

EXPERIMENT NO. 6

Aim: To Connect Flutter UI with fireBase database, ie. To Set Up Firebase with Flutter for iOS and Android Apps

Theory:

Firebase is a comprehensive platform provided by Google for building mobile and web applications. It offers a wide range of tools and services to help developers build high-quality apps quickly and efficiently. Here's an overview of Firebase and its key components:

Key Components:

1. **Realtime Database:** Firebase Realtime Database is a NoSQL cloud database that allows developers to store and sync data in real-time across multiple clients. It's suitable for applications requiring real-time updates, such as chat apps, collaborative tools, and live data feeds.
2. **Cloud Firestore:** Firestore is Firebase's newer database solution that offers more powerful querying capabilities, scalability, and real-time updates. It's a flexible, scalable database for mobile, web, and server development.
3. **Authentication:** Firebase Authentication provides a secure and easy-to-use authentication system that supports various authentication methods, including email/password, phone number, Google Sign-In, Facebook Login, and more.
4. **Cloud Storage:** Firebase Cloud Storage allows developers to store and serve user-generated content, such as images, videos, and audio files, directly from Google's infrastructure. It offers scalable, secure, and reliable storage solutions with powerful SDKs for easy integration.
5. **Analytics:** Firebase Analytics offers powerful analytics features to help developers understand user behavior, measure app performance, and track key metrics. It provides insights into user engagement, retention, and conversion rates.

Prerequisites:

- A Google account to use Firebase.
- Developing for iOS will require XCode.
- To download and install Flutter.
- To download and install Android Studio and Visual Studio Code.
- It is recommended to install plugins for your code editor.
- Flutter and Dart plugins installed for Android Studio.

- Flutter extension installed for Visual Studio Code.

1. Create a flutter app

```
flutter create storyverse
```

Navigate to the new project directory:

```
cd storyverse
```

Now that we've got a Flutter project up and running, we can add Firebase.

Creating a New Firebase Project


First, log in with your Google account to manage your Firebase projects. From within the Firebase dashboard, select the Create new project button and give it a name:


× Create a project (Step 1 of 3)

Let's start with a name for your project[?]

Project name

StoryVerse

 storyverse-aaf3d

 Select parent resource


Continue


Next, we're given the option to enable Google Analytics.


× Create a project (Step 2 of 3)


Google Analytics is a free and unlimited analytics solution that enables targeting, reporting, and more in Firebase Crashlytics, Cloud Messaging, In-App Messaging, Remote Config, A/B Testing, and Cloud Functions.


Google Analytics enables:

 A/B testing [?](#)

 User segmentation & targeting across Firebase products [?](#)

 Breadcrumb logs in Crashlytics [?](#)

 Event-based Cloud Functions triggers [?](#)

 Free unlimited reporting [?](#)

☒ Enable Google Analytics for this project
Recommended


[Previous](#) [Continue](#)


If you choose to use Google Analytics, you will need to review and accept the terms and conditions prior to project creation.

× Create a project (Step 3 of 3)

Configure Google Analytics

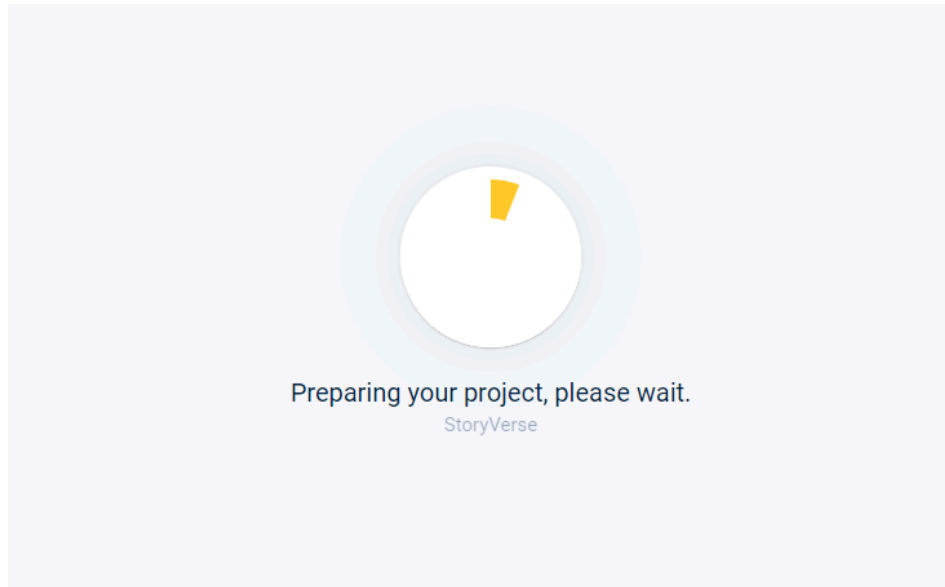
Choose or create a Google Analytics account [?](#)

