



Stateful widgets and dynamic UI elements

- Try to change texts in your app when user taps a button.
- Learn that stateless widgets are not updated.
- Add a StatefulWidget to your app and learn to use setState.
- Use Sliders, TextFields, Checkboxes and Switches in your app.
- Use ListTile and CheckboxListTiles as part of your app.
- Learn how to define an AppBar and a Floating Action Button



Goal: make text "Hello World!" in our app dynamic

Idea: Change the text when user taps a button:

```
Widget build(BuildContext context) {  
  return MaterialApp(  
    home: Scaffold(  
      body: Center(  
        child: Column(  
          mainAxisAlignment: MainAxisAlignment.center,  
          children: [  
            Text(helloText,  
              style: TextStyle(color: Colors.red, fontSize: 25)), // Text  
            ElevatedButton(  
              onPressed: () {  
                helloText += "!";  
                print("helloText is now $helloText");  
              },  
              child: Text("Append a !")) // ElevatedButton  
          ],  
        ), // Column  
      ), // Center  
    ), // Scaffold  
  ); // MaterialApp  
}
```

Hello World!

Append a !

Where to define the variable helloText ?



Stateless Widgets need a const constructor

Our MainApp is derived from StatelessWidget:

```
class MainApp extends StatelessWidget {  
  /* const */ MainApp({super.key});  
  void handleP  
  ...  
}
```

Constructors in '@immutable' classes should be declared as 'const'.
Try adding 'const' to the constructor

StatelessWidget is derived from Widget:

```
abstract class StatelessWidget extends Widget {  
  /// Initializes [key] for subclasses.  
  const StatelessWidget({ super.key });  
  ...  
}
```

Go to Definition F12
Go to Type Definition

Widget is declared as “immutable”, thus the derived MainApp is immutable too:

```
@immutable  
abstract class Widget extends DiagnosticableTree {  
  ...  
}
```

Immutable immutable
package:meta/meta.dart

Used to annotate a class C. Indicates that C and all subtypes of C must be immutable.
A class is immutable if all of the instance fields of the class, whether defined directly or inherited, are final.



The UI of Stateless Widgets is not updated

Idea: we define helloText as a global variable:

```
String helloText = "Hello World!";

class MainApp extends StatelessWidget {
  const MainApp({super.key});

  // String helloText = "Hello World!";
```

helloText is changed, but the UI is not updated:

```
26 ElevatedButton(
27   onPressed: () {
28     helloText += "!";
29     print("helloText is now $helloText");
30   },
```

PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS

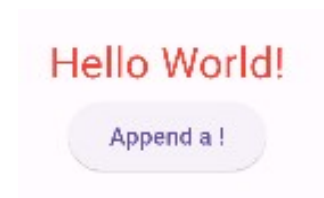
D/EGL_emulation(5365): app_time_stats: avg=563.24ms min=11.53ms max=15272

D/EGL_emulation(5365): app_time_stats: avg=3541.93ms min=3541.93ms max=35

I/flutter (5365): helloText is now Hello World!!

D/EGL_emulation(5365): app_time_stats: avg=31.30ms min=3.50ms max=582.89m

I/flutter (5365): helloText is now Hello World!!!





Debugging build method of Stateless Widgets

Set breakpoint on build method:

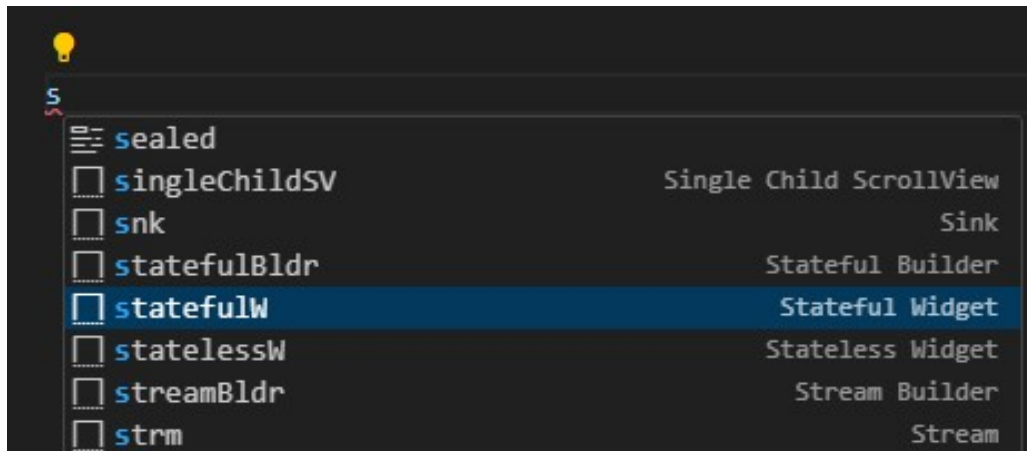
```
16 @override
17 Widget build(BuildContext context) {
18   return MaterialApp(
19     home: Scaffold(
20       body: Center(
21         child: Column(
22           mainAxisAlignment: MainAxisAlignment.center,
23           children: [
24             Text(helloText,
25               style: TextStyle(color: Colors.red, fontSize: 25)), // Text
26             ElevatedButton(
27               onPressed: () {
28                 helloText += "!";
29                 print("helloText is now $helloText");
30               },
31               child: Text("Append a !")) // ElevatedButton
32           ],
33         ), // Column
```

