

Advanced Mobile Application Development

Week 12: List Views and Adapters

List Views

List Views are used to display lists of data used to navigate in an app

<https://developer.android.com/guide/topics/ui/declaring-layout.html#AdapterViews>

- You can add a list view to your layout using the **<ListView>** element

List Activity

<https://developer.android.com/reference/android/app/ListActivity.html>

A **ListActivity** is a special type of activity that only has a list view in it.

- It has a default layout file so you don't need to create one
- The **ListActivity** class implements its own event listener so you don't need to create one

Use the **android:entries** property to display static data stored in a string-array in strings.xml

For nonstatic data stored in a Java array you need to use an adapter

Adapters

Adapters provide a common interface into different kinds and sources of data. Android adapters are built to feed data from all sorts of inputs into one of Android's list-style UI elements.

When the content for a layout is dynamic or not pre-determined, use a layout that subclasses AdapterView such as spinners, list views, and grid views to populate the layout with views at runtime. Subclasses of the AdapterView class use an Adapter to bind data to its layout.

Android has many different types of adapters

- **ArrayAdapter** binds arrays to an adapter view
 - can be used with any subclass of the **AdapterView** class
- You can also define custom adapters
- To use an array adapter
 - Initialize the array adapter
 - Attach the array adapter to the list view using the **ListView setAdapter()** method
- The array adapter does the following:
 - Converts each item in the array to a **String** using the **toString()** method
 - Puts each result in a text view
 - Displays each text view as a single row in the list view

Listeners

The **OnItemClickListener** is an event listener class in the **AdapterView** class

- The **onItemClick()** method is called when an item is clicked

To implement an event listener

- Create the **OnItemClickListener**
- Implement **onItemClick()**
- Attach the **OnItemClickListener** to the list view using the **ListView setOnItemClickListener()** method

Attaching the listener to the list view is what allows the listener to get notified when the user clicks on items in the list view

Because the **ListActivity** class already implements an event listener you don't need to create one or bind it to the list view, you just need to implement the **ListActivity onItemClick()** method

Passing Data

List activities are often used to display data that when a user clicks will start another activity with detail data

You do this by creating an intent to start the new activity in **onListItemClick()**

It's common practice to pass the ID of the item clicked in the intent so the detail activity can get the correct detail data to populate its views.

Spring

Create a new project called Spring

Company name: a qualifier that will be appended to the package name

Package name: the fully qualified name for the project

Check Phone and Tablet, leave the rest unchecked

Minimum SDK: API 16

Empty Activity template

Activity name: BulbMainActivity

Check Generate Layout File

Layout Name: activity_bulb_main

Uncheck Backwards Compatibility (uses Activity as the base class instead of AppCompatActivity)

Images

To add images go into the Project view.

Navigate to app/src/main/res

Drag images into the drawable folder (or copy/paste)

These are now available through the R class that Android automatically creates.

`R.drawable.imagename`

Bulb Layout

activity_bulb_main.xml

Note that in Android Studio 2.3 the default layout is now ConstraintLayout. You will get some errors if you haven't updated your constraint layout version so chose the option to upgrade and the errors will go away.

You can change your XML to RelativeLayout if you want.

Make sure Autoconnect(magnet) is turned on.

Remove the textview

Add an ImageView to the top of the view and chose the bulbs image.

`android:src="@drawable/bulbs"`

If you want it right up to the top with no gap add

`android:adjustViewBounds="true"`

and make sure

`android:layout_marginTop="0dp"`

Don't use pixels, use dp instead.

Having a content description for an image is optional but makes your app more accessible.

In your strings.xml add the text for this string

`<string name="bulbs">Bulbs</string>`

Set up the values for the list view in strings.xml

`<string-array name="bulb_types">`

`<item>Tulips</item>`

```
<item>Daffodils</item>
<item>Iris</item>
</string-array>
```

Add to activity_bulb_main.xml

```
android:contentDescription="@string/bulbs"
```

Add a ListView in activity_bulb_main.xml and add

```
android:id="@+id/listView"
```

```
android:entries="@array/bulb_types"
```

If your ListView doesn't have any constraints it will be positioned at (0,0) which you don't want.

Select the ListView and chose Infer Constraints(++).

Now you should be able to run it and see your values in the list view.

We bind data to the list view using the android:entries attribute in our layout XML because the data is static. If your data is not static you use an adapter to act as a bridge between the data source and the list view.