 Ajinkya Jadhav

Automatically create a new property in this account 

Upon project creation, a new Google Analytics property will be created in your chosen Google Analytics account and linked to your Firebase project. This link will enable data flow between the products. Data exported from your Google Analytics property into Firebase is subject to the Firebase terms of service, while Firebase data imported into Google Analytics is subject to the Google Analytics terms of service. [Learn more](#) [?](#)

[Previous](#) [Create project](#)

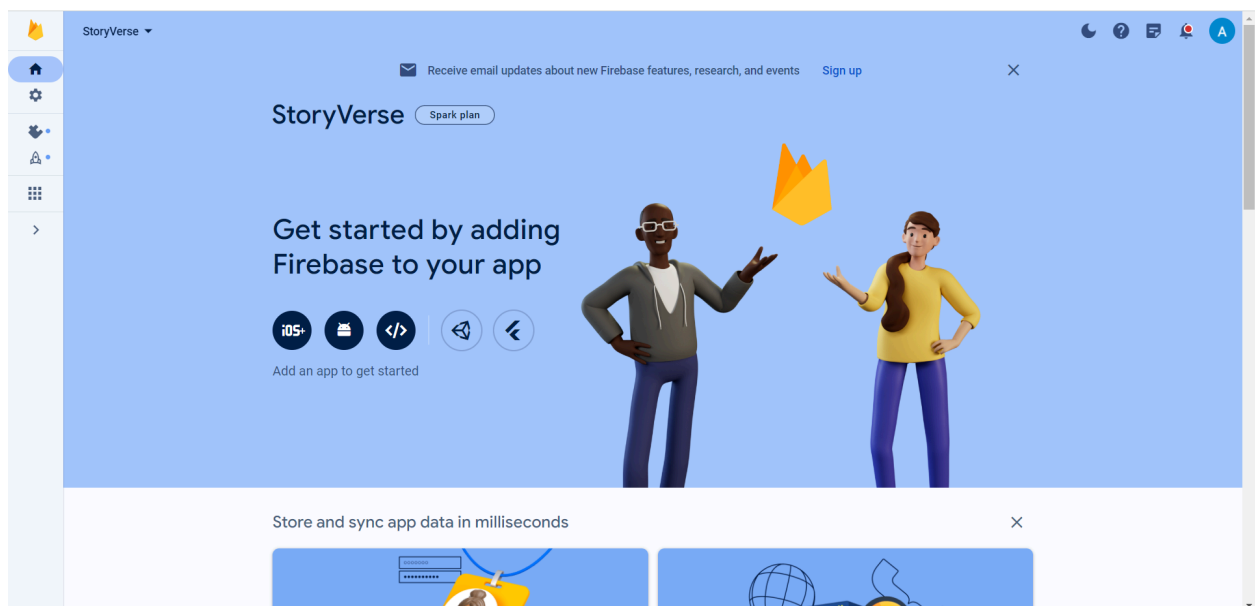


After pressing Continue, the project will be created and resources will be provisioned. We will then be directed to the dashboard for the new project.

