbers. Those columns will be stretched to take up any available space yet on the row.

## 3. Table Layout

In our running example we stretch columns 2, 3, and 4 to fill the rest of the row.



**TODO**: try to stretch one column at the time 1, then 2, and so on.

## 4. ScrollView Layout

When we have more data than what can be shown on a single screen you may use the **ScrollView** control.

It provides a sliding or scrolling access to the data. This way the user can only see part of your layout at one time, but the rest is available via scrolling.

This is similar to browsing a large web page that forces the user to scroll up the page to see the bottom part of the form.

## 4. Example ScrollView Layout

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>

#### <ScrollView

xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android" android:id="@+id/myScrollView1" android:layout\_width="fill\_parent" android:layout\_height="fill\_parent" android:background="#ff009999" >

```
<LinearLayout
```

android:id="@+id/myLinearLayoutVertical"
android:layout\_width="fill\_parent"
android:layout\_height="fill\_parent"
android:orientation="vertical" >

```
<TextView
```

android:id="@+id/textView1"
android:layout\_width="fill\_parent"
android:layout\_height="wrap\_content"
android:text="Line1"
android:textSize="150dip" />
<View
android:layout\_width="fill\_parent"</pre>

```
android:layout_width="fill_parent"
android:layout_height="6dip"
android:background="#ffccffcc" />
```

#### <TextView

android:id="@+id/textView2"
android:layout\_width="fill\_parent"
android:layout\_height="wrap\_content"
android:text="Line2"
android:textSize="150dip" />

#### <View

android:layout\_width="fill\_parent"
android:layout\_height="6dip"
android:background="#ffccffcc" />

#### <TextView

android:id="@+id/textView3"
android:layout\_width="fill\_parent"
android:layout\_height="wrap\_content"
android:text="Line3"
android:textSize="150dip" />

```
</LinearLayout>
```

</ScrollView>

## 4. Example ScrollView Layout



## 5. Miscellaneous. Absolute Layout

- A layout that lets you specify exact locations (x/y coordinates) of its children.
- Absolute layouts are *less flexible* and harder to maintain than other types of layouts without absolute positioning.



## 5. Miscellaneous Absolute Layout (cont.)



## A Detailed List of Widgets

#### For a detailed list consult:

#### http://developer.android.com/reference/android/widget/package-summary.html

**AbsListView** AbsListView.LayoutParams AbsoluteLayout AbsoluteLayout.LayoutParams AbsSeekBar AbsSpinner AdapterView<T extends Adapter> AdapterContextMenuInfo AlphabetIndexer AnalogClock ArrayAdapter<T> **AutoCompleteTextView** BaseAdapter BaseExpandableListAdapter Button CheckBox CheckedTextView Chronometer CompoundButton CursorAdapter CursorTreeAdapter DatePicker DialerFilter

DigitalClock EditText ExpandableListView ExpandableListContextMenuInfo Filter Filter.FilterResults FrameLayout FrameLayout.LayoutParams Gallery Gallery.LayoutParams GridView HeaderViewListAdapter HorizontalScrollView ImageButton ImageSwitcher **ImageView** LinearLayout LinearLayout.LayoutParams ListView ListView.FixedViewInfo MediaController **MultiAutoCompleteTextView** CommaTokenizer

PopupWindow **ProgressBar** RadioButton RadioGroup RadioGroup.LayoutParams RatingBar RelativeLayout RelativeLayout.LayoutParams **RemoteViews** ResourceCursorAdapter ResourceCursorTreeAdapter Scroller ScrollView SeekBar SimpleAdapter SimpleCursorAdapter SimpleCursorTreeAdapter SimpleExpandableListAdapter SlidingDrawer Spinner TabHost TabHost.TabSpec TableLayout

TableLayout.LayoutParams TableRow TableRow.LayoutParams TabWidget TextSwitcher **TextView** TextView.SavedState TimePicker Toast ToggleButton TwoLineListItem VideoView ViewAnimator ViewFlipper ViewSwitcher ZoomButton ZoomControls

# **Attaching Layouts to Java Code**

**PLUMBING.** You must 'connect' the XML elements with equivalent objects in your Java activity. This allows you to manipulate the UI with code.