The build method of a StatelessWidget is **only called once** by the Flutter framework during program start !



Create a Stateful Widget

IntelliSense of VS Code helps us:



Enter “s” and select “Flutter Stateful Widget”.



Create a Stateful Widget

Stateful Widgets have a State, and this State has a build method:

```
class name extends StatefulWidget {  
  const name({super.key});  
  
  @override  
  State<name> createState() => _nameState();  
}  
  
class _nameState extends State<name> {  
  @override  
  Widget build(BuildContext context) {  
    return Container();  
  }  
}
```

State is not immutable, it can have non final members (it can change “it’s state”).

Compare old and new code:

```
void main() {
  runApp(const MainApp());
}

String helloText = "Hello World!";

class MainApp extends StatelessWidget {
  const MainApp({super.key});

  @override
  Widget build(BuildContext context) {
    return MaterialApp(
      home: Scaffold(
        body: Center(
          child: Column(
            mainAxisAlignment: MainAxisAlignment.center,
            children: [
              Text(helloText,
                style: TextStyle(color: Colors.red, fontSize: 25)),
              ElevatedButton(
                onPressed: () {
                  helloText += "!";
                },
              ),
            ],
          ),
        ),
      ),
    );
  }
}
```

```
void main() {
  runApp(const MainApp());
}

String helloText = "Hello World!";

class MainApp extends StatelessWidget {
  const MainApp({super.key});

  @override
  Widget build(BuildContext context) {
    return MaterialApp(
      home: MainPage()
    ); // MaterialApp
  }
}

class MainPage extends StatefulWidget {
  const MainPage({super.key});

  @override
  State<MainPage> createState() => _MainPageState();
}

class _MainPageState extends State<MainPage> {
  @override
  Widget build(BuildContext context) {
    return Scaffold(
      body: Center(
        child: Column(
          mainAxisAlignment: MainAxisAlignment.center,
          children: [
            Text(helloText,
              style: TextStyle(color: Colors.red, fontSize: 25)),
            ElevatedButton(
              onPressed: () {
                helloText += "!";
              },
            ),
          ],
        ),
      ),
    );
  }
}
```




“setState” triggers a redraw of the widget

```
ElevatedButton(  
  onPressed: () {  
    setState(() {  
      helloText += "!";  
    });  
    print("helloText is now $helloText");  
  },  
  child: Text("Append a !")) // ElevatedButton
```



Notify the framework that the internal state of this object has changed.

Whenever you change the internal state of a [State] object, make the change in a function that you pass to [setState]:

```
setState(() { _myState = newValue; });
```

The provided callback is immediately called synchronously. It must not return a future (the callback cannot be `async`), since then it would be unclear when the state was actually being set.

Calling [setState] notifies the framework that the internal state of this object has changed in a way that might impact the user interface in this subtree, which causes the framework to schedule a [build] for this [State] object.

If you just change the state directly without calling [setState], the framework might not schedule a [build] and the user interface for this subtree might not be updated to reflect the new state.