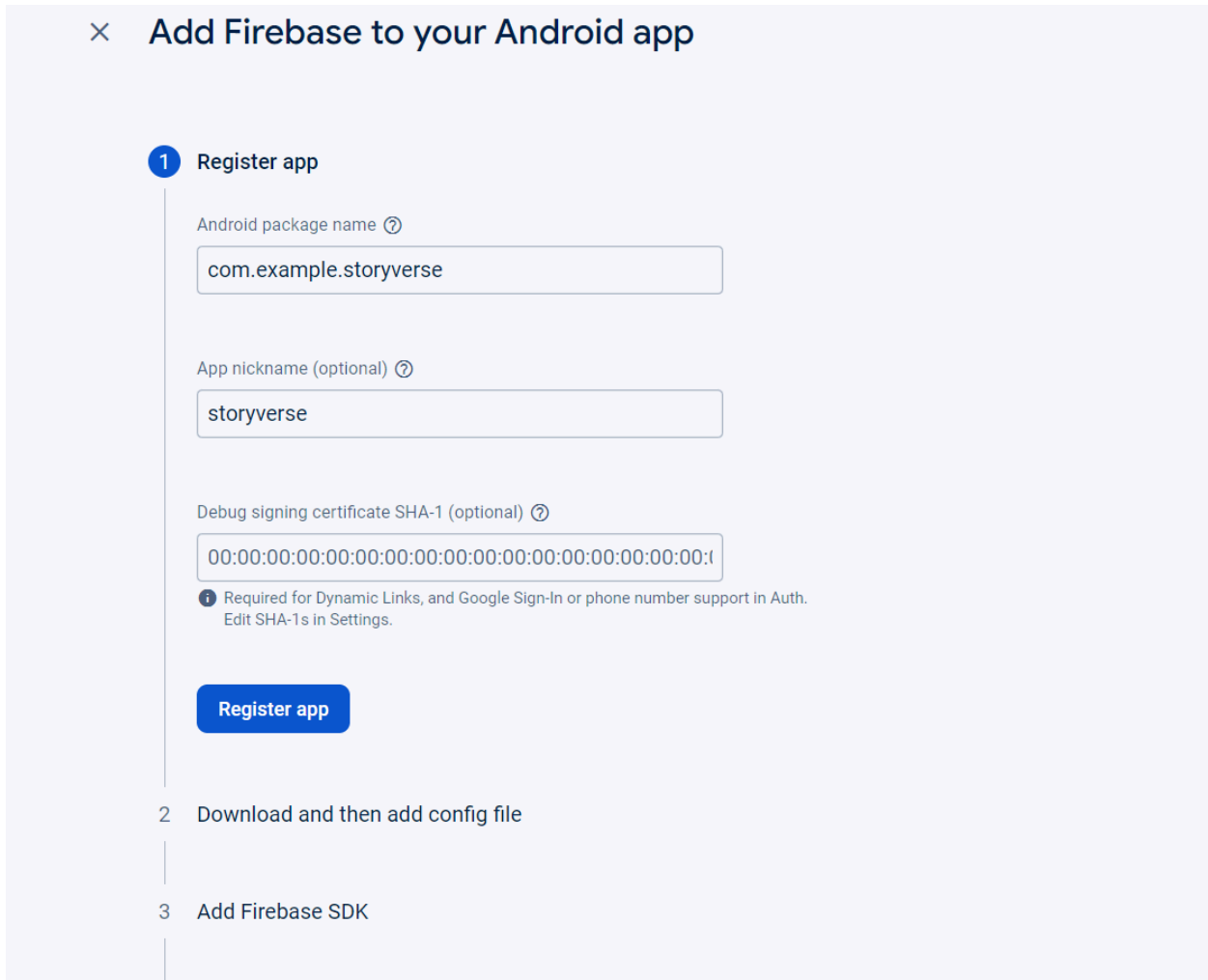
Adding Android support

Registering the App

In order to add Android support to our Flutter application, select the Android logo from the dashboard.