# **Attaching Layouts to Java Code**

Assume the UI in *res/layout/main.xml* has been created. This layout could be called by an application using the statement

#### setContentView(R.layout.main);

Individual widgets, such as *myButton* could be accessed by the application using the statement *findViewByID(...)* as in

Button btn = (Button) findViewById(R.id.myButton);

Where **R** is a class automatically generated to keep track of resources available to the application. In particular **R.id...** is the collection of widgets defined in the XML layout.

# **Attaching Layouts to Java Code**

**Attaching Listeners to the Widgets** 

The button of our example could now be used, for instance a listener for the click event could be written as:

```
btn.setOnClickListener(new OnClickListener() {
    @Override
    public void onClick(View v) {
        updateTime();
    }
});
private void updateTime() {
    btn.setText(new Date().toString());
}
```

# **Basic Widgets: Labels**



- A **label** is called in android a **TextView**.
- TextViews are typically used for output to display a caption.
- TextViews are *not* editable, therefore they take no input.

# **Basic Widgets: Labels**



Hint on Better Programming Style: Add to the res/values/stringg.xml the entry <string name="long\_msg\_1">Line1 of long message\nLine2 of long msg\n...\nlast line</string>

## **EditText Caution**

### WARNING

This text field does not specify an InputType or a hint

is just a warning requesting your help to improve the working of a TextView. Add the clause android:hint="...some hint here..." and/or android:InputType="...choice..." where choices are



(a) "none" (a) "text" ③ "textCapCharacters" ③ "textCapWords" ItextCapSentences ③ "textAutoCorrect" ③ "textAutoComplete" (a) "textMultiLine" ③ "textImeMultiLine" ③ "textNoSuggestions" ③ "textEmailAddress" ③ "textEmailSubject" ItextShortMessage ItextLongMessage ③ "textPersonName" ③ "textPostalAddress" ItextPassword ItextVisiblePassword ③ "textWebEditText" ③ "textFilter" ③ "textPhonetic" ③ "number" ③ "numberSigned" InumberDecimal ③ "phone" ③ "datetime" (a) "date" (a) "time"

http://developer.android.com/reference/android/widget/TextView.html

XML Attribute / Equivalent Method	Description
android:autoLink setAutoLinkMask(int)	Controls whether links such as urls and email addresses are automatically found and converted to clickable links.
<u>android:autoText</u> <u>setKeyListener(KeyListener)</u>	If set, specifies that this TextView has a textual input method and automatically corrects some common spelling errors.
<u>android:bufferType</u> <u>setText(CharSequence,TextView.BufferType)</u>	Determines the minimum type that getText() will return.
android:capitalize setKeyListener(KeyListener)	If set, specifies that this TextView has a textual input method and should automatically capitalize what the user types.
android:cursorVisible setCursorVisible(boolean)	Makes the cursor visible (the default) or invisible.
android:digits setKeyListener(KeyListener)	If set, specifies that this TextView has a numeric input method and that these specific characters are the ones that it will accept.

android:drawableBottom setCompoundDrawablesWithIntrinsicBounds() The drawable to be drawn below the text.

XML Attribute / Equivalent Method	Description
android:drawableEnd	The drawable to be drawn to the end of the text.
android:drawableLeft setCompoundDrawablesWithIntrinsicBounds(int)	The drawable to be drawn to the left of the text.
android:drawablePadding setCompoundDrawablePadding(int)	The padding between the drawables and the text.
android:drawableRight setCompoundDrawablesWithIntrinsicBounds(int)	The drawable to be drawn to the right of the text.
android:drawableStart	The drawable to be drawn to the start of the text.
android:drawableTop setCompoundDrawablesWithIntrinsicBounds()	The drawable to be drawn above the text.
android:editable	If set, specifies that this TextView has an input method.
android:editorExtras setInputExtras(int)	Reference to an <input-extras> XML resource containing additional data to supply to an input method, which is private to the implementation of the input method.</input-extras>

XML Attribute / Equivalent Method	Description
android:ellipsize setEllipsize(TextUtils.TruncateAt)	If set, causes words that are longer than the view is wide to be ellipsized instead of broken in the middle.
android:ems setEms(int)	Makes the TextView be exactly this many ems wide.
android:fontFamily setTypeface(Typeface)	Font family (named by string) for the text.
android:freezesText setFreezesText(boolean)	If set, the text view will include its current complete text inside of its frozen icicle in addition to meta-data such as the current cursor position.
android:gravity setGravity(int)	Specifies how to align the text by the view's x- and/or y-axis when the text is smaller than the view.
android:height setHeight(int)	Makes the TextView be exactly this many pixels tall.
android:hint setHint(int)	Hint text to display when the text is empty.
android:imeActionId setImeActionLabel(CharSequence.)	Supply a value for <u>EditorInfo.actionId</u> used when an input method is connected to the text view.