Alternatives how to call “setState”

💡 Tip 4: setState() and setState(...) are equal

It doesn't matter if you use `setState` like this

```
setState(){  
  _text = "Hello";  
};
```

or like this

```
_text = "Hello";  
setState({});
```

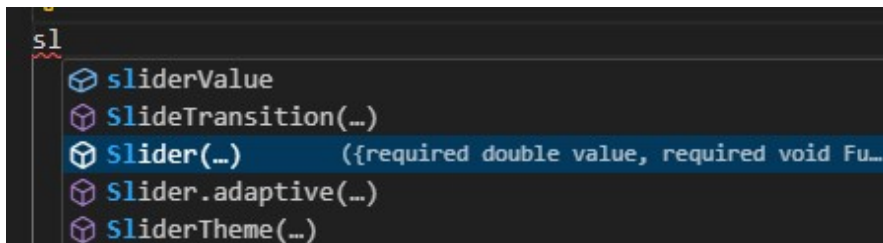
The outcome is the same.

Copied from <https://quickcoder.org/flutter-set-state/>

Define a Slider

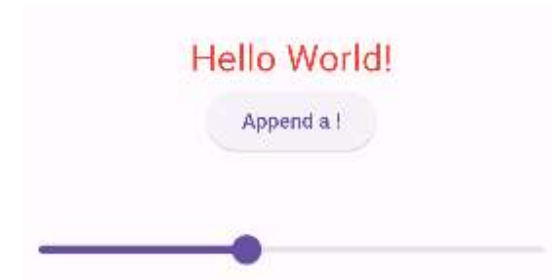


IntelliSense of VS Code helps us:



```
Slider(value: value, onChanged: onChanged)
```

```
Slider(  
  value: sliderValue,  
  onChanged: (value) {  
    print(value);  
    setState(() {  
      sliderValue = value;  
    });  
  },  
) , // Slider
```



sliderValue can be a member of our State class, because the State class is not immutable.

```
class _MainPageState extends State<MainPage> {  
  double sliderValue = 0;
```

Define a Slider (continued)



When onChanged is null, the slider is disabled:

```
Slider(value: sliderValue, onChanged: null),
```



Without calling setState, the slider does not move:

```
Slider(  
  value: sliderValue,  
  onChanged: (value) {  
    sliderValue = value;  
    print(sliderValue);  
  },  
) // Slider
```

From Intellisense (scroll down there):

The slider itself does not maintain any state. Instead, when the state of the slider changes, the widget calls the [onChanged] callback. Most widgets that use a slider will listen for the [onChanged] callback and rebuild the slider with a new [value] to update the visual appearance of the slider.

- [value] determines currently selected value for this slider.
- [onChanged] is called while the user is selecting a new value for the slider.
- [onChangeStart] is called when the user starts to select a new value for the slider.
- [onChangeEnd] is called when the user is done selecting a new value for the slider.



Slider with more properties

IntelliSense shows the c-tor parameters -> try some of them that seem to be interesting:

```
(new) Slider Slider({
  Key? key,
  required double value,
  double? secondaryTrackValue,
  required void Function(double)? onChanged,
  void Function(double)? onChangeStart,
  void Function(double)? onChangeEnd,
  double min = 0.0,
  double max = 1.0,
  int? divisions,
  String? label,
  Color? activeColor,
  Color? inactiveColor,
  Color? secondaryActiveColor,
  Color? thumbColor,
  MaterialStateProperty<Color?> overlayColor,
  MouseCursor? mouseCursor,
  String Function(double)? semanticFormatterCallback,
  FocusNode? focusNode,
  bool autofocus = false,
  SliderInteraction? allowedInteraction,
})
```

```
Slider(
  value: sliderValue,
  min: -10,
  max: 10,
  // label is only shown during movement of the
  // slider and when divisions is defined !
  label: "$sliderValue",
  divisions: 10,
  onChanged: (value) {
    setState(() {
      sliderValue = value;
    });
  },
), // Slider
```





Test more slider properties

A “German flag slider” (but take care: too many colors might confuse the user):

```
Slider(  
  activeColor: Colors.black,  
  thumbColor: Colors.red,  
  inactiveColor: Colors.amber,  
  value: sliderValue,  
  onChanged: (value) {  
    setState(() {  
      sliderValue = value;  
    });  
  },  
) // Slider
```



A slider with a secondary tag:

```
Slider(  
  secondaryTrackValue: sliderValue * 1.2,  
  secondaryActiveColor: Colors.green,  
  value: sliderValue,  
  onChanged: (value) {  
    setState(() {  
      sliderValue = value;  
    });  
  },  
) // Slider
```



The secondary track value for this slider.

