

Lab 1

Installation of Android Studio, running first application and Understanding project folder structure

1. Installation

Initially, to set up an Android development environment in our system we need to install the following components manually by downloading from different sites.

1. Eclipse IDE
2. Eclipse Plugin
3. Android SDK

To make the android development environment setup process simple Google introduced a new android IDE called **Android Studio**. The **Android Studio** will contain all the required components like Eclipse IDE, Eclipse Plugin and Android SDK so we don't need to download the components separately.

Android Studio is the official IDE for android development and it's based on **IntelliJ IDEA** software. It's available for Windows, MAC and LINUX operating systems.

We can download the latest version of Android Studio from the following URL.

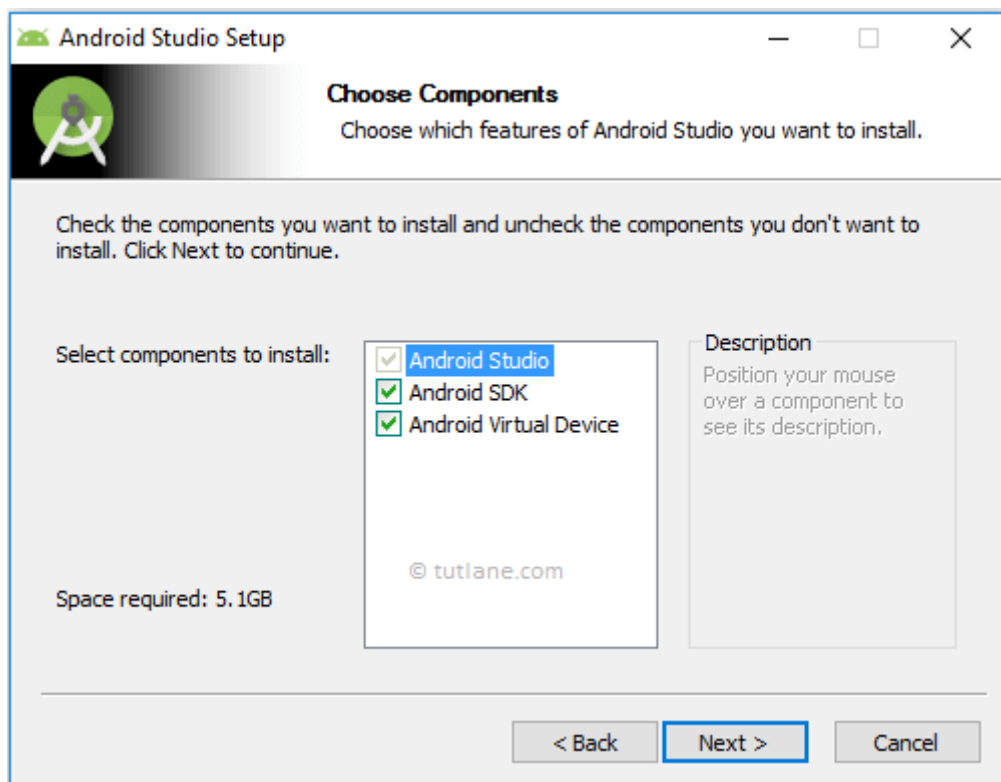
<https://developer.android.com/studio>

Download the latest version of Android Studio from the above URL and launch **Android Studio.exe** file by double-clicking on it.

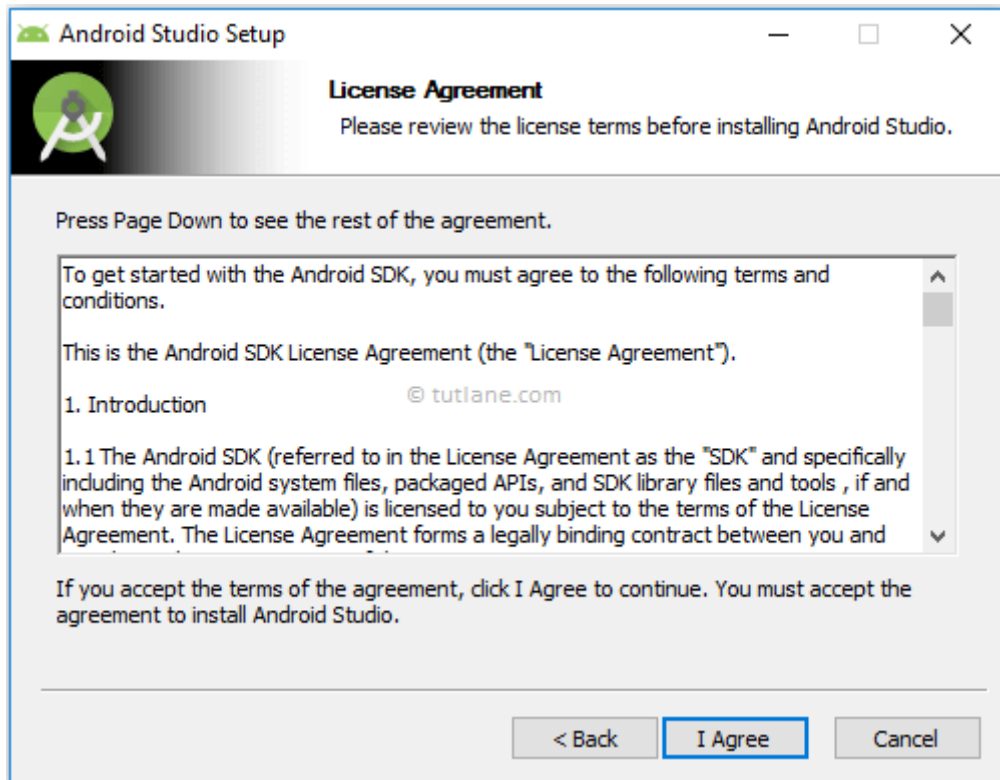
The initial android studio setup screen will open like as shown below in that click **Next** to continue for further steps of environment setup.



Now we need to select the required components to set up an android environment. Here we selected all three components (**Android Studio**, **Android SDK** and **Android Virtual Device**) and click **Next** like as shown below.



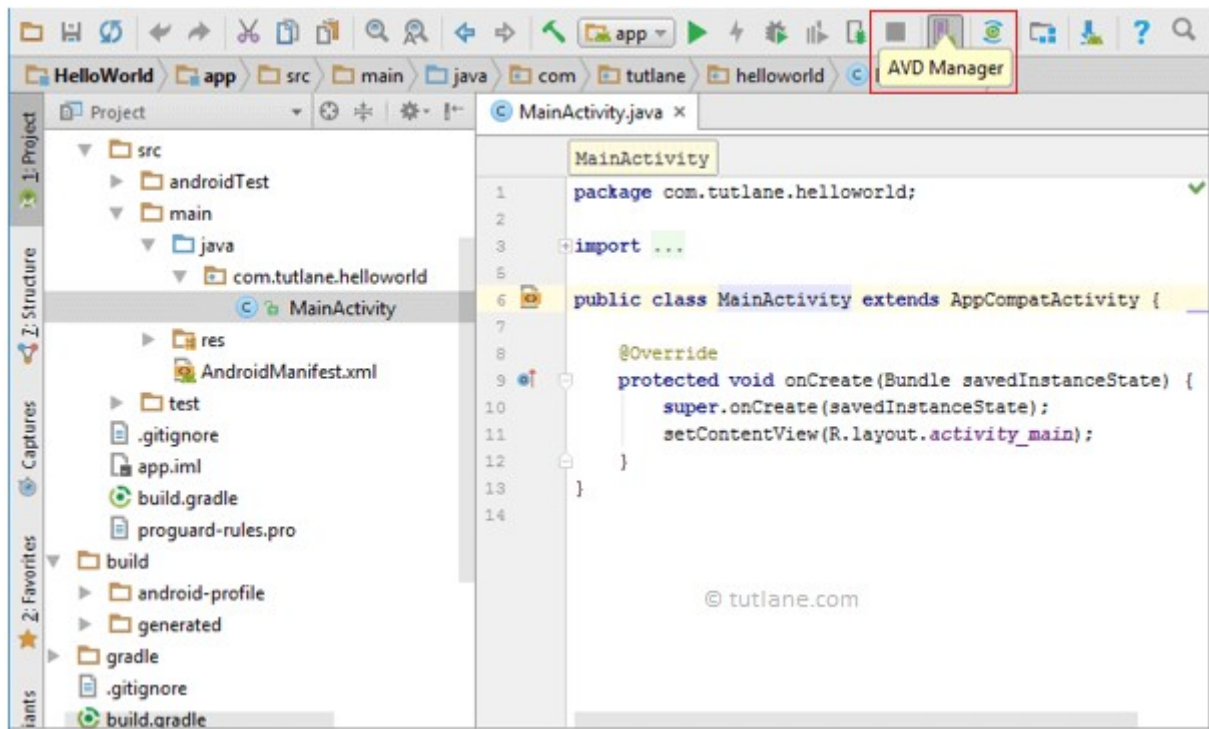
Now we need to agree on the License agreements to proceed further, click on **I Agree** button like a shown below.



Now we need to specify the local machine drive location to install Android Studio and Android SDK. After selecting the location path to install the required components, click **Next** like as shown below.

2. Create Android Virtual Device

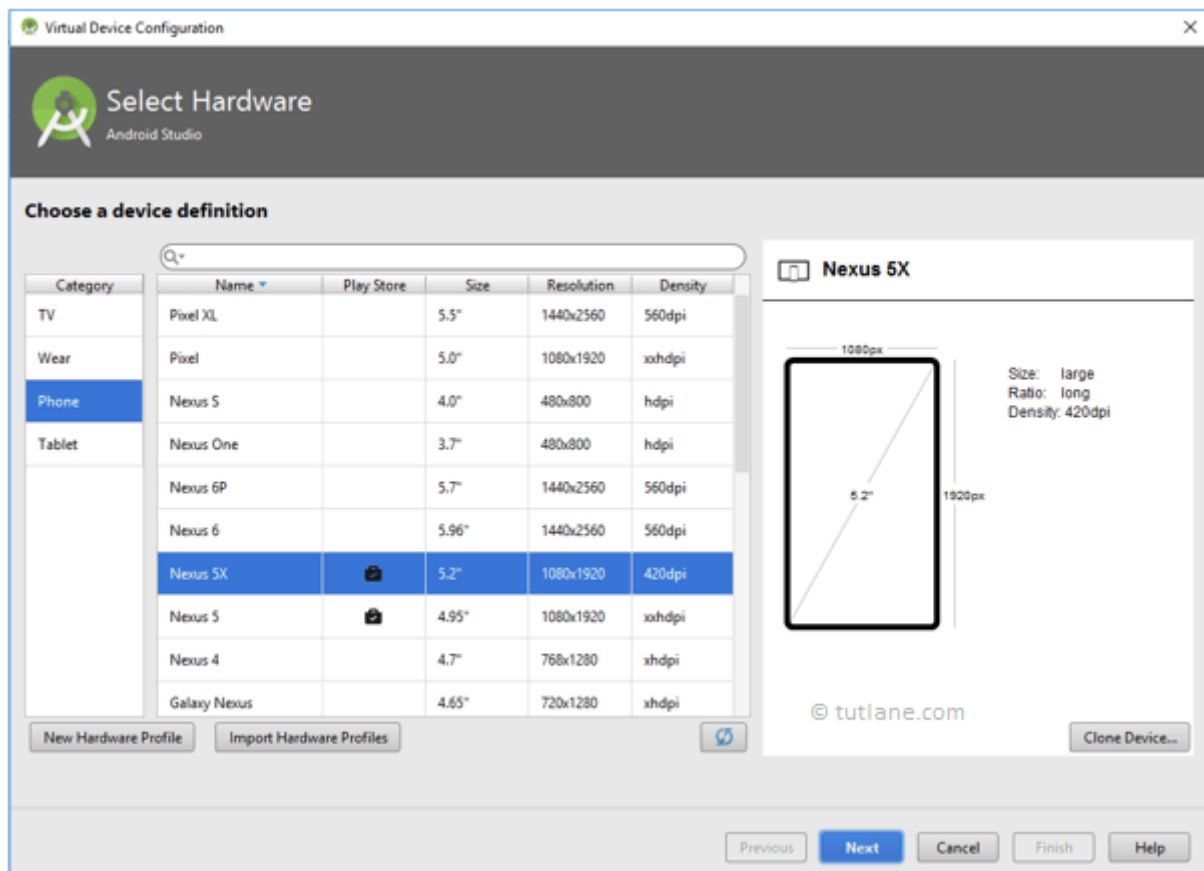
To test our android application we should have an Android Virtual Device (AVD). We can create virtual device by click on **AVD Manager** like as shown below.