XML Attribute / Equivalent Method	Description
android:imeActionLabel setImeActionLabel(CharSequence.)	Supply a value for <b>EditorInfo.actionLabel</b> used when an input method is connected to the text view.
android:imeOptions setImeOptions(int)	Additional features you can enable in an IME associated with an editor to improve the integration with your application.
android:includeFontPadding setIncludeFontPadding(boolean)	Leave enough room for ascenders and descenders instead of using the font ascent and descent strictly.
android:inputMethod setKeyListener(KeyListener)	If set, specifies that this TextView should use the specified input method (specified by fully-qualified class name).
android:inputType setRawInputType(int)	The type of data being placed in a text field, used to help an input method decide how to let the user enter text.
android:lineSpacingExtra setLineSpacing(float.)	Extra spacing between lines of text.
android:lineSpacingMultiplier setLineSpacing(float.)	Extra spacing between lines of text, as a multiplier.

# Basic Widgets / Attributes & Methods: TextView cont. http://developer.android.com/reference/android/widget/TextView.html

XML Attribute / Equivalent Method	Description
android:minEms setMinEms(int)	Makes the TextView be at least this many ems wide.
<u>android:minHeight</u> <u>setMinHeight(int)</u>	Makes the TextView be at least this many pixels tall.
android:minLines setMinLines(int)	Makes the TextView be at least this many lines tall.
<u>android:minWidth</u> <u>setMinWidth(int)</u>	Makes the TextView be at least this many pixels wide.
<u>android:numeric</u> <u>setKeyListener(KeyListener)</u>	If set, specifies that this TextView has a numeric input method.
android:password setTransformationMethod(TransformationMethod)	Whether the characters of the field are displayed as password dots instead of themselves.
android:phoneNumber setKeyListener(KeyListener)	If set, specifies that this TextView has a phone number input method.

XML Attribute / Equivalent Method	Description
android:privateImeOptions setPrivateImeOptions(String)	An addition content type description to supply to the input method attached to the text view, which is private to the implementation of the input method.
android:scrollHorizontally setHorizontallyScrolling(boolean)	Whether the text is allowed to be wider than the view (and therefore can be scrolled horizontally).
android:selectAllOnFocus setSelectAllOnFocus(boolean)	If the text is selectable, select it all when the view takes focus.
android:shadowColor setShadowLayer(float)	Place a shadow of the specified color behind the text.
android:shadowDx setShadowLayer(float)	Horizontal offset of the shadow.
android:shadowDy setShadowLayer(float)	Vertical offset of the shadow.
android:shadowRadius setShadowLayer(float)	Radius of the shadow.
android:singleLine setTransformationMethod(TransformationMethod)	Constrains the text to a single horizontally scrolling line instead of letting it wrap onto multiple lines, and advances focus instead of inserting a newline when you press the enter key.

XML Attribute / Equivalent Method	Description
android:privateImeOptions setPrivateImeOptions(String)	An addition content type description to supply to the input method attached to the text view, which is private to the implementation of the input method.
android:scrollHorizontally setHorizontallyScrolling(boolean)	Whether the text is allowed to be wider than the view (and therefore can be scrolled horizontally).
android:selectAllOnFocus setSelectAllOnFocus(boolean)	If the text is selectable, select it all when the view takes focus.
android: shadow Color set Shadow Layer (float)	Place a shadow of the specified color behind the text.
android: shadow Dx set Shadow Layer (float)	Horizontal offset of the shadow.
<u>android: shadow Dy</u> <u>set Shadow Layer (float)</u>	Vertical offset of the shadow.
android: shadow Radius set Shadow Layer (float)	Radius of the shadow.
android:singleLine setTransformationMethod(TransformationMethod)	Constrains the text to a single horizontally scrolling line instead of letting it wrap onto multiple lines, and advances focus instead of inserting a newline when you press the enter key.

