

[Slide 7.4: Android programming](#)[Slide 7.6: Android architecture](#)[Home](#)

Android Overview

Android is a software stack for mobile devices that includes an operating system, middleware, and key applications. The Android SDK provides the tools and APIs necessary to begin developing applications on the Android platform using the Java programming language.

Open Handset Alliance

Android was developed by the [Open Handset Alliance](#) led by Google. Google purchased the initial developer of the software, Android Inc., in 2005. The unveiling of the Android distribution on November 5, 2007 was announced with the founding of the Open Handset Alliance, a consortium of 84 hardware, software, and telecommunication companies devoted to advancing open standards for mobile devices.

Open Source Platform

Google released most of the Android code under the Apache License, a free software license. The Android Open Source Project (AOSP) is tasked with the maintenance and further development of Android.

Versions

Android is continually developed by Google and the Open Handset Alliance (OHA), and has seen a number of updates to its base operating system since the initial release.

Version	Code name	Release date	API level
7.0	Nougat	January 1, 2017	24-25
6.0	Marshmallow	October 5, 2015	23
5.1	Lollipop	March 9, 2015	22
5.0	Lollipop	June 25, 2014	21
4.4	KitKat	October 31, 2013	19
4.3.x	Jelly Bean	July 24, 2013	18
4.2.x	Jelly Bean	November 13, 2012	17
4.1.x	Jelly Bean	July 9, 2012	16
4.0.3-4.0.4	Ice Cream Sandwich	December 16, 2011	15
3.2	Honeycomb	July 15, 2011	13
2.3.3-2.3.7	Gingerbread	February 9, 2011	10

2.2	Froyo	May 20, 2010	8
1.0		September 23, 2008	1

[Slide 7.4: Android programming](#)

[Slide 7.6: Android architecture](#)

[Home](#)