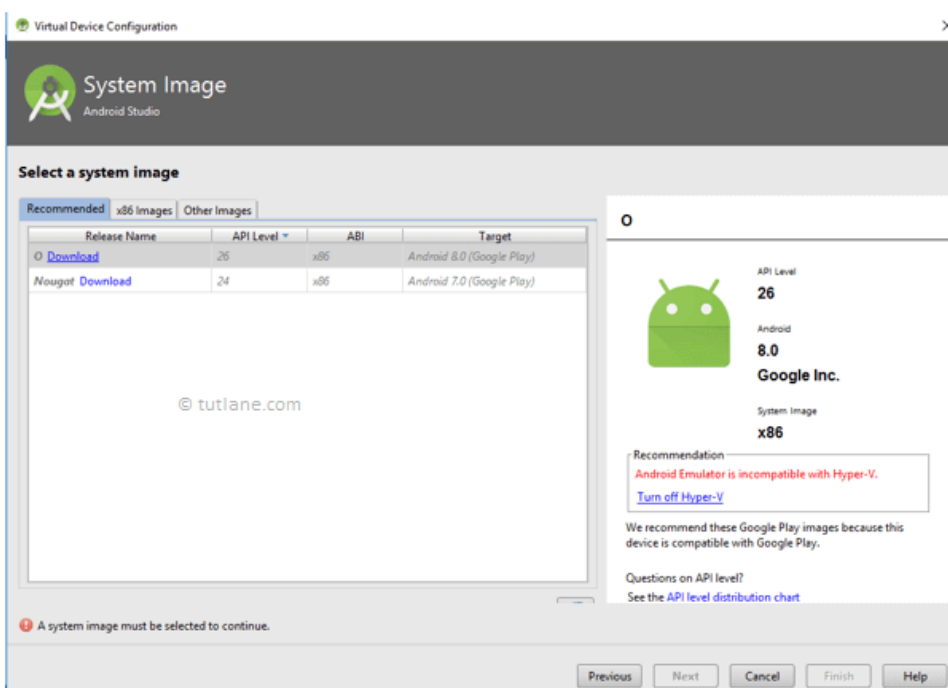
When we click on **AVD Manager**, a new window will open in that click on **Create Virtual Device** like as shown below.



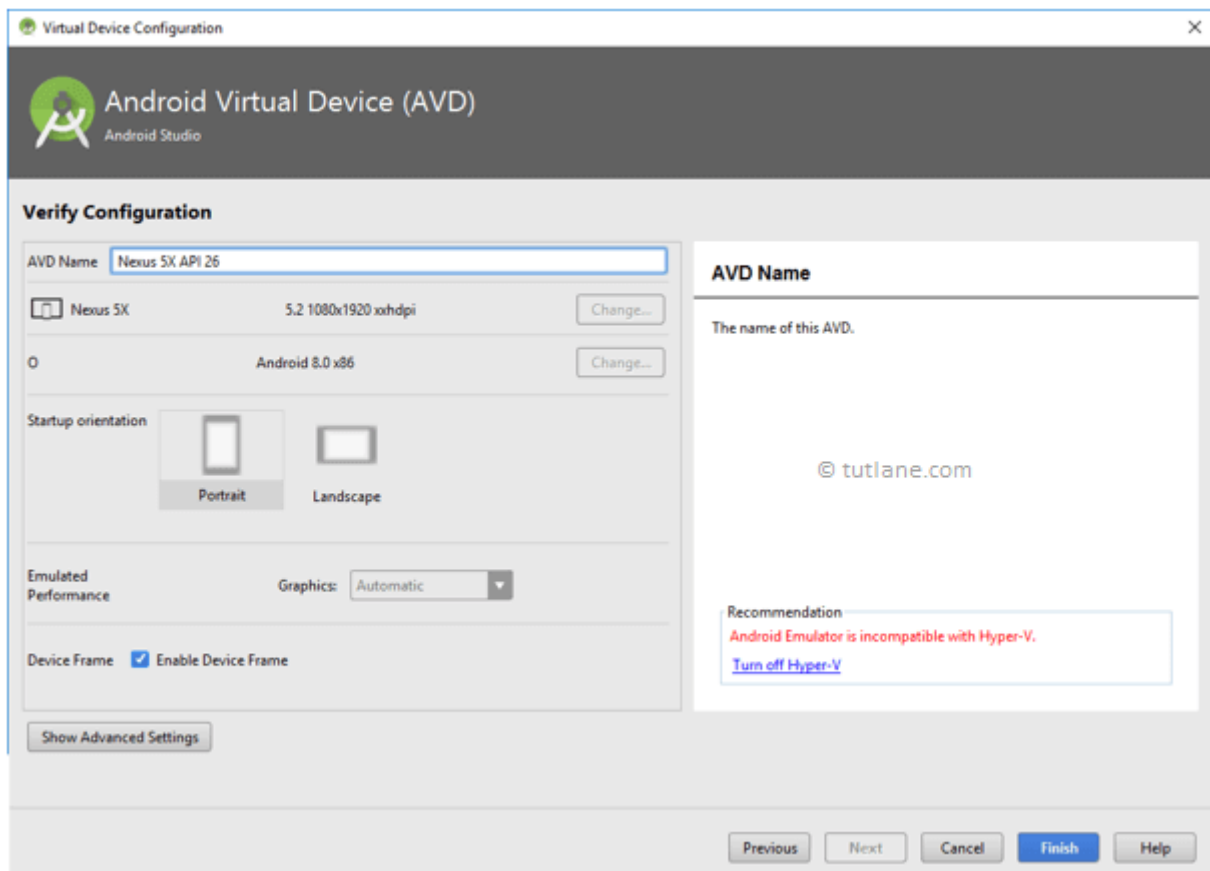
Now select the required device type and Click **Next** to create a virtual device like as shown below.



Now we need to download and select the system image and click **Next** like as shown below.



Now verify the configuration of **android virtual device** (AVD) and click **Finish** like as shown below.

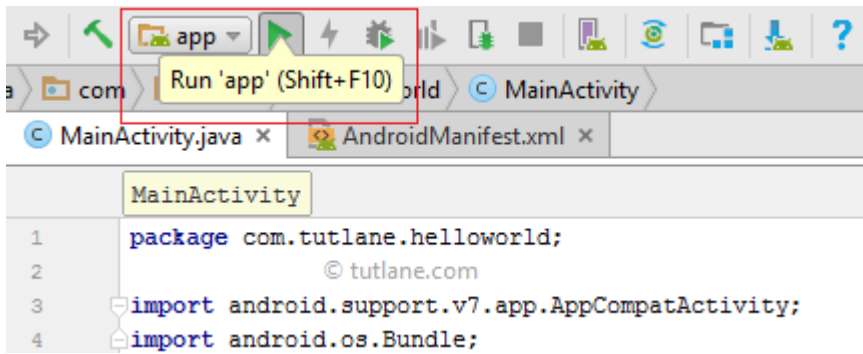


This is how we need to add android virtual device (AVD) in an android studio to test our android applications.

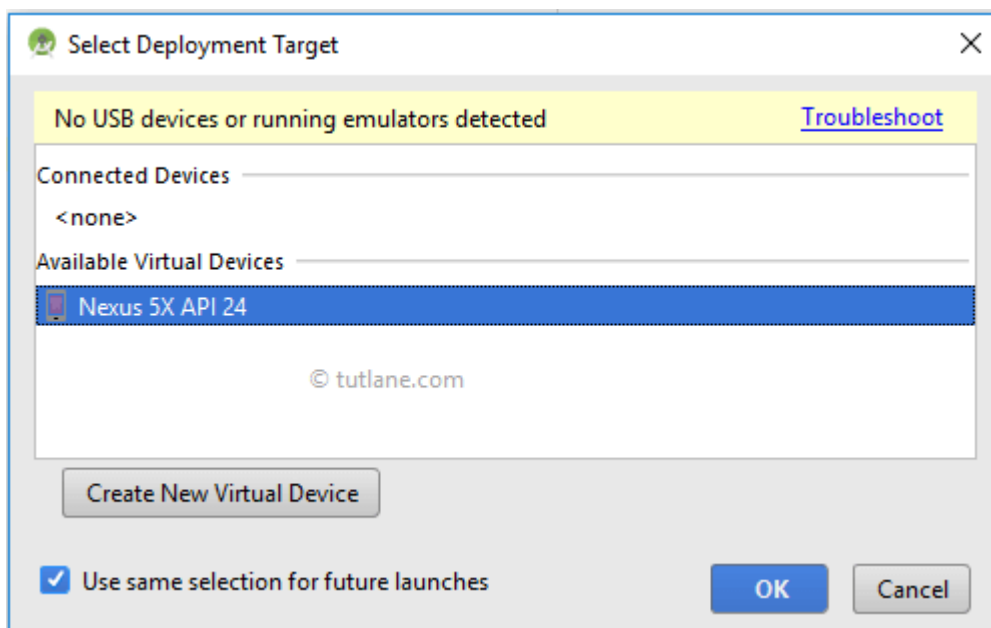
Once we are done with the setup of android virtual device in an android studio, create a sample application in the android studio and run the app using AVD manager.