XML Attribute / Equivalent Method	Description
android:text setText(CharSequence,TextView.BufferType)	Text to display.
android:textAllCaps setAllCaps(boolean)	Present the text in ALL CAPS.
android:textAppearance	Base text color, typeface, size, and style.
android:textColor setTextColor(int)	Text color.
android:textColorHighlight setHighlightColor(int)	Color of the text selection highlight.
<u>android:textColorHint</u> <u>setHintTextColor(int)</u>	Color of the hint text.
android:textColorLink setLinkTextColor(int)	Text color for links.
android:textIsSelectable isTextSelectable()	Indicates that the content of a non-editable text can be selected.

XML Attribute / Equivalent Method	Description
android:textScaleX setTextScaleX(float)	Sets the horizontal scaling factor for the text.
android:textSize setTextSize(int.)	Size of the text.
<u>android:textStyle</u> <u>setTypeface(Typeface)</u>	Style (bold, italic, bolditalic) for the text.
<u>android:typeface</u> <u>setTypeface(Typeface)</u>	Typeface (normal, sans, serif, monospace) for the text.
android:width setWidth(int)	Makes the TextView be exactly this many pixels wide.

## **Basic Widgets: Buttons**

- A **Button** widget allows the simulation of a clicking action on a GUI.
- Button is a subclass of TextView. Therefore formatting a button's face is similar to the setting of a TextView.



# **Basic Widgets: Images**

- **ImageView** and **ImageButton** are two Android widgets that allow embedding of images in your applications.
- Both are *image-based widgets* analogue to *TextView* and *Button*, respectively.
- Each widget takes an **android:src** or **android:background** attribute (in an XML layout) to specify what picture to use.
- Pictures are usually a reference to a *drawable* resource.
- **ImageButton**, is a subclass of ImageView. It adds the standard *Button* behavior for responding to *click* events.

# **Basic Widgets: Images**



# **Basic Widgets: Images**

**Icons** are small images used to graphically represent your application and/or parts of it. They may appear in different places of the device including:

- Home screen
- Launcher window.
- Options menu
- Action Bar
- Status bar
- Multi-tab interface.
- Pop-up dialog boxes
- List view

Detailed information at:

http://developer.android.com/guide/practices/ui\_guidelines/icon\_design.html

#### HINT

Several websites allow you to convert your pictures into arbitrary image files under a variety of formats & sizes (.png, .jpg, .gif, etc). For instance try; <u>http://www.prodraw.net/favicon/index.php</u>

http://converticon.com/



# Basic Widgets: EditText

- The EditText (or textBox) widget is an extension of TextView that allows updates.
- The control configures itself to be *editable*.
- Important Java methods are:

```
txtBox.setText("someValue")
and
txtBox.getText().toString()
```

	- # <b>.</b> . (	🗳 1:16 P	М
AndDemo			
Enter User Name			
Maria Macarena			
Begin Working			
Exit Working			

# Basic Widgets: EditText

In addition to the standard TextView's properties, EditText has many other (now) *deprecated* features such as:



android:autoText, (true/false) provides automatic spelling assistance
android:capitalize, (words/sentences) automatic capitalization
android:digits, to configure the field to accept only certain digits
android:singleLine, is the field for single-line / multiple-line input
android:password, (true/false) controls field's visibility

- android:numeric, (integer, decimal, signed) controls numeric format
- android:phonenumber, (true/false) Formatting phone numbers

#### Instead use the newer clause

android:InputType="...choices..." where choices include



- ③ "datetime"
- ③ "date"
- ③ "time"



Suggestion (grey out)
In this little example we will create and use a simple login screen holding a label(**TexView**), a textBox (**EditText**), and a **Button**.



#### <LinearLayout

```
xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
android:layout_width="fill_parent"
android:layout_height="fill_parent"
android:background="#ff6495ed"
android:orientation="vertical" >
```

### <TextView

```
android:id="@+id/textView1"
android:layout_width="match_parent"
android:layout_height="wrap_content"
android:background="#ffffff00"
android:text=" ACME Corporation-Login " />
```

### <EditText

```
android:id="@+id/txtUserName"
android:layout_width="fill_parent"
android:layout_height="wrap_content"
```

```
android:inputType="textCapWords/textAutoCorrect"
```

```
android:hint="Enter your First and Last name"
android:textSize="18sp" >
```

```
<requestFocus /> </EditText>
```

<Button

android:id="@+id/button1" android:layout\_width="82dp" android:layout\_height="wrap\_content" android:text="Login" />