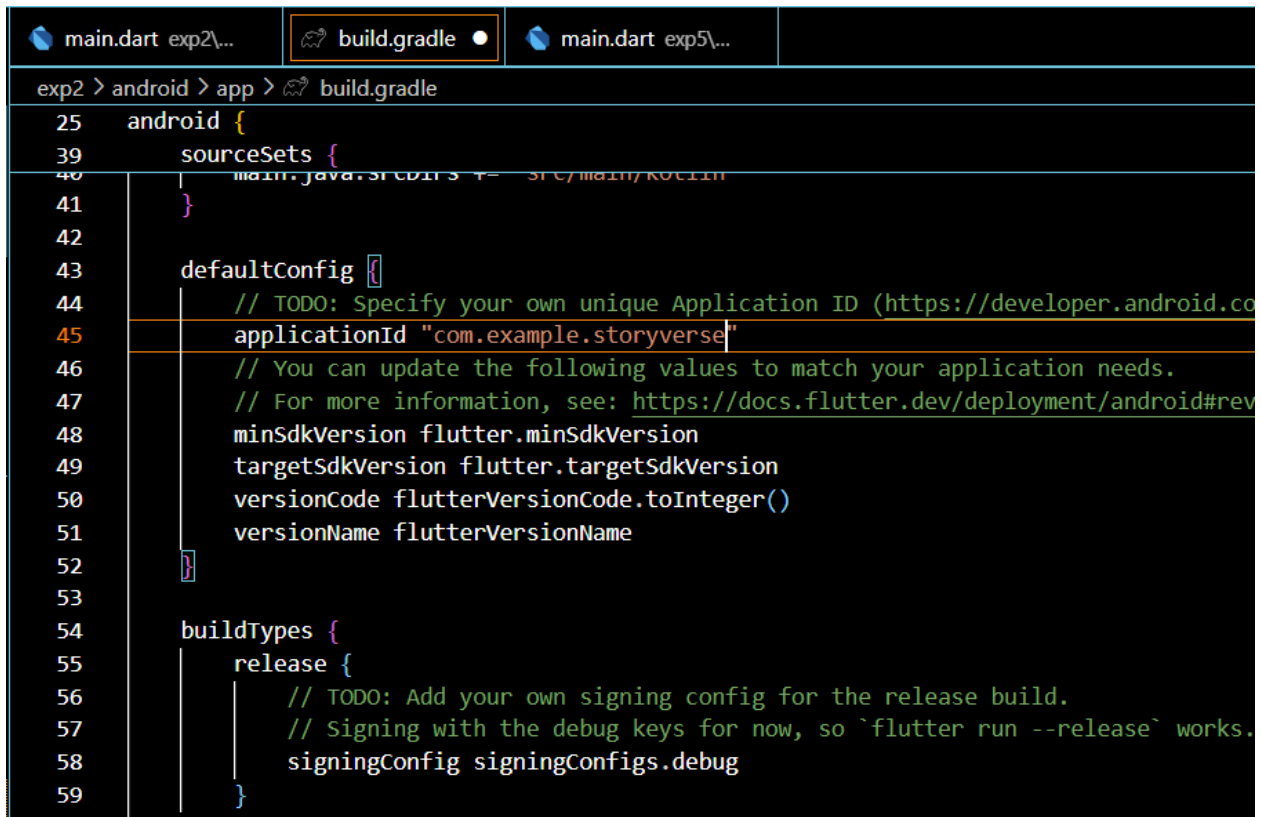
This brings us to the following screen:



The screenshot shows the 'Add Firebase to your Android app' interface. At the top, there is a close button (X) and the title 'Add Firebase to your Android app'. Below the title is a progress indicator with three steps: 1. Register app (active), 2. Download and then add config file, and 3. Add Firebase SDK. The first step, 'Register app', contains three input fields: 'Android package name' with the value 'com.example.storyverse', 'App nickname (optional)' with the value 'storyverse', and 'Debug signing certificate SHA-1 (optional)' with a long hexadecimal string. Below these fields is a blue 'Register app' button. A note below the button states: 'Required for Dynamic Links, and Google Sign-In or phone number support in Auth. Edit SHA-1s in Settings.'

The most important thing here is to match up the Android package name that you choose here with the one inside of our application.