Run Android Application

To run android applications we need to click on **Run** button or press **Shift + F10** like as shown below



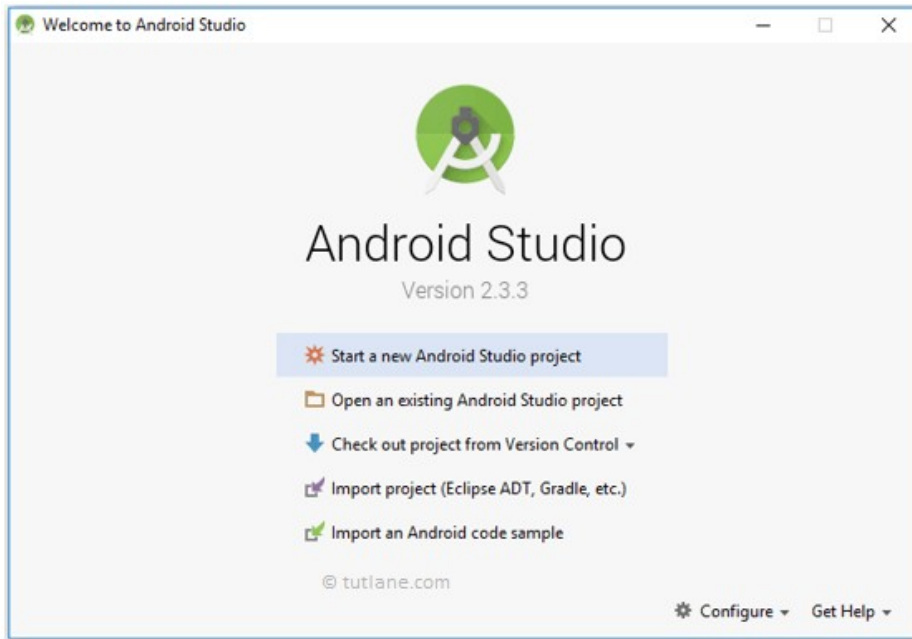
After clicking on play button new window will open in that select **Android Virtual Device (AVD)** and click **OK** like as shown below.



This is how we can setup an android virtual device (AVD) emulator in android studio to replicate the functionality of real android devices.

3. Running First Application

Once we are done with Android Studio Installation, open android studio and that will be like as shown below.



Here we're going to choose the **New Project** option because we haven't created any other project and we need to create a new one. So, we will select the New Project from the given options.

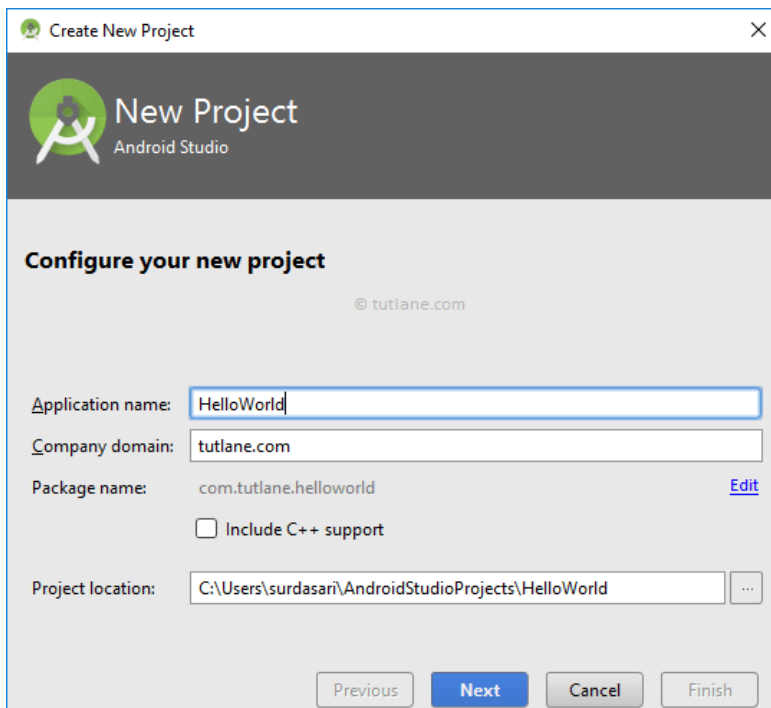
However, we can choose **Import Project** if we'd like to import a project from any other way, for example, Eclipse project into Android Studio. Android Studio will convert the Eclipse project to an Android Studio project, adding the necessary configuration files for us.

If we select **Open Project** from the list of options, we can open projects created with either Android Studio or IntelliJ IDEA.

Check out from Version Control, we can check out a copy of a project that's under version control. This is a great way to quickly get up to speed with an existing project.

To get us started, choose **New Project** from the list of options. This will show us a list of options to configure our new project.

As we click on "**New Project**" from the above option, then the next screen will be open like this, where we have to mention our **Project's name**, **Company domain** and **Project location** (we called it the main path where this application will be saved) because the **Package name** will be created automatically as we create the project in Android Studio.



Create New Project

New Project

Android Studio

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Configure your new project

Application name: HelloWorld

Company domain: tutlane.com

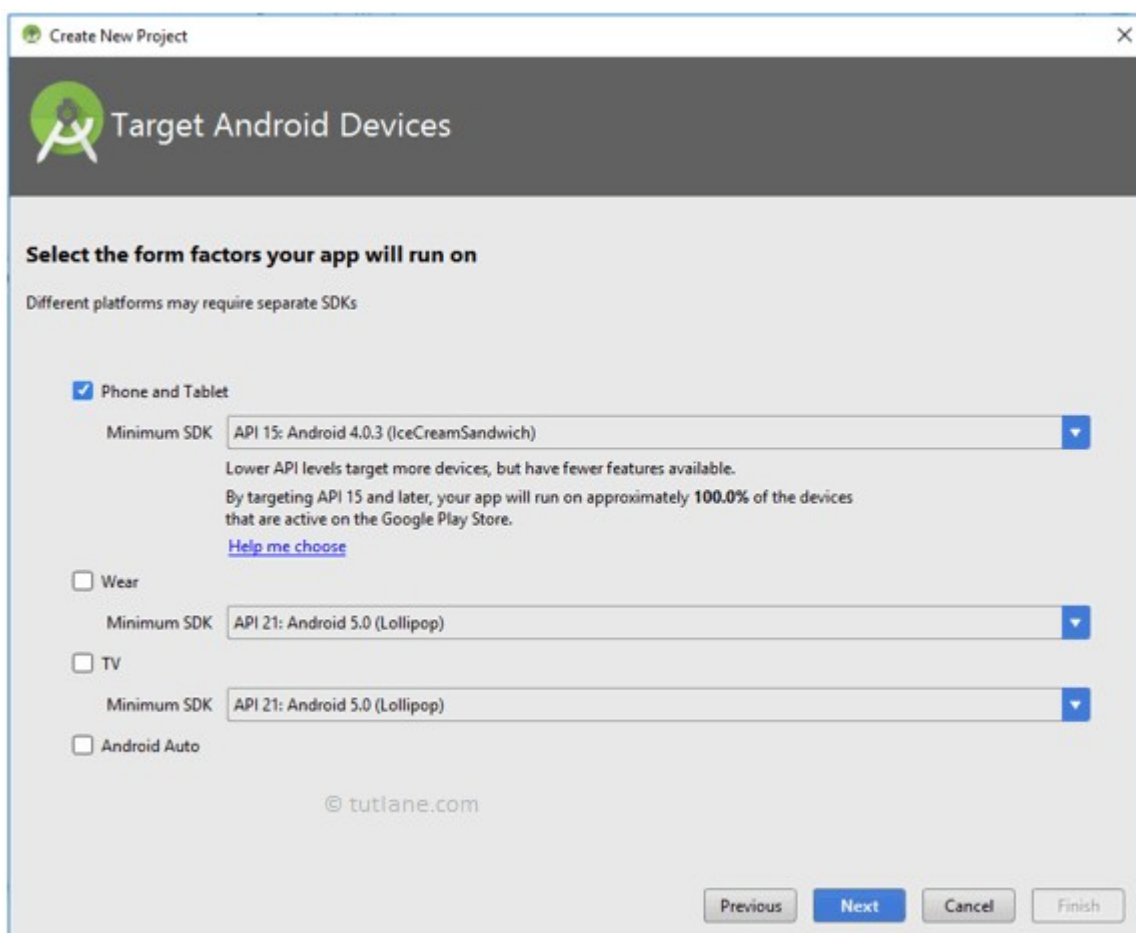
Package name: com.tutlane.helloworld [Edit](#)

☐ Include C++ support

Project location: C:\Users\surdasari\AndroidStudioProjects\HelloWorld ...

[Previous](#) [Next](#) [Cancel](#) [Finish](#)

After entering all the details if we click on the “**Next**” button another screen will appear where we have select the different platforms and SDK targets like as shown below based on our requirements.



Create New Project

Target Android Devices

Select the form factors your app will run on

Different platforms may require separate SDKs

☒ Phone and Tablet

Minimum SDK: API 15: Android 4.0.3 (IceCreamSandwich)

Lower API levels target more devices, but have fewer features available.
By targeting API 15 and later, your app will run on approximately **100.0%** of the devices that are active on the Google Play Store.
[Help me choose](#)

☐ Wear

Minimum SDK: API 21: Android 5.0 (Lollipop)

☐ TV

Minimum SDK: API 21: Android 5.0 (Lollipop)

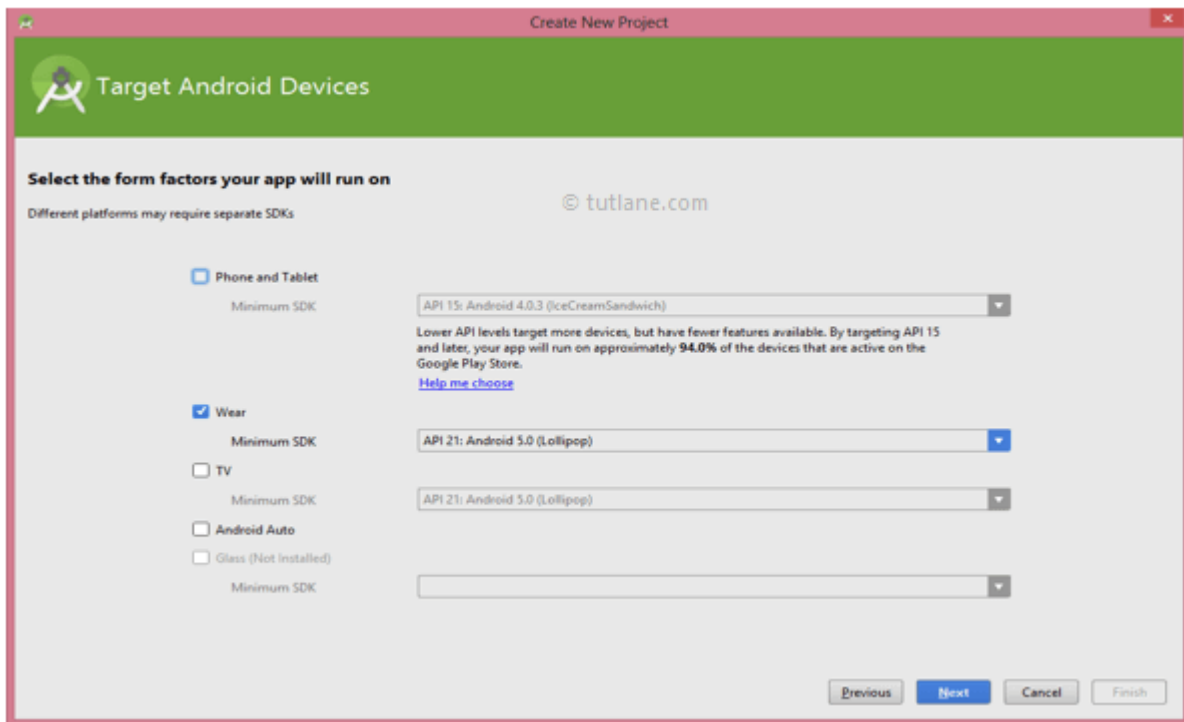
☐ Android Auto

© tutlane.com

[Previous](#) [Next](#) [Cancel](#) [Finish](#)