### </LinearLayout>

## Android's Application (1 of 2)

```
package cis493.gui;
import ...
```

```
______
// "LOGIN" - a gentle introduction to UI controls
public class AndDemo extends Activity {
   TextView labelUserName;
   EditText txtUserName:
   Button btnBegin;
   Qoverride
   public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
       super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
       setContentView(R.layout.main);
       //binding the UI's controls defined in "main.xml" to Java code
       labelUserName = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.textView1);
       txtUserName = (EditText) findViewById(R.id.txtUserName);
       btnBegin = (Button) findViewById(R.id.button1);
```

## Android's Application (2 of 2)

```
});// onClick
```

}//onCreate

}//class

# Your turn!

Implement any/all of the following projects Using simple text boxes (EditText, TextView) and buttons:

- 1. Currency calculator
- 2. Tip Calculator
- 3. Simple Flashlight



**Note:** Another way of defining a Listener for multiple button widgets

```
public class SimpleUI extends Activity implements OnClickListener {
                                                                       🖻 🖻 🛍 🗅 🌵 🇯 🛦
    Button btnBegin;
    Button btnExit:
                                                                         Begin
    Override
                                                                          Exit
    public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.main);
        btnBegin = (Button) findViewById(R.id.btnBegin);
        btnExit = (Button) findViewById(R.id.btnExit);
        btnBegin.setOnClickListener(this);
        btnExit.setOnClickListener(this);
    }//onCreate
                                                                                 2-Exit
   Qoverride
   public void onClick(View v) {
      if (v.getId() == btnBegin.getId() ) {
      Toast.makeText(getApplicationContext(), "1-Begin", 1).show();
      if (v.getId() == btnExit.getId() ) {
      Toast.makeText(getApplicationContext(), "2-Exit", 1).show();
   }//onClick
}//class
```

# **Basic Widgets: CheckBox**

A checkbox is a specific type of two-states button that can be either *checked* or *unchecked*.

A example usage of a checkbox inside your activity would be the following:



# **Example 3: CheckBox**

## Complete code for the **checkBox** demo (1 of 3)

Layout: main.xml							
	<checkbox< th=""></checkbox<>						
<pre><?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?></pre>	android:id="@+id/chkCream"						
<linearlayout< td=""><td>android:layout width="wrap content"</td></linearlayout<>	android:layout width="wrap content"						
android:id="@+id/linearLayout"	android:layout height="wrap content"						
android:layout width="fill parent"	android:text="Cream"						
android:layout height="fill parent"	android:textStyle="bold"						
android:background="#ff6666666"	>						
android:orientation="vertical"							
<pre>xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/a</pre>	<checkbox< td=""></checkbox<>						
pk/res/android"	android:id="@+id/chkSugar"						
>	android:layout width="wrap content"						
	android:layout height="wrap content"						
<textview< td=""><td>android:text="Sugar"</td></textview<>	android:text="Sugar"						
android:id="@+id/labelCoffee"	android:textStyle="bold"						
android:layout width="fill parent"	>						
android:layout height="wrap content"							
android:background="#ff993300"	<button< td=""></button<>						
android:text="What else in you Coffee ?"	android:id="@+id/btnPay"						
android:textStyle="bold"	android:layout width="153px"						
>	android:layout height="wrap content"						
	android:text="Pay"						
	android:textStyle="bold"						
	>						

# **Example 2: CheckBox**

Complete code for the checkBox demo (2 of 3)

```
public class MainActivity Activity {
    CheckBox chkCream;
    CheckBox chkSugar;
    Button btnPay;
    @Override
    public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.main);
        //binding XMl controls with Java code
        chkCream = (CheckBox)findViewById(R.id.chkCream);
        chkSugar = (CheckBox)findViewById(R.id.chkSugar);
        btnPay = (Button) findViewById(R.id.btnPay);
```

# **Example 2: CheckBox**

## Complete code for the checkBox demo (3 of 3)

```
//LISTENER: wiring button-events-&-code
       btnPay.setOnClickListener(new OnClickListener() {
       Coverride
       public void onClick(View v) {
          String msg = "Coffee ";
          if (chkCream.isChecked()) {
            msg += " & cream ";
          if (chkSugar.isChecked()) {
            msg += " & Sugar";
          Toast.makeText(getApplicationContext(),
               msg, Toast.LENGTH SHORT).show();
          //go now and compute cost...
       }//onClick
       });
   }//onCreate
}//class
```

- A radio button is a two-states button that can be either *checked* or *unchecked*.
- When the radio button is unchecked, the user can press or click it to check it.
- Radio buttons are normally used together in a **RadioGroup**.
- When several radio buttons live inside a radio group, checking one radio button *unchecks* all the others.
- RadioButton inherits from ... TextView. Hence, all the standard TextView properties for *font face, style, color,* etc. are available for controlling the look of radio buttons.
- Similarly, you can call *isChecked()* on a RadioButton to see if it is selected, toggle() to select it, and so on, like you can with a CheckBox.