ListView Listener

You can only use the android:onClick attribute in activity layouts for buttons, or any views that are subclasses of Button such as CheckBoxes and RadioButtons.

The ListView class isn't a subclass of Button, so using the android:onClick attribute won't work. That's why you have to implement OnItemClickListener.

In BulbMainActivity.java add to onCreate()

```
protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
    super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
    setContentView(R.layout.activity_bulb_main);
    //create listener
    AdapterView.OnItemClickListener itemClickListener = new AdapterView.OnItemClickListener() {
        public void onItemClick(AdapterView<?> listView, View view, int position, long id) {
            String bulbtype = (String) listView.getItemAtPosition(position);
            //create new intent
            Intent intent = new Intent(BulbMainActivity.this, BulbCategoryActivity.class);
            //add bulbtype to intent
            intent.putExtra("bulbtype", bulbtype);
            //start intent
            startActivity(intent);
        }
    };
    //get the list view
    ListView listview = (ListView) findViewById(R.id.listView);
    //add listener to the list view
    listview.setOnItemClickListener(itemClickListener);
}
```

BulbCategoryActivity will give you an error because we haven't created it yet, we'll do that next.

Java class

We're going to create a custom Java class for the bulb data we'll be using in the next category activity. In the java folder select the spring folder (not androidTest or test)

File | New | Java class

Name: Bulb

Kind: Class

We're going to create a Bulb class with two data members to store the bulb name and image resource id. We'll have getter and setter methods for both and a private utility method that chooses the bulb.

```
public class Bulb {
    private String name;
    private int imageResourceID;

    //constructor
    private Bulb(String newname, int newID){
        this.name = newname;
        this.imageResourceID = newID;
    }

    public static final Bulb[] tulips = {
        new Bulb("Daydream", R.drawable.daydream),
        new Bulb("Apeldoorn Elite", R.drawable.apeldoorn),
        new Bulb("Banja Luka", R.drawable.banjaluka),
        new Bulb("Burning Heart", R.drawable.burningheart),
        new Bulb("Art Royal", R.drawable.artroyal)
    };

    public String getName(){
        return name;
    }

    public int getImageResourceID(){
        return imageResourceID;
    }

    //the string representation of a tulip is its name
    public String toString(){
        return this.name;
    }
}
```

You will eventually add two more arrays for daffodils and iris.

Tulip List

As our activity only needs to contain a single list view with no other GUI components, we can use a list activity, an activity that only contains a list. It's automatically bound to a default layout that contains a list view. So we don't need to create a layout or an event listener as the ListActivity class already implements one.

New | Activity | Empty
BulbCategoryActivity
Uncheck Generate Layout File
Uncheck Backwards Compatibility
Make sure the package name is right and Target Source Set is main.

In BulbCategoryActivity.java change the superclass from Activity to ListActivity.

Just as with normal activities, list activities need to be registered in the AndroidManifest.xml file. This is so they can be used within your app. When you create your activity, Android Studio does this for you.

We're going to use an array adapter to bind our tulips array to our new list activity. You can use an array adapter with any subclass of the AdapterView class, which means you can use it with list views, grid views, and spinners.

You use an array adapter by initializing the array adapter and attaching it to the list view.

```
import android.widget.ArrayAdapter;
```

```
private String bulbtype;
```

```
protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {  
    super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);  
    Intent i = getIntent();  
    bulbtype = i.getStringExtra("bulbtype");  
    //get the list view  
    ListView listBulbs = getListView();  
    //define an array adapter  
    ArrayAdapter<Bulb> listAdapter;  
    //initialize the array adapter with the right list of bulbs  
    switch (bulbtype){  
        case "Tulips":  
            listAdapter = new ArrayAdapter<Bulb>(this, android.R.layout.simple_list_item_1, Bulb.tulips);  
            break;  
        default: listAdapter = new ArrayAdapter<Bulb>(this, android.R.layout.simple_list_item_1,  
Bulb.tulips);  
    }  
    //set the array adapter on the list view  
    listBulbs.setAdapter(listAdapter);  
}
```

simple_list_item_1 is a built-in layout resource that tells the array adapter to display each item in the array in a single text view.

Behind the scenes, the array adapter takes each item in the array, converts it to a String using its toString() method and puts each result into a text view. It then displays each text view as a single row in the list view.