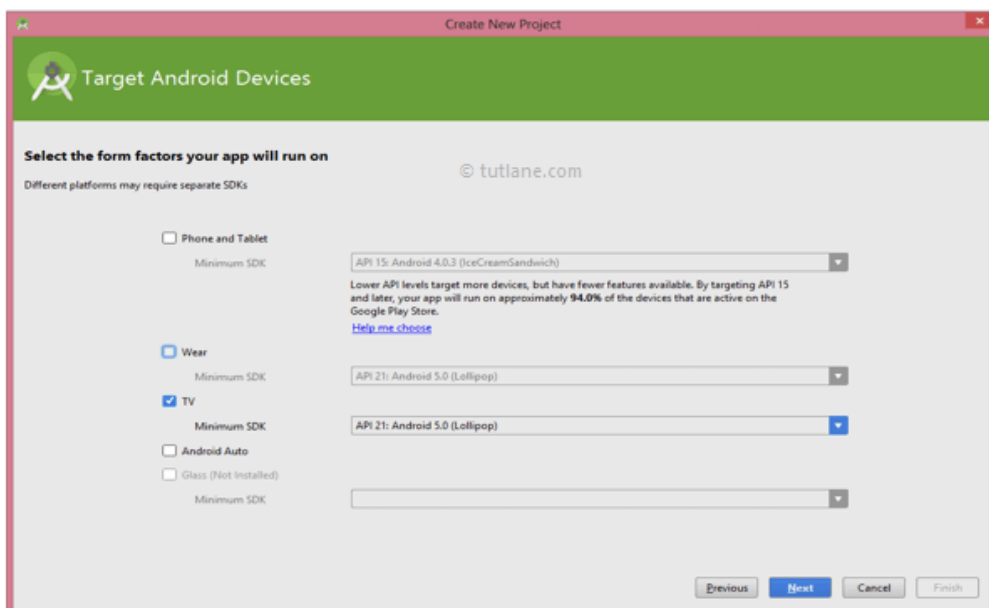
Here we need to select the type of Platform which we are going to use for the Application development like if we select “**Phone and Tablet**”, then it will show it’s different **API** and **SDK** version and similar to others.

If we choose “**Wear**”, then it will show it’s API and SDK versions like as shown below.



The screenshot shows the 'Create New Project' dialog in Android Studio. The title bar says 'Create New Project'. The main header is 'Target Android Devices' with the Android logo. Below the header, it says 'Select the form factors your app will run on' and 'Different platforms may require separate SDKs'. The 'Wear' option is selected with a blue checkmark. The 'Minimum SDK' for 'Wear' is set to 'API 21: Android 5.0 (Lollipop)'. The 'Phone and Tablet' option is also visible but not selected. The 'TV' option is also visible but not selected. The 'Android Auto' and 'Glass (Not Installed)' options are also visible but not selected. The 'Minimum SDK' for 'Phone and Tablet' is set to 'API 15: Android 4.0.3 (IceCreamSandwich)'. The 'Minimum SDK' for 'TV' is set to 'API 21: Android 5.0 (Lollipop)'. The 'Minimum SDK' for 'Android Auto' and 'Glass (Not Installed)' is empty. The 'Next' button is highlighted in blue. The 'Previous', 'Cancel', and 'Finish' buttons are also visible.

In case if we choose “**TV**”, then it will show it’s API and SDK versions like as shown below.

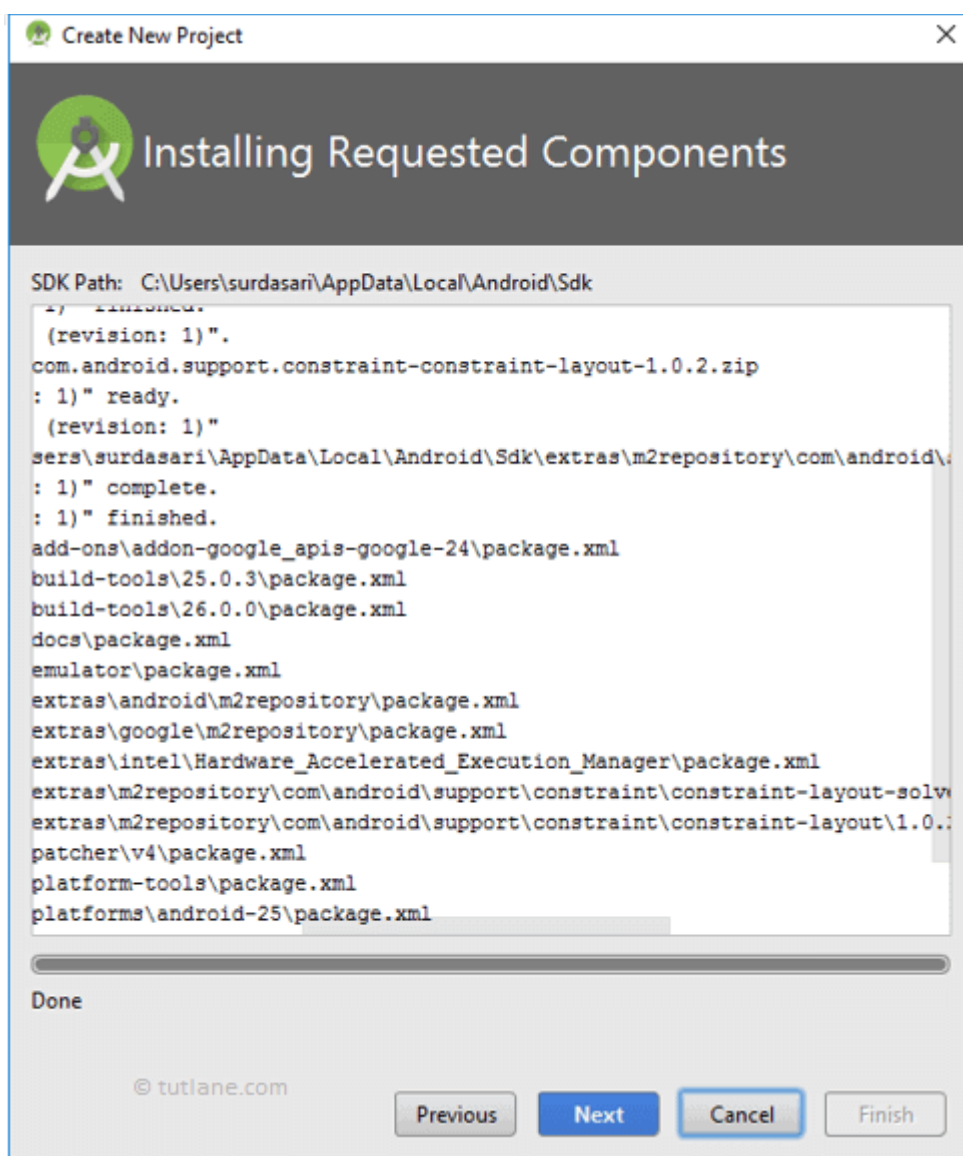


The screenshot shows the 'Create New Project' dialog in Android Studio. The title bar says 'Create New Project'. The main header is 'Target Android Devices' with the Android logo. Below the header, it says 'Select the form factors your app will run on' and 'Different platforms may require separate SDKs'. The 'TV' option is selected with a blue checkmark. The 'Minimum SDK' for 'TV' is set to 'API 21: Android 5.0 (Lollipop)'. The 'Wear' option is also visible but not selected. The 'Phone and Tablet' option is also visible but not selected. The 'Android Auto' and 'Glass (Not Installed)' options are also visible but not selected. The 'Minimum SDK' for 'Phone and Tablet' is set to 'API 15: Android 4.0.3 (IceCreamSandwich)'. The 'Minimum SDK' for 'Wear' is set to 'API 21: Android 5.0 (Lollipop)'. The 'Minimum SDK' for 'Android Auto' and 'Glass (Not Installed)' is empty. The 'Next' button is highlighted in blue. The 'Previous', 'Cancel', and 'Finish' buttons are also visible.

Wear: We use this option for **Android Watches** which we can wear to our hand and use the same functionality as we do with the Android devices. You can call, set the alarm, capture images, and many more things easily.

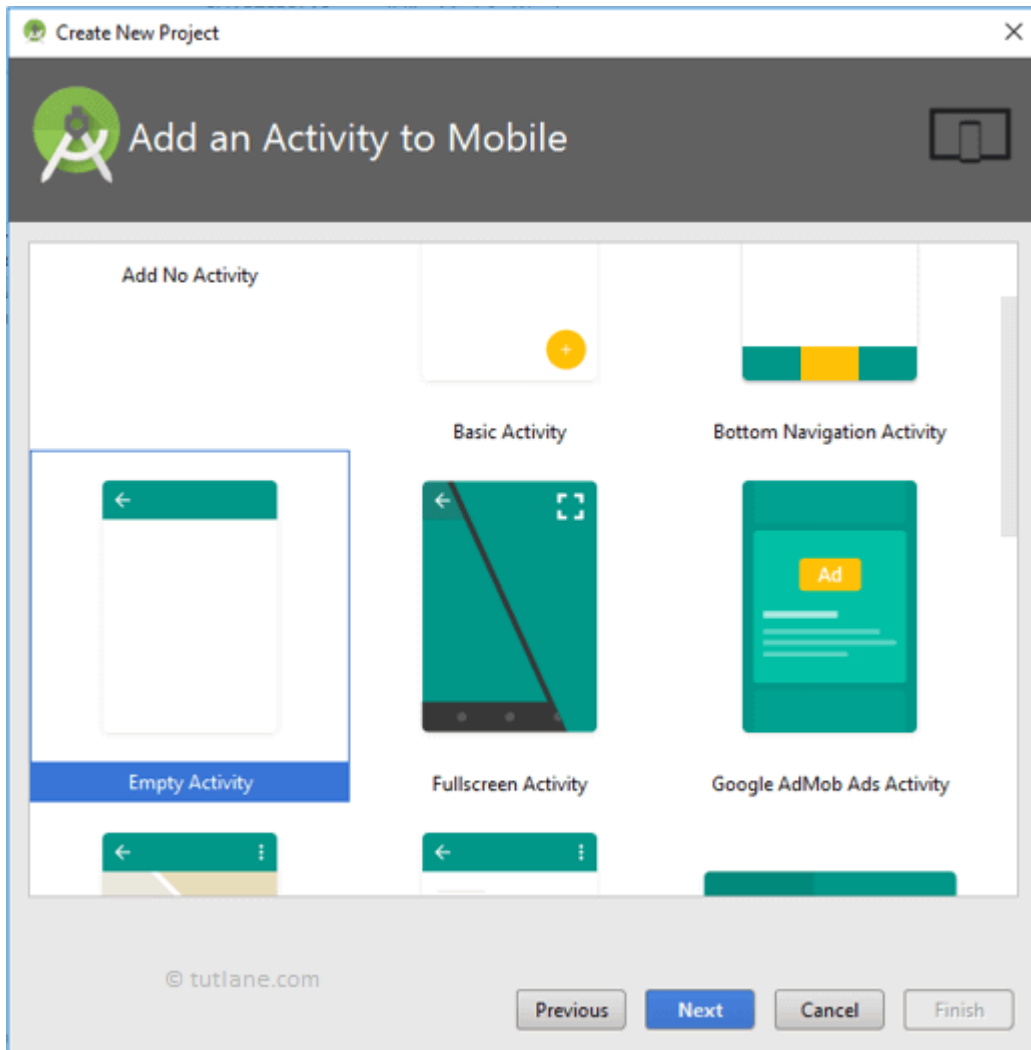
TV: We use this option for **SmartIPTV** which is very common these days. We can see our favorite channels like we see in our Home Televisions and make the changes in the channel easily.