## Example

We extend the previous example by adding a *RadioGroup* and three *RadioButtons*. Only new XML and Java code is shown:

### <TextView

android:id="@+id/textView1"
android:layout\_width="fill\_parent"
android:layout\_height="wrap\_content"
android:background="#ff993300"
android:text="What kind of Coffee?"
android:textColor="#ffffff"
android:textStyle="bold" />

	20	1.00	$\mathcal{T}$	2:46
SimpleUI				
What kind of Coffee?				
🔿 Decaf				
Expresso				
<ul> <li>Colombian</li> </ul>				
What else in you Coffee ?				
Cream				
Sugar				
Dav				
ray				

#### <RadioGroup

android:id="@+id/radioGroupCoffeeType"
android:layout\_width="match\_parent"
android:layout\_height="wrap\_content" >

### <RadioButton

android:id="@+id/radDecaf"
android:layout\_width="wrap\_content"
android:layout\_height="wrap\_content"
android:text="Decaf" />

## <RadioButton

android:id="@+id/radExpresso"
android:layout\_width="wrap\_content"
android:layout\_height="wrap\_content"
android:text="Expresso" />

### <RadioButton

android:id="@+id/radColombian" android:layout\_width="wrap\_content" android:layout\_height="wrap\_content" android:checked="true" android:text="Colombian" />

### </RadioGroup>

```
public class MainActivity extends Activity {
  CheckBox chkCream;
  CheckBox chkSugar;
  Button btnPay;
  RadioGroup radCoffeeType;
  RadioButton radDecaf;
  RadioButton radExpresso;
  RadioButton radColombian;
  @Override
  public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
     super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
     setContentView(R.layout.main);
     chkCream = (CheckBox) findViewById(R.id.chkCream);
     chkSugar = (CheckBox) findViewById(R.id.chkSugar);
     btnPay = (Button) findViewById(R.id.btnPay);
     radCoffeeType = (RadioGroup) findViewById(R.id.radioGroupCoffeeType);
     radDecaf = (RadioButton) findViewById(R.id.radDecaf);
     radExpresso = (RadioButton) findViewById(R.id.radExpresso);
     radColombian = (RadioButton) findViewById(R.id.radColombian);
```

```
// LISTENER: wiring button-events-&-code
   btnPay.setOnClickListener(new OnClickListener() {
      @Override
      public void onClick(View v) {
         String msg = "Coffee ";
         if (chkCream.isChecked())
             msg += " & cream ";
         if (chkSugar.isChecked())
             msg += " & Sugar";
         // get radio buttons ID number
         int radioId = radCoffeeType.getCheckedRadioButtonId();
         // compare selected's Id with individual RadioButtons ID
         if (radColombian.getId() == radioId)
             msg = "Colombian " + msg;
         // similarly you may use .isChecked() on each RadioButton
         if (radExpresso.isChecked())
             msg = "Expresso " + msg;
         // similarly you may use .isChecked() on each RadioButton
         if (radDecaf.isChecked())
             msg = "Decaf " + msg;
         Toast.makeText(getApplicationContext(), msg, 1).show();
         // go now and compute cost...
      }// onClick
   });
}// onCreate
```

```
}// class
```



## **UI – Other Features**

## XML Controls the focus sequence:

android:visibility qndroid:background <requestFocus />

## Java methods

myButton.requestFocus()
myTextBox.isFocused()
myWidget.setEnabled()
myWidget.isEnabled()