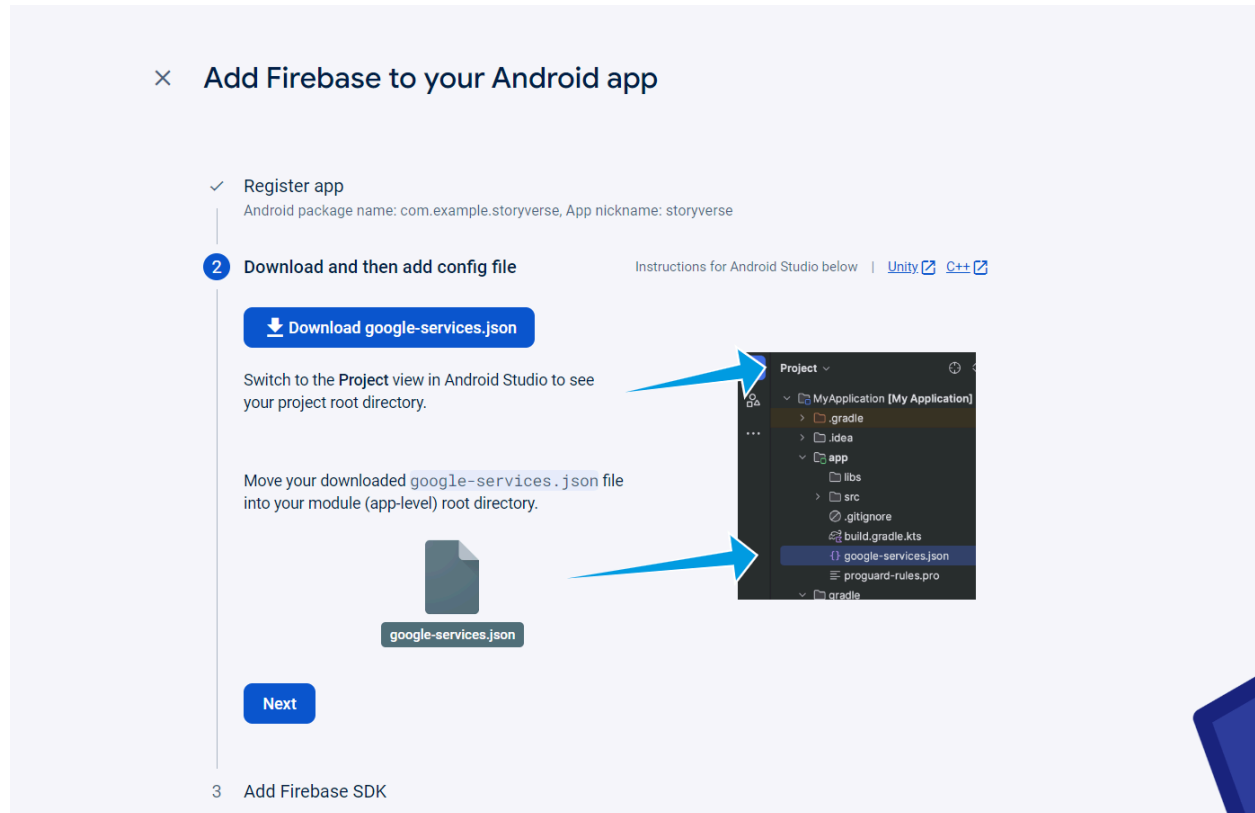
Once you've decided on a name, open `android/app/build.gradle` in your code editor and update the `applicationId` to match the Android package name:



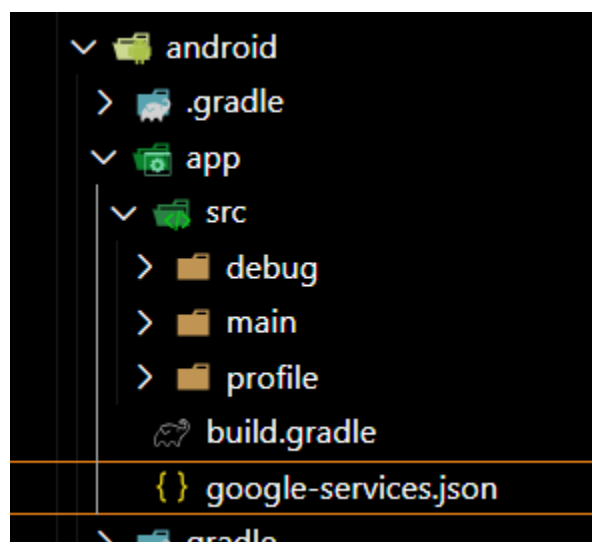
```
exp2 > android > app > build.gradle
25  android {
39      sourceSets {
40          // main.java.srcDirs += 'src/main/kotlin'
41      }
42
43      defaultConfig {
44          // TODO: Specify your own unique Application ID (https://developer.android.com/studio/run/application-id.html)
45          applicationId "com.example.storyverse"
46          // You can update the following values to match your application needs.
47          // For more information, see: https://docs.flutter.dev/deployment/android#reviewing-the-gradle-build-configuration
48          minSdkVersion flutter.minSdkVersion
49          targetSdkVersion flutter.targetSdkVersion
50          versionCode flutterVersionCode.toInteger()
51          versionName flutterVersionName
52      }
53
54      buildTypes {
55          release {
56              // TODO: Add your own signing config for the release build.
57              // Signing with the debug keys for now, so `flutter run --release` works.
58              signingConfig signingConfigs.debug
59          }
60      }
61  }
```

You can skip the app nickname and debug signing keys at this stage. Select Register app to continue.

The next step is to add the Firebase configuration file into our Flutter project. This is important as it contains the API keys and other critical information for Firebase to use. Select Download google-services.json from this page:



Next, move the google-services.json file to the android/app directory within the Flutter project.



We'll now need to update our Gradle configuration to include the Google Services plugin. Follow these steps to add the firebase sdk in the source code

3 Add Firebase SDK

Instructions for Gradle | [Unity](#) [C++](#)

★ Are you still using the buildscript syntax to manage plugins? [Learn how to add Firebase plugins](#) using that syntax.

1. To make the `google-services.json` config values accessible to Firebase SDKs, you need the Google services Gradle plugin.

☒ Kotlin DSL (`build.gradle.kts`) ☐ Groovy (`build.gradle`)

Add the plugin as a dependency to your **project-level** `build.gradle.kts` file:

Root-level (project-level) Gradle file (`<project>/build.gradle.kts`):

```
plugins {  
    // ...  
  
    // Add the dependency for the Google services Gradle plugin  
    id("com.google.gms.google-services") version "4.4.1" apply false  
}
```

2. Then, in your **module (app-level)** `build.gradle.kts` file, add both the `google-services` plugin and any Firebase SDKs that you want to use in your app:

Module (app-level) Gradle file (`<project>/<app-module>/build.gradle.kts`):

```
plugins {  
    id("com.android.application")  
    // Add the Google services Gradle plugin  
    id("com.google.gms.google-services")  
    ...  
}  
  
dependencies {  
    // Import the Firebase BoM  
    implementation(platform("com.google.firebase:firebase-bom:32.7.4"))  
  
    // TODO: Add the dependencies for Firebase products you want to use  
    // When using the BoM, don't specify versions in Firebase dependencies  
    implementation("com.google.firebase:firebase-analytics")  
  
    // Add the dependencies for any other desired Firebase products  
    // https://firebase.google.com/docs/android/setup#available-libraries  
}
```

By using the Firebase Android BoM, your app will always use compatible Firebase library versions. [Learn more](#)