Here we are going to implement an app for phones and tablets, so we selected a **Phone and Tablet** option and click “**Next**” and it will install required components like as shown below.

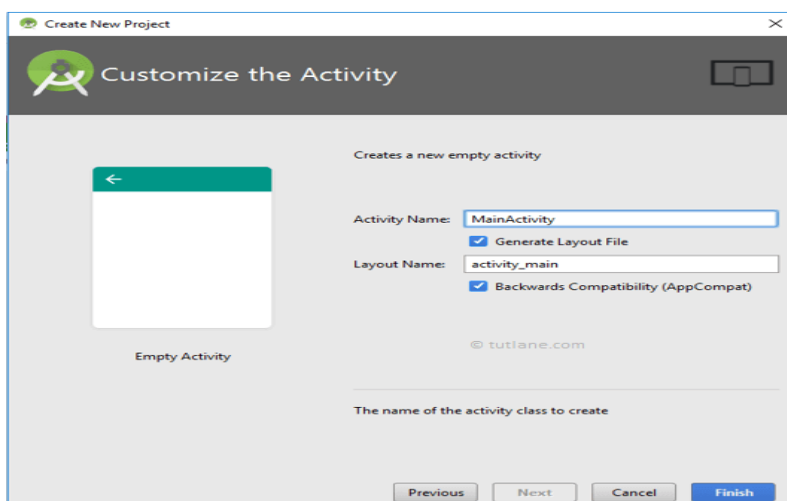


Now click **Next** to select the particular Activity for our requirement. If we will select the “**Empty Activity**”, then it will show the empty activity in our layout. In case if we choose other options,

then it will show the activity which we have chosen. Here we are selecting **Empty Activity** like as shown below.

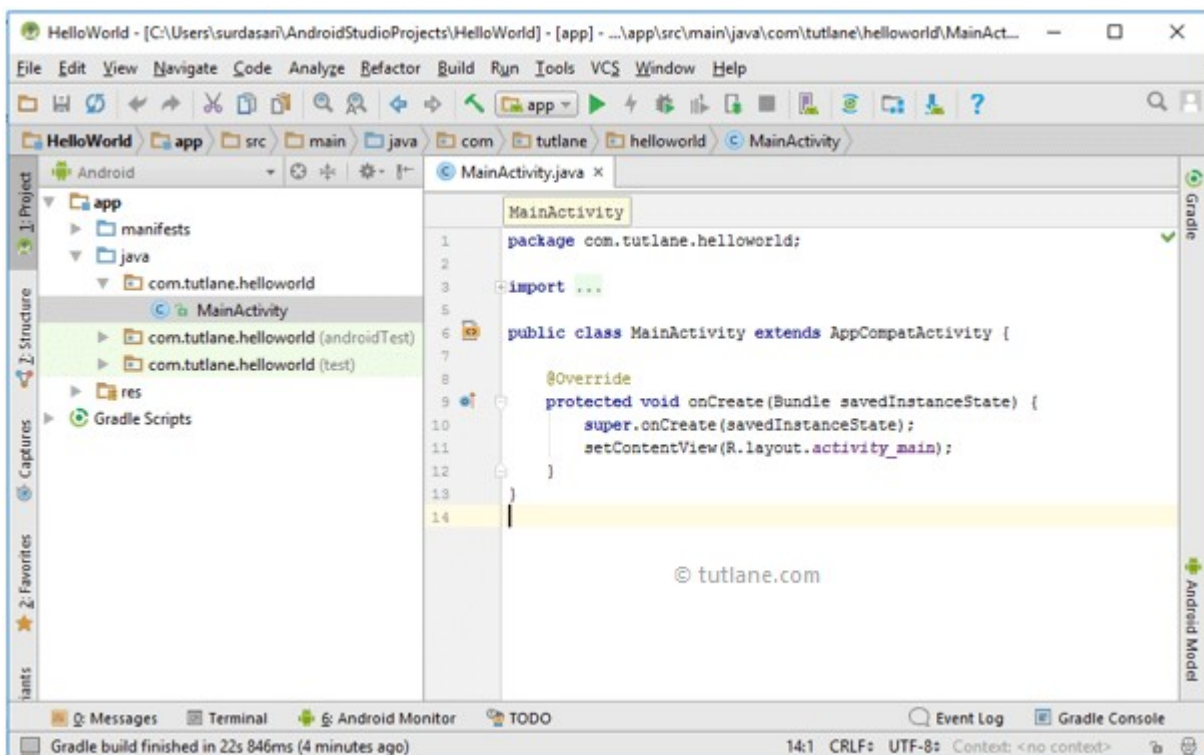


After choosing the “**Activity**” for our application, then click on the “**Next**” button and it will take you to the next screen like as shown below.



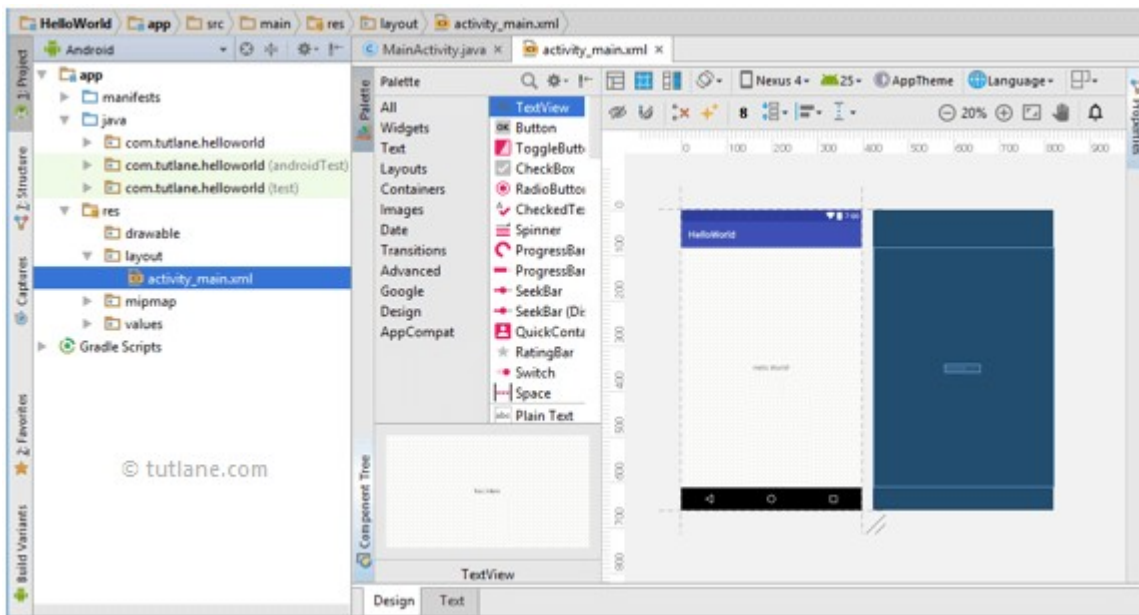
Here we can see that the Activity i.e. **EmptyActivity** which we selected in the previous section and the java file name i.e. “**MainActivity**”. Now we are ready for the final step, just click on the “**Finish**” button and it will take you to the Main page where we have to do the coding and create new layouts over there.

After clicking **Finish**, we will be presented with Android Studio's user interface with the project explorer on the left and the workspace on the right like as shown below.



Android Layout File (activity_main.xml)

The UI of our application will be designed in this file and it will contain **Design** and **Text** modes. It will exist in the **layouts** folder and the structure of **activity_main.xml** file in **Design** mode like as shown below.



We can make required design modifications in **activity_main.xml** file either using **Design** or **Text** modes. If we switch to **Text** mode **activity_main.xml** file will contain code like as shown below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<android.support.constraint.ConstraintLayout
    xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
    xmlns:app="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res-auto"
    xmlns:tools="http://schemas.android.com/tools"
    android:layout_width="match_parent"
    android:layout_height="match_parent"
    tools:context="com.tutlane.helloworld.MainActivity">
    <TextView
        android:layout_width="wrap_content"
        android:layout_height="wrap_content"
        android:text="Hello World!"
        app:layout_constraintBottom_toBottomOf="parent"
        app:layout_constraintLeft_toLeftOf="parent"
        app:layout_constraintRight_toRightOf="parent"
        app:layout_constraintTop_toTopOf="parent" />
</android.support.constraint.ConstraintLayout>
```

Android Main Activity File (MainActivity.java)

The main activity file in android application is **MainActivity.java** and it will exists in **java** folder. The **MainActivity.java** file will contain the java code to handle all the activities related to our app.

Following is the default code of **MainActivity.java** file which is generated by our **HelloWorld** application.

```

package com.tutlane.helloworld;
import android.support.v7.app.AppCompatActivity;
import android.os.Bundle;
public class MainActivity extends AppCompatActivity {
    @Override
    protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.activity_main);
    }
}

```

Generally, our application will contain multiple **activities** and we need to define all those **activities** in the **AndroidManifest.xml** file. In our manifest file, we need to mention the main activity for our app using the **MAIN** action and **LAUNCHER** category attributes in **intent filters** (<intent-filter>). In case if we didn't mention the MAIN action or LAUNCHER category for the main activity, our app icon will not appear in the home screen's list of apps.

Following is the default code of the **AndroidManifest.xml** file which is generated by our **HelloWorld** application.

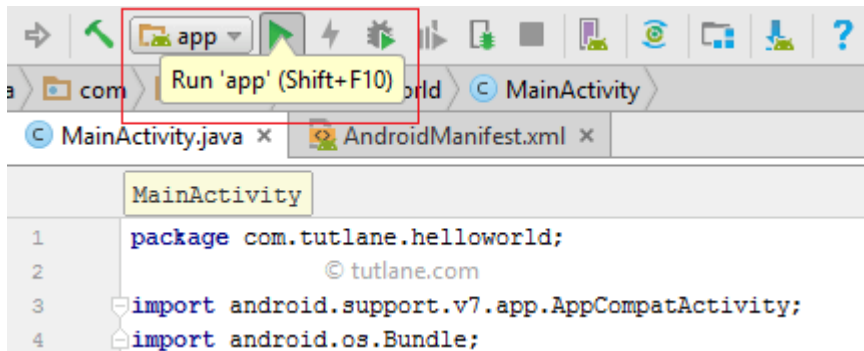
```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<manifest xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
    package="com.tutlane.helloworld" >
    <application
        android:allowBackup="true"
        android:icon="@mipmap/ic_launcher"
        android:label="@string/app_name"
        android:roundIcon="@mipmap/ic_launcher_round"
        android:supportRtl="true"
        android:theme="@style/AppTheme" >
        <activity android:name=".MainActivity" >
            <intent-filter>
                <action android:name="android.intent.action.MAIN" />
                <category android:name="android.intent.category.LAUNCHER" />
            </intent-filter>
        </activity>
    </application>
</manifest>