## **UI - User Interfaces**

# **Questions**?

# **UI - User Interfaces**

## Resource: DroidDraw www.droidDraw.org

🚊 DroidDraw									
File Edit Project Help									
Generate Load Undo Redo									
⊂ Screen	Widgets	Layouts	Properties	Strings	Colors	Arrays	Support		
Root Layout:     LinearLayout       Screen Size:     HVGA Portrait			Properties fo	or:		Edit	tText		
G 👊 涹 8:22 AM DroidDraw			Id					@+id/widget34	
ABC Droid Corporation of Ohio			Width					wrap_content	
Button			Height					wrap_content	
			Background	Color		C		<b>~</b>	
						App	у		<u>`</u>
	Output								
	xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"? <linearlayout< td=""><td>^</td></linearlayout<>						^		
	android:id="0+id/widget28"								
	android:layout_width="fill_parent"								
android:layout_height="fill_parent"									
android:background="#ff009999"									
android:orientation="vertical"									
	>	anurore	- nccp./	/ schen	as.and	irora.(	Join/ apr/	res/android	
	<textv< td=""><td>iew</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></textv<>	iew							
	android:id="@+id/widget29"								
	androi	d:layou	t_width=	"fill	parent	."			
	androi	d•lavoi	t height	="wran	conte	ent"			*

## Android Asset Studio – Beta (Accessed: Sep 11, 2012)

- AAS Link: <a href="http://code.google.com/p/android-ui-utils/">http://code.google.com/p/android-ui-utils/</a>
- Icon Gen <u>http://android-ui-utils.googlecode.com/hg/asset-studio/dist/index.html</u>
- Pencil 1.2 <a href="http://pencil.evolus.vn/en-US/Home.aspx">http://pencil.evolus.vn/en-US/Home.aspx</a>
- Video: <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EaT7sYr\_f0k&feature=player\_embedded</u>

### WARNING: These utilities are currently in beta.

Utilities that help in the design and development of <u>Android</u> application user interfaces. This library currently consists of three individual tools for designers and developers:

### **1. UI Prototyping Stencils**

A set of stencils for the <u>Pencil GUI prototyping tool</u>, which is available as an <u>add-on for Firefox</u> or as a standalone download.

### 2. Android Asset Studio

### Try out the beta version: Android Asset Studio (shortlink: http://j.mp/androidassetstudio)

A web-based set of tools for generating graphics and other assets that would eventually be in an Android application's res/ directory.

Currently available asset generators area available for:

Launcher icons

Menu icons

Tab icons

Notification icons

Support for creation of XML resources and nine-patches is planned for a future release.

### 3. Android Icon Templates

A set of <u>Photoshop</u> icon templates that follow the <u>icon design guidelines</u>, complementing the official <u>Android Icon Templates Pack</u>.

Q. What is dpi?

Stands for **dots per inch.** You can compute it using the following formula:



## $dpi = \sqrt{widthPixels^2 + heightPixels^2} / diagonalInches$

G1 (base device 320x480)155.92 dpi(3.7 in diagonally)Nexus (480x800)252.15 dpi

## Q. What is the difference between px, dip, dp and sp units in Android?

**dp** (also known as **dip**) *Density-independent Pixels* – is an abstract unit based on the physical density of the screen. These units are relative to a 160 dpi screen, so one dp is one pixel (px) on a 160 dpi screen. Use it for measuring anything but fonts – DO NOT USE px, in. mm

### sp

Scale-independent Pixels – similar to the relative density dp unit, but used for font size preference.

### Q. How Android deals with screen resolutions?

Illustration of how the Android platform maps actual screen densities and sizes to generalized density and size configurations.



Q. What do I gain by using screen densities? More homogeneous results as shown below



Examples of density independence on WVGA high density (left), HVGA medium density (center), and QVGA low density (right).

### Q. How to set different density/size screens in my application?

The following manifest fragments declares support for small, normal, large, and xlarge screens in any density.

```
<manifest xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
        <supports-screens
        android:anyDensity="true"
        android:largeScreens="true"
        android:normalScreens="true"
        android:smallScreens="true"
        android:xlargeScreens="true" />
```



## Q. Give me an example on how to use dip units.

Assume you design your interface for a G1 phone having 320x480 pixels (Abstracted LCD density is **160** – See your AVD entry the actual pixeling is a: 2\*160 x 3\*160)

Assume you want a 120dp button to be placed in the middle of the screen. On portrait mode you could allocate the 320 horizontal pixels as [100 + 120 + 100]. On Landscape mode you could allocate 480 pixels as [180 + 120 + 180].



Instead of using pixels (px) you should use dip/dp. If the application is deployed on a higher resolution screen (more pixels in 1 dip) the button is still mapped to the middle of the screen.

# **Hierarchy Viewer Tools**