3. After adding the plugin and the desired SDKs, sync your Android project with Gradle files.

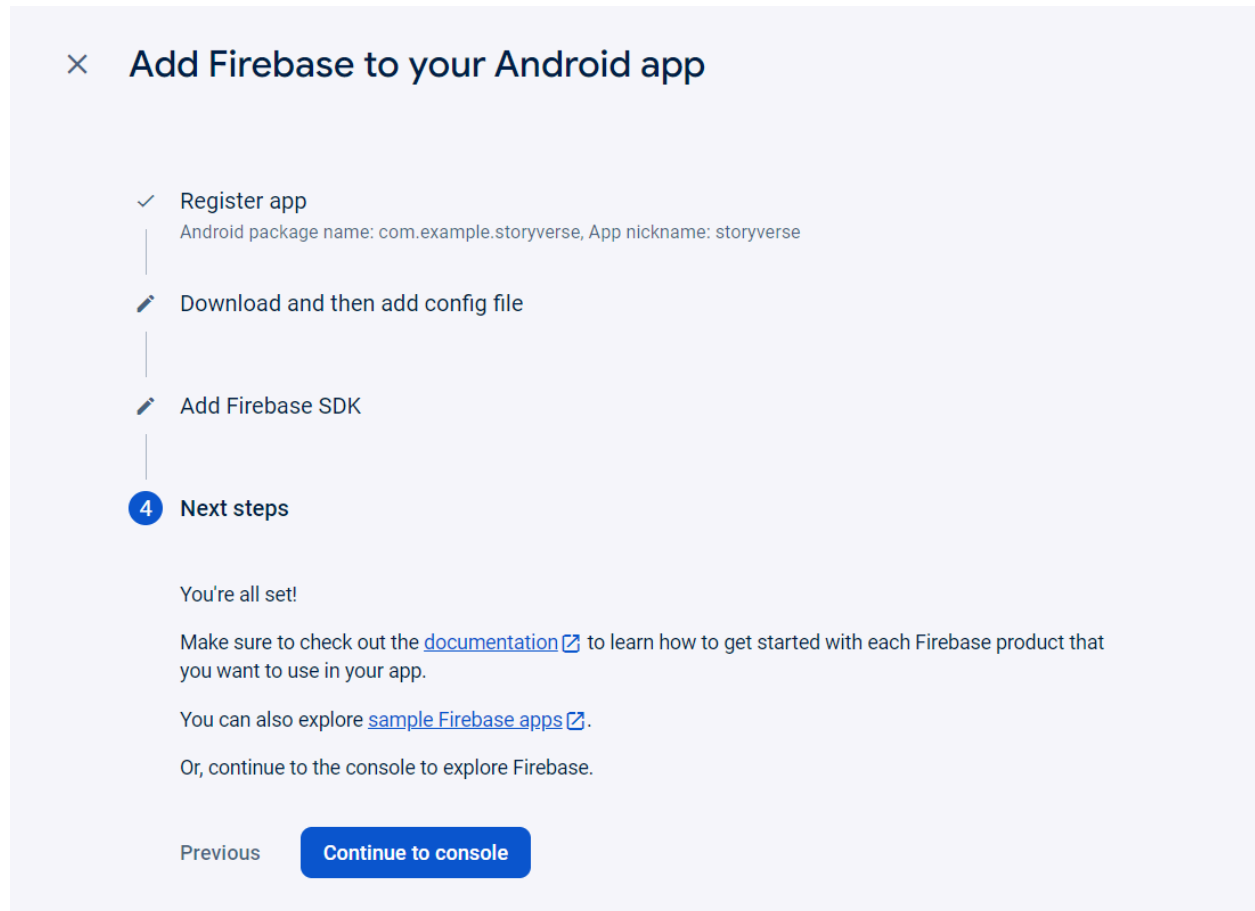
Add the respective code lines in the respective files

```
plugins {  
    id "com.android.application"  
    id "kotlin-android"  
    id "dev.flutter.flutter-gradle-plugin"  
    id("com.google.gms.google-services") version "4.4.1" apply false  
}
```

```
plugins {  
    id "com.android.application"  
    id "kotlin-android"  
    id "dev.flutter.flutter-gradle-plugin"  
    id("com.android.application")  
    id("com.google.gms.google-services")  
}
```

```
dependencies {  
    implementation(platform("com.google.firebase:firebase-bom:32.7.4"))  
    implementation("com.google.firebase:firebase-analytics")  
}
```

With this update, we're essentially applying the Google Services plugin as well as looking at how other Flutter Firebase plugins can be activated such as Analytics.