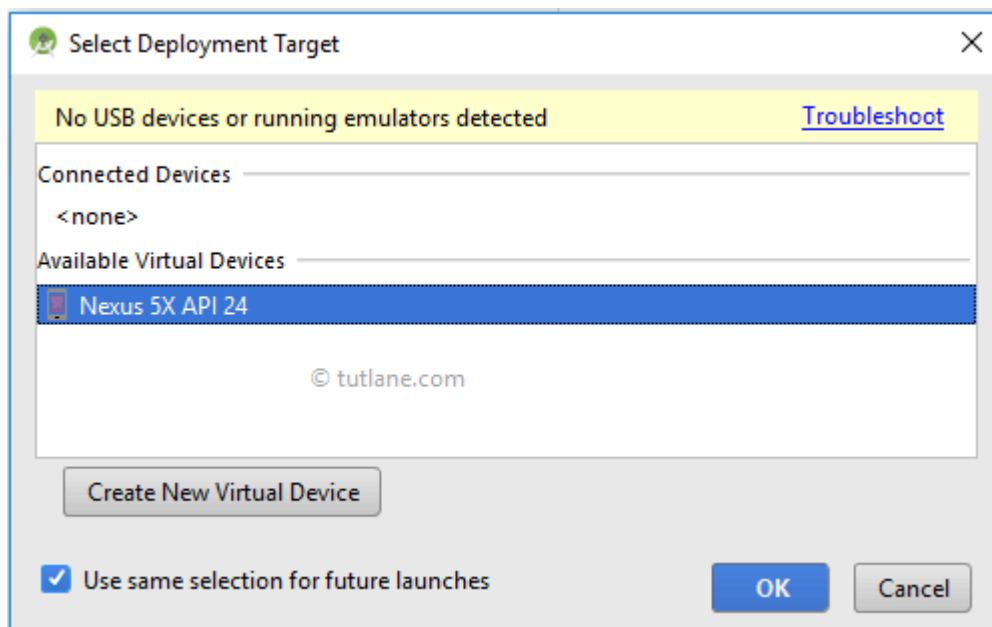
```

4. Run Android Hello World App

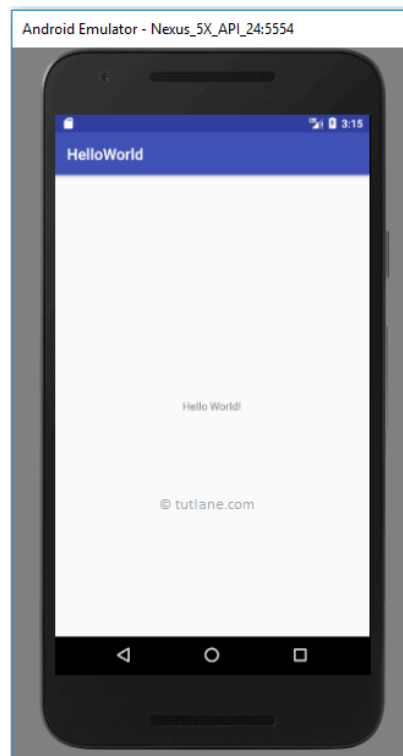
To run android applications we need to click on **Run** button or press **Shift + F10** like as shown below



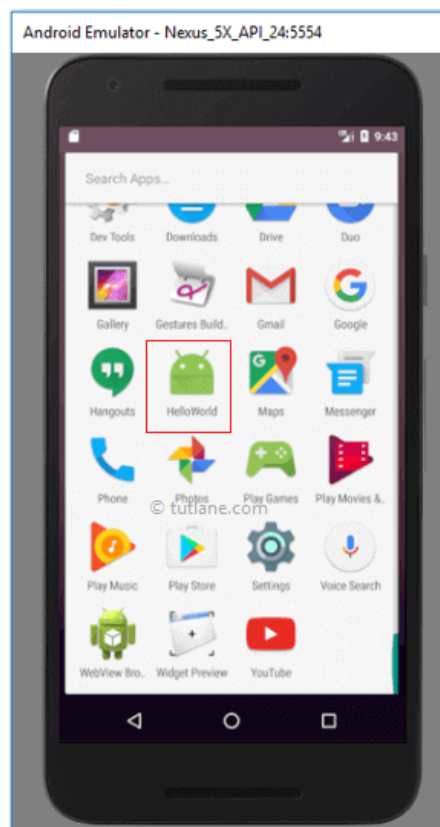
After clicking on the play button new window will open in that select **Android Virtual Device** (AVD) and click **OK** like as shown below.



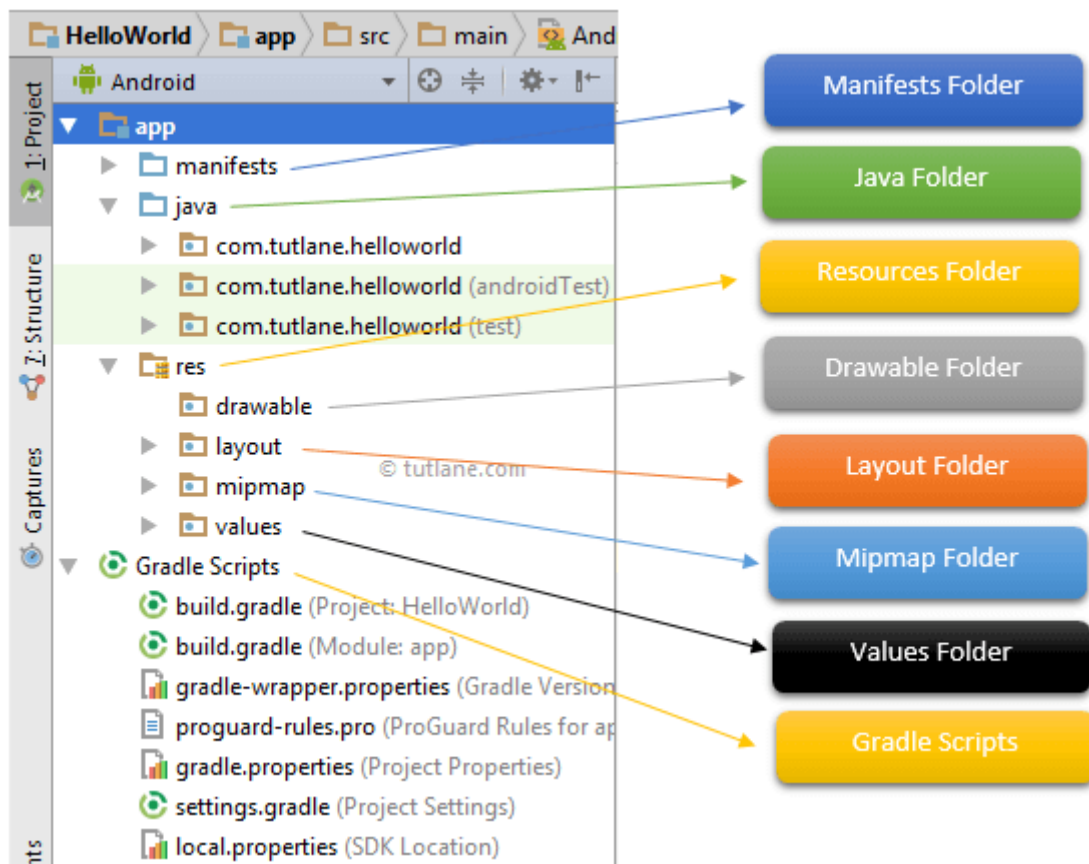
Now our android hello world application will show the result like as shown below



In our **AndroidManifest.xml** file, we mentioned the MAIN action and LAUNCHER category attributes for our main activity file due to that our app icon will create in Home screen list of apps like as shown below.



5. Understanding Android App Folder Structure

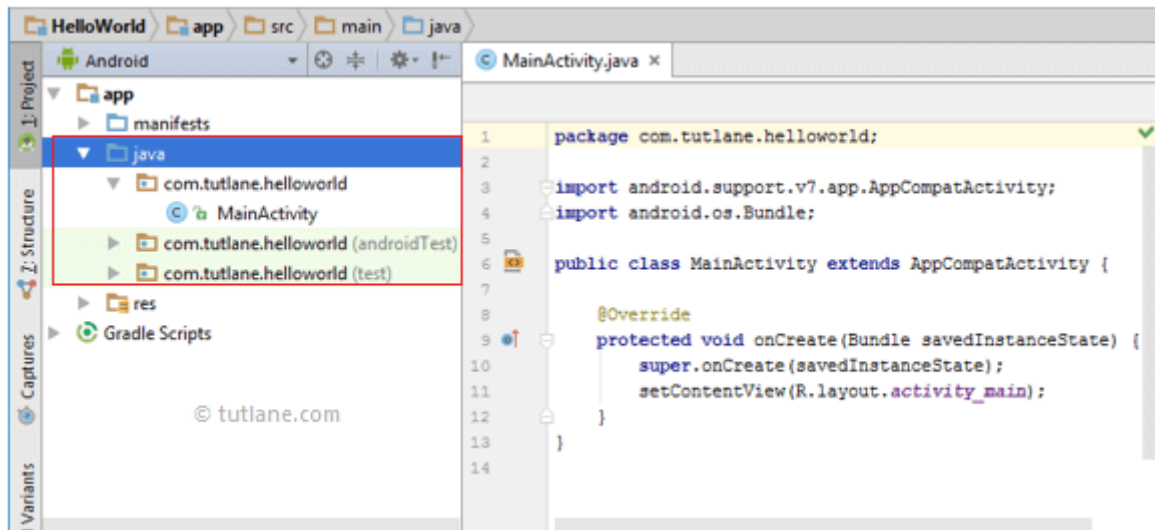


The Android project structure on the disk might differ from the above representation. To see the actual file structure of the project, select **Project** from the **Project** dropdown instead of **Android**.

The android app project will contain different types of app modules, source code files, and resource files. We will explore all the folders and files in the android app.

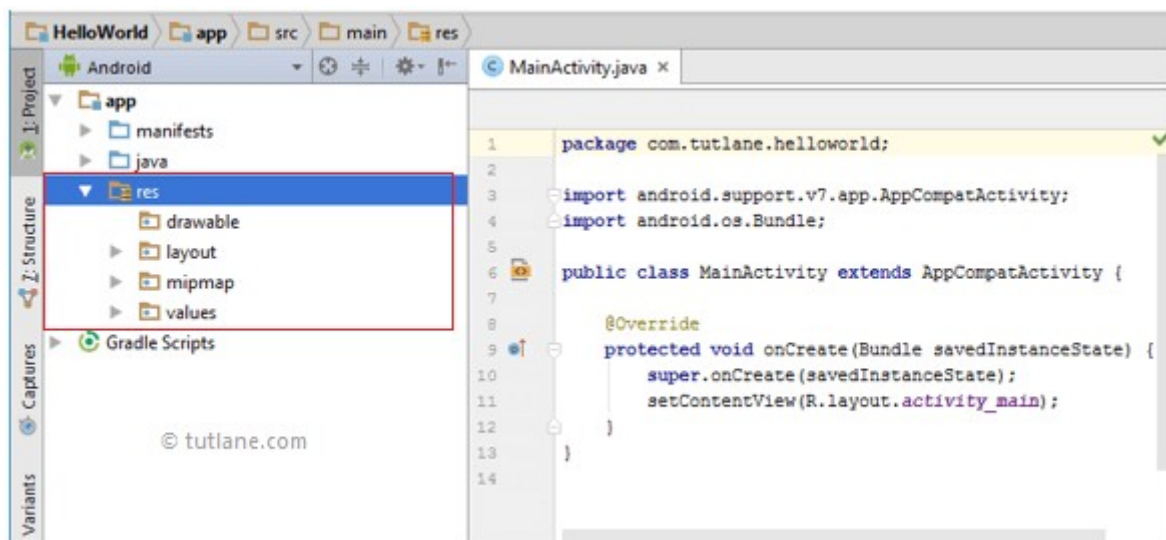
Java Folder

This folder will contain all the java source code (**.java**) files which we'll create during the application development, including JUnit test code. Whenever we create any new project/application, by default the class file **MainActivity.java** will be created automatically under the package name "**com.tutlane.helloworld**" like as shown below.



res (Resources) Folder

It's an important folder that will contain all non-code resources, such as bitmap images, UI strings, XML layouts like as shown below.



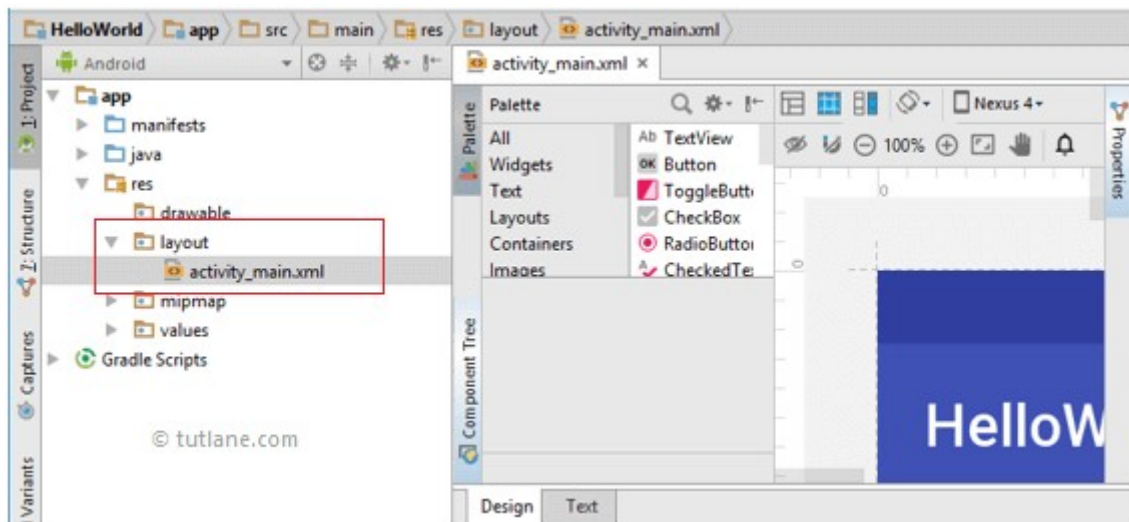
The res (**Resources**) will contain a different type of folders that are

Drawable Folder (res/drawable)

It will contain the different types of images as per the requirement of application. It's a best practice to add all the images in a **drawable** folder other than app/launcher icons for the application development.

Layout Folder (res/layout)

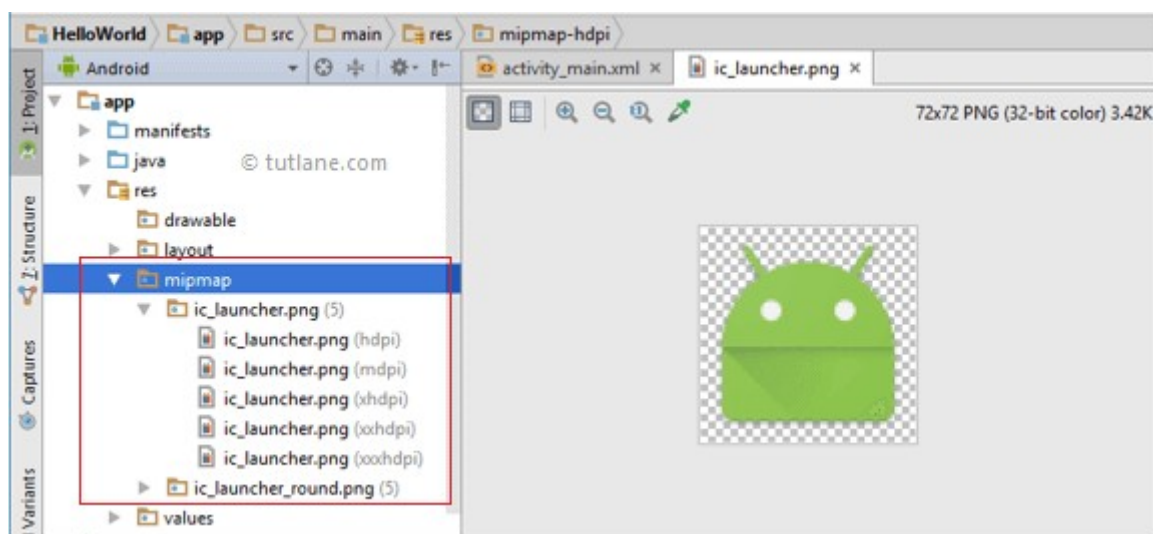
