

Native OS Features: How can they be accessed?

Research done by Zachery Hernandez AVF - 1209



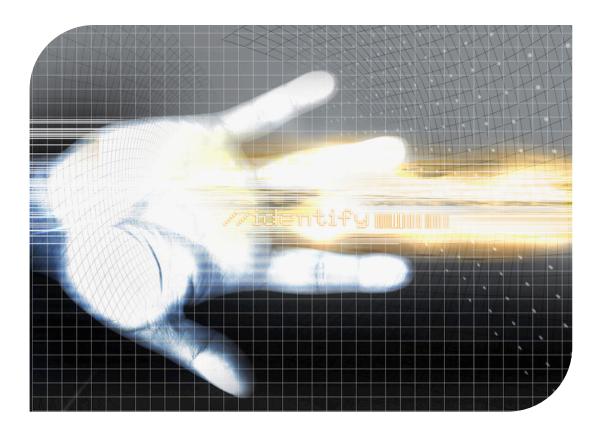
Native Android and iOS features can be accessed through a variety of methods, from web support of HTML, CSS and JavaScript to PhoneGap and of course, the Native OS.

What types of native features (on Android and iOS devices) would you be able to implement with the use of HTML/CSS/JS only?

HTML and CSS alone cannot access any native features of Android or iOS. It needs the help of JavaScript. With this help, you can access: the files, geolocation, user media, and web notifications.

What can I access with PhoneGap?

PhoneGap is pretty nifty and can access a lot more than just HTML, CSS and JavaScript. PhoneGap can access the: Accelerometer, Camera, Compass, Contacts, File, Geolocation, Media, Network, Notification (Alert, Sound and Vibration), and Storage.



There are endless amounts of possibilities surrounding us. Features coming together can make for an amazing app. Let's dive into more.

What types of features do you think will pair well together in an app?

If you were to make a contact app, you can access the already in place contacts. Pairing this feature with the camera app would be ideal for taking pictures of new contacts (or current) and even going as far as access to media; just in case there are already photos of the contacts on your device.

Making a hiking app? Why not include geolocation and camera functionality? Take amazing pictures and get the exact location of where you are. Don't stop there; you can even go as far as accessing the storage to save these photos from your hike. Don't want to get lost do you? Add in the compass feature to make sure you know which way to travel.

Please describe any design and functionality intentions you may have for your Demo app components this month.

For my project this month, I plan on adding functionality to my Demo App by use of the Camera, Connection, Device, Media and Storage. Most if not all will fit perfectly into my CRUD app. I can use the camera to take pictures of items loaned out. I can test the connection to make sure I have sufficient signal on the network. This is so I can pull down data from various sites. I can use the media to access already taken pictures of items, rather than taking a new one. And for the storage, I think it would be wise to be able to save pictures or even documents to the actual device so they can be recalled at all times.

Briefly describe some past 'lessons learned' regarding workflow as it relates to research, design, development, etc.

For me, my 'lessons learned' have come from my lack of time management. I have in the past, thought I had more time to get something done and have realized that I don't. This was for design and development. I think I can do something in one day and it turns out I need two days to do something. Like re-creating my CRUD. I thought I would need one day to get the HTML, CSS and JavaScript Shell in place, along with the GUI. It took me one day to do all GUI elements and lay them out in the HTML with some CSS added to it. It took me another day to get the entire app built with HTML and CSS. Then it took me quite some time to get the JavaScript in place. So, definitely mine has come from a lack of time management. Which is something I have been working on here lately.

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