On pressing continue, we are finally done with setting up Firebase for Android. We follow similar steps for setting it up on iOS.

× Add Firebase to your Apple app

1 Register app

Apple bundle ID ?

App nickname (optional) ?

App Store ID (optional) ?

Register app

2 Download config file

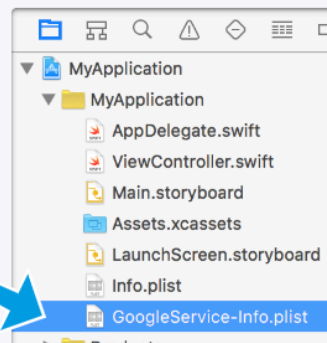
Instructions for Xcode below | [Unity](#) [C++](#)

Download GoogleService-Info.plist

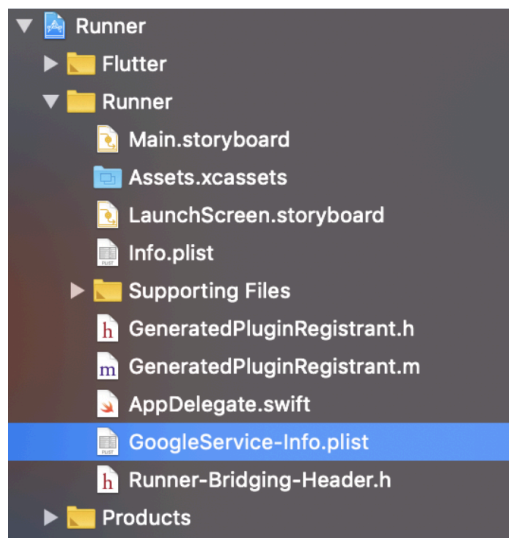
Move the GoogleService-Info.plist file you just downloaded into the root of your Xcode project and add it to all targets.



GoogleService-Info.plist



Next



3 Add Firebase SDK

[CocoaPods](#) | [Download ZIP](#) | [Unity](#) | [C++](#)

Use [Swift Package Manager](#) to install and manage Firebase dependencies.

1. In Xcode, with your app project open, navigate to **File > Add Packages**

2. When prompted, enter the Firebase iOS SDK repository URL:

`https://github.com/firebase/firebase-ios-sdk`



3. **Select the SDK version that you want to use.**

We recommend using the default (latest) SDK version, but you can use an older version, if needed.

4. **Choose the Firebase libraries that you want to use.**

Make sure to add `FirebaseAnalytics`. For Analytics without IDFA collection capability, add `FirebaseAnalyticsWithoutAdId` instead.

After you click **Finish**, Xcode will automatically begin resolving and downloading your dependencies in the background.

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4 Add initialization code

To connect Firebase when your app starts up, add the initialization code below to your app's main entry point.

☒ SwiftUI ☐ Swift ☐ Objective-C

```
import SwiftUI
import FirebaseCore

class AppDelegate: NSObject, UIApplicationDelegate {
    func application(_ application: UIApplication,
                    didFinishLaunchingWithOptions launchOptions: [UIApplicationLaunchOptionsKey: Any]? = nil)
        FirebaseApp.configure()
        return true
    }
}

@main
struct YourApp: App {
    // register app delegate for Firebase setup
    @UIApplicationDelegateAdaptor(AppDelegate.self) var delegate

    var body: some Scene {
        WindowGroup {
            NavigationView {
                ContentView()
            }
        }
    }
}
```

Conclusion:

Setting up Firebase in a Flutter project is a straightforward process that enables developers to leverage powerful backend services seamlessly. By integrating Firebase, developers gain access to features like authentication, real-time database, cloud storage, and more, enhancing the functionality and scalability of their Flutter apps. The process typically involves adding Firebase SDK dependencies to the Flutter project, configuring the Firebase project settings, and initializing Firebase services within the app. Once set up, developers can utilize Firebase APIs to streamline authentication, store and retrieve data, send notifications, and perform various other tasks, thereby accelerating app development and providing users with a robust and reliable experience.