This folder will contain all XML layout files which we used to define the user interface of our application. Following is the structure of the **layout** folder in the android application.



Mipmap Folder (res/mipmap)

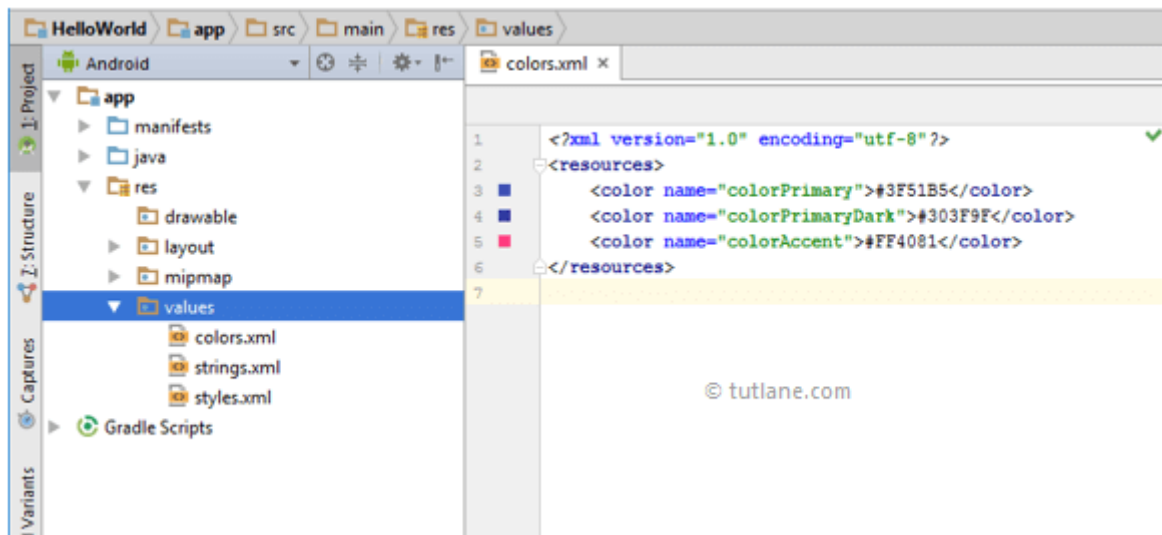
This folder will contain app / launcher icons that are used to show on the home screen. It will contain different density type of icons such as hdpi, mdpi, xhdpi, xxhdpi, xxxhdpi, to use different icons based on the size of the device.

Following is the structure of the **mipmap** folder in the android application.



Values Folder (res/values)

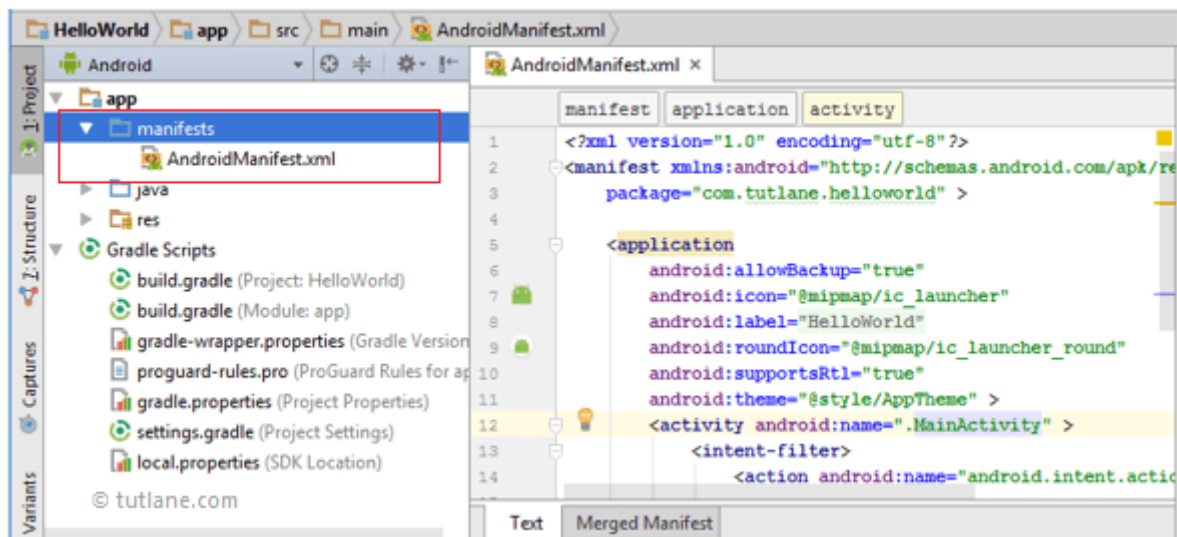
This folder will contain various XML files, such as strings, colors, style definitions and a static array of strings or integers. Following is the structure of the **values** folder in android application.



Manifests Folder

This folder will contain a manifest file (**AndroidManifest.xml**) for our android application. This manifest file will contain information about our application such as android version, access permissions, metadata, etc. of our application and its components. The manifest file will act as an intermediate between android OS and our application.

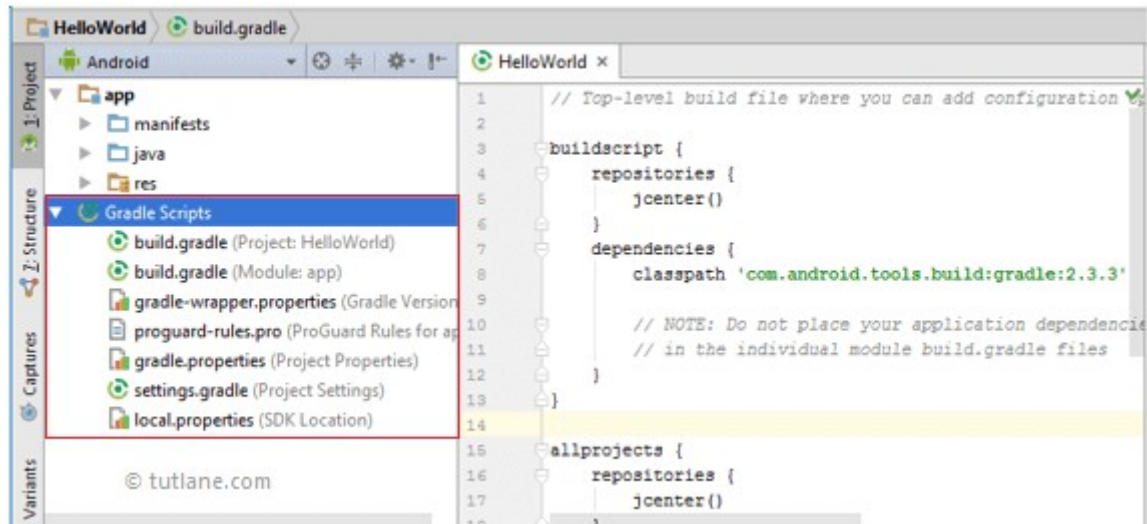
Following is the structure of the **manifests** folder in the android application.



Gradle Scripts

In android, Gradle means automated build system and by using this we can define a build configuration that applies to all modules in our application. In Gradle **build.gradle (Project)**, and **build.gradle (Module)** files are useful to build configurations that apply to all our app modules or specific to one app module.

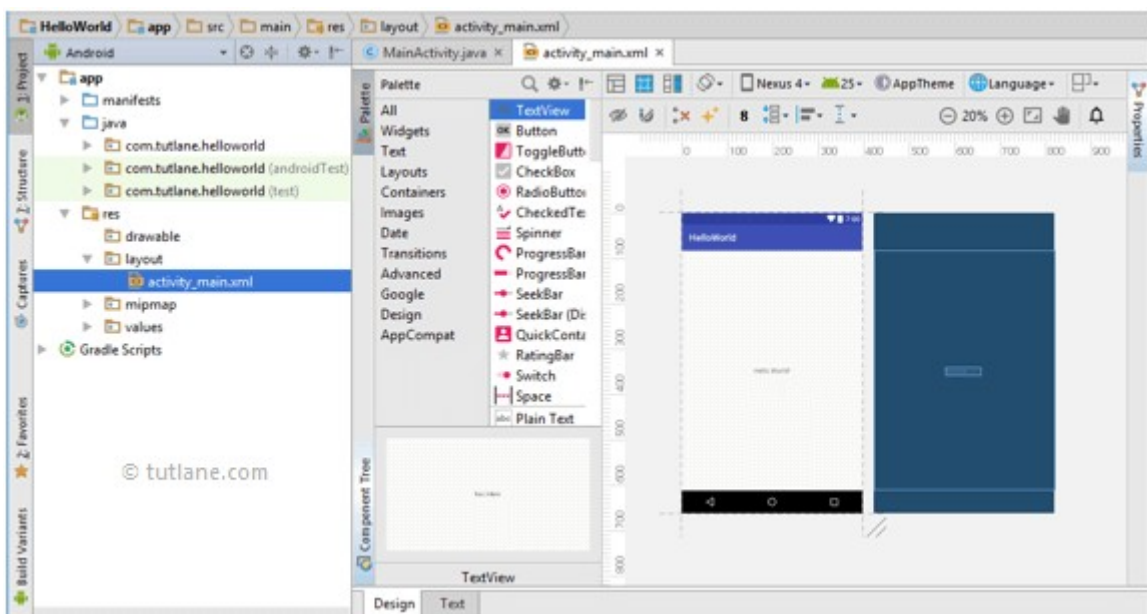
Following is the structure of **Gradle Scripts** in the android application.



Following are the important files which we need to implement an app in android studio.

Android Layout File (activity_main.xml)

The UI of our application will be designed in this file and it will contain **Design** and **Text** modes. It will exist in the **layouts** folder and the structure of **activity_main.xml** file in **Design** mode like as shown below.



We can make required design modifications in **activity_main.xml** file either using **Design** or **Text** modes. If we switch to **Text** mode **activity_main.xml** file will contain a code like as shown below.


