



# Radio Buttons

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Radio buttons allow the user to select one option from a set. You should use radio buttons for optional sets that are mutually exclusive if you think that the user needs to see all available options side-by-side. If it's not necessary to show all options side-by-side, use a [spinner](#) instead.

ATTENDING?

☒ Yes ☐ Maybe ☐ No

To create each radio button option, create a [RadioButton](#) in your layout. However, because radio buttons are mutually exclusive, you must group them together inside a [RadioGroup](#). By grouping them together, the system ensures that only one radio button can be selected at a time.

## Responding to Click Events

When the user selects one of the radio buttons, the corresponding [RadioButton](#) object receives an on-click event.

To define the click event handler for a button, add the [android:onClick](#) attribute to the `<RadioButton>` element in your XML layout. The value for this attribute must be the name of the method you want to call in response to a click event. The [Activity](#) hosting the layout must then implement the corresponding method.

For example, here are a couple [RadioButton](#) objects:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<RadioGroup xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
    android:layout_width="fill_parent"
    android:layout_height="wrap_content"
    android:orientation="vertical">
    <RadioButton android:id="@+id/radio_pirates"
        android:layout_width="wrap_content"
        android:layout_height="wrap_content"
        android:text="@string/pirates"
        android:onClick="onRadioButtonClicked" />
    <RadioButton android:id="@+id/radio_ninjas"
        android:layout_width="wrap_content"
        android:layout_height="wrap_content"
        android:text="@string/ninjas"
        android:onClick="onRadioButtonClicked" />
</RadioGroup>
```

**Note:** The [RadioGroup](#) is a subclass of [LinearLayout](#) that has a vertical orientation by default.

Within the [Activity](#) that hosts this layout, the following method handles the click event for both radio buttons:

```
public void onRadioButtonClicked(View view) {  
    // Is the button now checked?  
    boolean checked = ((RadioButton) view).isChecked();  
  
    // Check which radio button was clicked  
    switch(view.getId()) {  
        case R.id.radio_pirates:  
            if (checked)  
                // Pirates are the best  
                break;  
        case R.id.radio_ninjas:  
            if (checked)  
                // Ninjas rule  
                break;  
    }  
}
```

The method you declare in the `android:onClick` attribute must have a signature exactly as shown above. Specifically, the method must:

- Be public
- Return void
- Define a `View` as its only parameter (this will be the `View` that was clicked)

**Tip:** If you need to change the radio button state yourself (such as when loading a saved `CheckBoxPreference`), use the `setChecked(boolean)` or `toggle()` method.