Now you should be able to click on tulips and it will launch your new activity and show you the list of tulips. (Because we use tulips as the default, you will see the tulip list no matter which type you tap. Add to the case statement to handle the other types).

ListActivity Listener

In BulbMainActivity.java we created the OnItemClickListener event listener and implemented its onItemClick() method.

BulbCategoryActivity.java is a subclass of the ListActivity class which is a specific type of activity that's designed to work with list views. The ListActivity class already implements an on item click event listener so you don't need to create your own event listener, you just need to implement the onListItemClick() method.

```
import android.view.View;
```

```
@Override
```

```
public void onListItemClick(ListView listView, View view, int position, long id){  
    Intent intent = new Intent(BulbCategoryActivity.this, BulbActivity.class);  
    intent.putExtra("bulbid", (int) id);  
    intent.putExtra("bulbtype", bulbtype);  
    startActivity(intent);  
}
```

BulbActivity will give you an error because we haven't created it yet, we'll do that next. We use the id to pass which bulb was selected.

BulbActivity

Now let's create the BulbActivity activity.

New | Activity | Empty

Activity name: BulbActivity

Check Generate Layout File

Layout name: activity_bulb

Uncheck Backwards Compatibility

Go into the activity_bulb layout file and add a TextView for the name.

In the TextView make its appearance large and change the id. You can add text for layout and testing.

```
android:textAppearance="?android:attr/textAppearanceLarge"  
android:id="@+id/bulb_name"
```

Add an ImageView for the image. Chose an image for layout and testing purposes then you can remove the src property.

Change the id to **android:id="@+id/bulbImageView"**

It will be asking you for a content description. Add a string resource and then add a content description.

```
<string name="bulb_image">Bulb picture</string>  
android:contentDescription="@string/bulb_image"
```

If you run it at this point you should get to that view regardless of which tulip you tap.

Now let's populate the view with the correct data.

View Data

In BulbActivity.java we'll get the data sent from the intent to populate the view.

```
protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {  
    super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);  
    setContentView(R.layout.activity_bulb);  
  
    //get bulb data from the intent  
    int bulbnum = (Integer) getIntent().getExtras().get("bulbid");  
    String type = (String) getIntent().getExtras().get("bulbtype");  
    Bulb bulb = Bulb.tulips[bulbnum];  
  
    //populate image  
    ImageView bulbImage = (ImageView) findViewById(R.id.bulbImageView);  
    bulbImage.setImageResource(bulb.getImageResourceID());  
  
    //populate name  
    TextView bulbName = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.bulb_name);  
    bulbName.setText(bulb.getName());  
}
```

Action bar

Let's add an action bar where we can access a bulb order form.

The activities we've created so far are passive activities that provide information and navigation. An active activity lets the user do or create something. Active activities are usually added to the action bar to help users quickly access those activities.

To add an action bar, you need to use a theme that includes an action bar. A theme is a style that's applied to an entire activity or application so that your app has a consistent look and feel. It controls such things as the color of the activity background and action bar, and the style of the text. For API 11 and above we can use the Holo theme or one of its subclasses. API 21 and above can use the newer Material theme.

In the AndroidManifest.xml file (app/manifests) the **android:icon** attribute is used to assign an icon to the app. The icon is used as the launcher icon for the app, and if the theme you're using displays an icon in the action bar, it will use this icon.

The **android:label** attribute assigns a user-friendly label to the app or activity, depending on whether it's used in the <application> or <activity> attribute. The action bar displays the current activity's label. If the current activity has no label, it uses the app's label instead.

The **android:theme** attribute sets the theme. The @style prefix means that the theme is defined in a style resource file.

Open styles.xml (app/res/values)

You should have the following:

```
<style name="AppTheme" parent="android:Theme.Holo.Light.DarkActionBar">  
(or without . DarkActionBar that's fine too)
```

Now let's add items to the action bar.

To add action items to the action bar you do three things:

1. Define the action items in a menu resource file
2. Get the activity to inflate the menu resource
3. Write the code to respond to a user clicking on the item

Menu Resource

To add a menu we need a menu folder in resources.

Right click on the res folder, chose new Directory and name it menu.

You should have a menu folder nested in the res folder.