```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<android.support.constraint.ConstraintLayout
xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
    xmlns:app="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res-auto"
    xmlns:tools="http://schemas.android.com/tools"
    android:layout_width="match_parent"
    android:layout_height="match_parent"
    tools:context="com.tutlane.helloworld.MainActivity">
    <TextView
        android:layout_width="wrap_content"
        android:layout_height="wrap_content"
        android:text="Hello World!"
        app:layout_constraintBottom_toBottomOf="parent"
        app:layout_constraintLeft_toLeftOf="parent"
        app:layout_constraintRight_toRightOf="parent"
        app:layout_constraintTop_toTopOf="parent" />

</android.support.constraint.ConstraintLayout>

```

Android Main Activity File (MainActivity.java)

The main activity file in the android application is **MainActivity.java** and it will exist in the **java** folder. The **MainActivity.java** file will contain the java code to handle all the activities related to our app.

Following is the default code of **MainActivity.java** file which is generated by our .HelloWorld application

```

package com.tutlane.helloworld;
import android.support.v7.app.AppCompatActivity;
import android.os.Bundle;
public class MainActivity extends AppCompatActivity {
    @Override
    protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.activity_main);
    }
}

```

Android Manifest File (AndroidManifest.xml)

Generally, our application will contain multiple activities and we need to define all those activities in the **AndroidManifest.xml** file. In our manifest file, we need to mention the main activity for our app using the **MAIN** action and **LAUNCHER** category attributes in **intent filters**

(<intent-filter>). In case if we didn't mention MAIN action or LAUNCHER category for the main activity, our app icon will not appear in the home screen's list of apps.

Following is the default code of **AndroidManifest.xml** file which is generated by our **HelloWorld** application.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<manifest xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
    package="com.tutlane.helloworld" >

    <application
        android:allowBackup="true"
        android:icon="@mipmap/ic_launcher"
        android:label="@string/app_name"
        android:roundIcon="@mipmap/ic_launcher_round"
        android:supportRtl="true"
        android:theme="@style/AppTheme" >
        <activity android:name=".MainActivity" >
            <intent-filter>
                <action android:name="android.intent.action.MAIN" />
                <category android:name="android.intent.category.LAUNCHER" />
            </intent-filter>
        </activity>
    </application>
</manifest>
```

These are the main folders and files required to implement an application in android studio. If you want to see the actual file structure of the project, select **Project** from the **Project** dropdown instead of **Android**.

6. Understanding MainActivity.java

```
package com.example.myapplication;

import androidx.appcompat.app.AppCompatActivity;

import android.os.Bundle;

public class MainActivity extends AppCompatActivity {

    @Override
    protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.activity_main);
    }
}
```


1. **import androidx.appcompat.app.AppCompatActivity**

All activities in Android inherit from an `android.app.Activity` base class. In our case, `MainActivity` does not inherit directly from that class. Instead, it extends `androidx.appcompat.app.AppCompatActivity`. That, in turn, inherits from `android.app.Activity`, so `MainActivity` has `Activity` in its inheritance hierarchy.

2. **import android.os.Bundle**

`Bundle` is a utility class that lets you store a set of name-value pairs. You will always find this import along with the import for `Activity` class because both `onCreate()` and `onFreeze()` methods take `Bundle` as a parameter. Into a `Bundle` object, you can put integers, longs, strings, arrays, etc along with the keys to identify them. When needed, these values can be obtained by using those keys.

3. **protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState)**

`MainActivity` has one Java method or Kotlin function: `onCreate()`. This overrides an `onCreate()` method that we inherit. Our job in `onCreate()` is to set up the basic UI that is to be shown by this activity.

1. When an Activity first call or launched then `onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState)` method is responsible to create the activity.
2. When ever orientation(i.e. from horizontal to vertical or vertical to horizontal) of activity gets changed or when an Activity gets forcefully terminated by any Operating System then `savedInstanceState` i.e. object of `Bundle` Class will save the state of an Activity.
3. After Orientation changed then `onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState)` will call and recreate the activity and load all data from `savedInstanceState`.
4. Basically `Bundle` class is used to stored the data of activity whenever above condition occur in app.

4. **super.onCreate(savedInstanceState)**

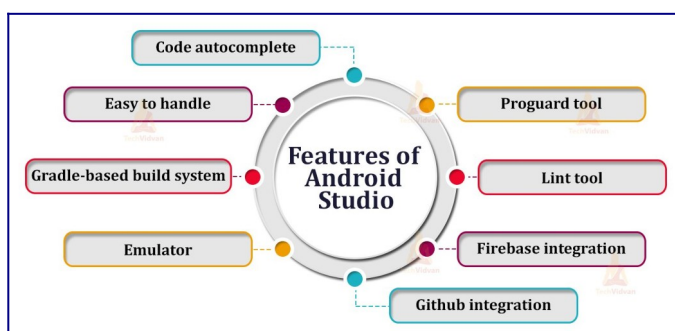
When we override a method, we have the option of completely replacing the method in our class, or of extending the existing parent class' method. By calling `super.onCreate(savedInstanceState)`, you tell the Dalvik VM to run your code **in addition** to the existing code in the `onCreate()` of the parent class.

5. **setContentView(R.layout.activity_main)**

This is a Java method called **setContentView**. It sets the XML file you want as your main layout when the app starts. In between round brackets, you need the name and location of your layout file. The letter `R` in the round brackets is short for **res**. This is the resource folder where those drawable, layout, mipmap, and values folders are. The **layout.activity_main** part points to the `activity_main` XML file, which is in the layout folder of `res`. If you wanted a different XML file to load when your app starts, you'd point to a different file:

```
setContentView(R.layout.some_other_xml_file);
```

7. Features of Android Studio



Android studio provides several remarkable features to offer a hassle-free development process. Some of those features are as follows:

1. Code Autocomplete

You get features like code to autocomplete and auto error suggestions due to IntelliJ IDEA.

2. Easy to handle

Android studio is built in such a way that you can quickly locate the tools and settings which you require in your development.

3. Gradle-based build system

Android studio supports a Gradle-based build system. It helps us to automate, build and test our application. It also provides features like debugging, and APK build.

4. Emulator

No need to worry if you don't have an android phone nearby to test your applications. Android studio provides you to select your emulator where you want to run your applications. The emulator is very versatile because you can choose any version of android to make a virtual device(or emulator).

5. Proguard Tool

It's a tool provided by java, which creates some rules for your app while developing. It looks in your app structure and also helps to minify your code by removing all the unnecessary parts. Thereby it also provides security for your applications.

6. Lint Tool

This tool in Android Studio helps you locate any syntactical or programmatical mistakes in your code. It also helps to structure and format your code to make it look neat.

7. Firebase Integration

You can even directly connect your app to Firebase using the firebase tool in android studio. Firebase provides many features like real-time database, authentication, cloud messaging, etc., which gives more power to your applications.

8. Github Integration

You can integrate your Github repository with your application and directly push files through the Android studio itself.