Right click on the menu folder, chose new Android resource file

File name: menu_main

Resource type: Menu

Source set: main

Directory name: menu

Now add a menu item in menu_main.xml

```
<menu xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android">
<item
    android:id="@+id/create_order"
    android:title="@string/create_order"
    android:icon="@drawable/ic_store"
    android:showAsAction="ifRoom" />
</menu>
```

The **android:icon** property assigns an icon for an item that will be shown if there's room. If there's no icon it will show the title. You can download Google's icons here <https://design.google.com/icons/>

The **android:showAsAction** property defines how you want the item to appear – always in the main action bar or only if there's room. If there's not room it will go in the overflow area (displayed in three dots). Never will mean you'll always get the 3 dots and the item will be in there.

If you have multiple items in your menu the **android:orderInCategory** property would define the order in which they appear.

You can also define different menus for different activities if you want the items to be different based on the activity the user is in.

Add the string resource in the strings.xml file.

```
<string name="create_order">Order</string>
```

Now that we've added action items to the menu resource file, we need to add the items to the action bar in the activity's `onCreateOptionsMenu()` method. It runs when the action bar's menu gets created and takes one parameter, a `Menu` object representing the action bar.

In `BulbMainActivity.java` import the `Menu` class and `onCreateOptionsMenu()` If you just start typing the name of the method you'll be able to use autocomplete.

```
import android.view.Menu;
```

```
public boolean onCreateOptionsMenu(Menu menu){
    //inflate menu to add items to the action bar
```



```

    getMenuInflater().inflate(R.menu.menu_main, menu);
    return super.onOptionsItemSelected(menu);
}

```

For your activity to react when an action item in the action bar is clicked you need to implement the `onOptionsItemSelected()` method which is called when an item in the action bar is clicked. Import the `MenuItem` class.

```
import android.view.MenuItem;
```

The `onOptionsItemSelected()` method takes one attribute, a `MenuItem` object that represents the item on the action bar that was clicked.

```

public boolean onOptionsItemSelected(MenuItem item) {
    //get the ID of the item on the action bar that was clicked
    switch (item.getItemId()){
        case R.id.create_order:
            //start order activity
            return true;
        default:
            return super.onOptionsItemSelected(item);
    }
}

```

Now when you run the app you should see the store icon in the action bar to indicate there's a menu and Order should be in the menu.

But you won't see this in the other views. You need to add the same method in all activities you want the menu to be a part of.

Order Activity

Create a new activity for the order using the Empty Activity template.

Activity name: OrderActivity

Check Generate Layout File

Layout name: activity_order

Uncheck Backwards Compatibility

Go into `OrderActivity.java`. This class should extend `Activity`. If it doesn't, change the superclass and add the import statement.

We're not going to add the methods to handle a menu because we're not going to add a menu to this activity.

Now go back to `BulbMainActivity.java` to start `OrderActivity` when the user clicks on Order in the menu.

Update the case statement in `onOptionsItemSelected()`

```

case R.id.create_order:
    //start order activity
    Intent intent = new Intent(this, OrderActivity.class);
    startActivity(intent);
    return true;

```

Update BulbCategory.java and BulbActivity.java if you've added the action bar in those. BulbActivity will need the Intent class imported.

import android.content.Intent;

I'll let you create the order form on your own.

Up Navigation

The action bar has an Up button that is used to navigate up the activity hierarchy. This is not the same as the back button which allows users to navigate back through the history of activities they've been to.

The up button will take the user to that activity's parent activity. You define the parent activity in the AndroidManifest.xml file. We're going to make the parent of OrderActivity be BulbMainActivity.

In the AndroidManifest.xml file add a parent for the Order activity

android:parentActivityName=".BulbMainActivity" >

Now let's enable the Up button in the action bar in OrderActivity.java

Import the ActionBar class.

import android.app.ActionBar;

Add to the onCreate() method.

//get reference to action bar

ActionBar actionBar = getActionBar();

//enable the up button

actionBar.setDisplayHomeAsUpEnabled(**true**);

Now when you run the app and go to the Order activity you'll see a back arrow in the action bar which should take you back to the main activity.

If you enable the up button and the activity doesn't have a parent defined the app will crash.

Don't forget launcher icons. Android Asset Studio creates all the sizes you need.

Along with ic_launcher.png files in AS 2.3 you also need ic_launcher_round.png files which are needed by devices that requires circular launcher icons (Google Pixel devices).