If not null, a secondary track using [Slider.secondaryActiveColor] color is drawn between the thumb and this value, over the inactive track.

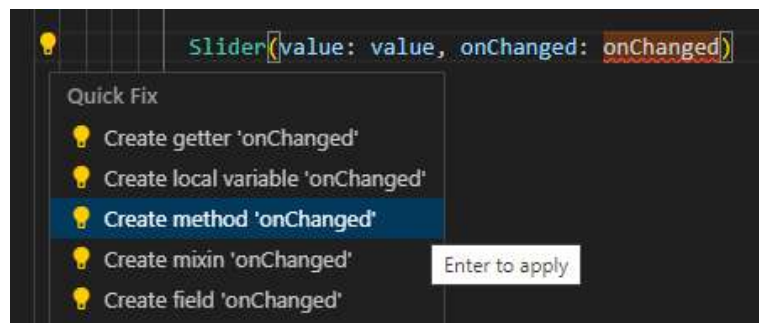
If less than [Slider.value], then the secondary track is not shown.

It can be ideal for media scenarios such as showing the buffering progress while the [Slider.value] shows the play progress.



Alternative to anonymous onChanged method

Use Intellisense to create a method:



```
void onChanged(double value) {  
}
```

Fill it:

```
void onChanged(double value) {  
    setState(() {  
        sliderValue = value;  
    });  
}
```

and then rename it with F2:

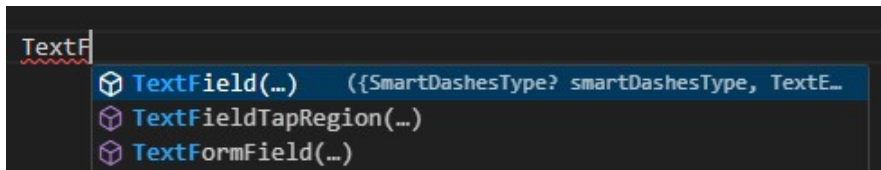
```
void onSliderValueChanged(double value) {  
    setState(() {  
        sliderValue = value;  
    });  
}
```

“Golden rule”: use an own method when quite a lot of code is needed in onChanged.



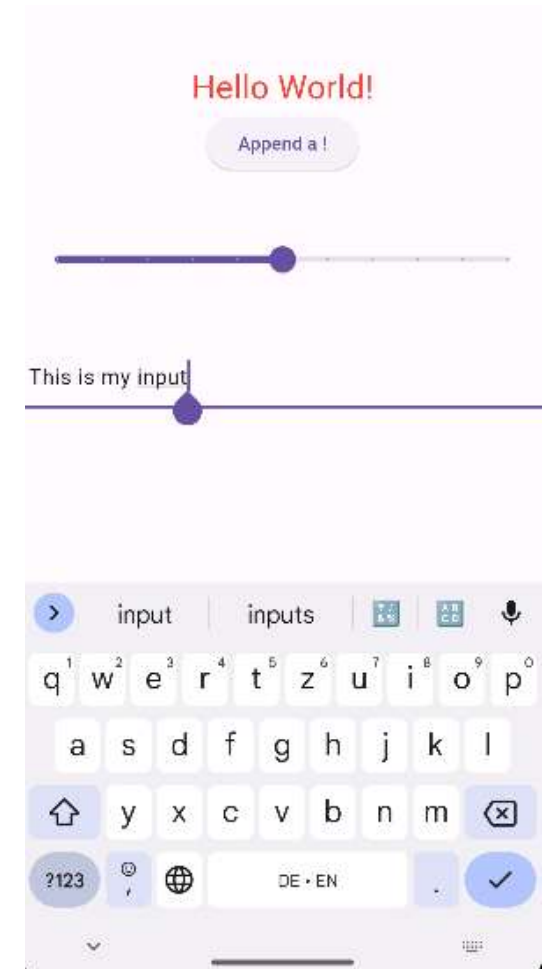
Define a TextField

Again you can start with IntelliSense of VS Code:



TextField has no required parameters, but we define an **onChanged** method to keep track of the entered text:

```
TextField(  
  onChanged: (value) {  
    print(value);  
    textFieldValue = value;  
  },  
) , // TextField  
  
class _MainPageState extends State<MainPage> {  
  double sliderValue = 0;  
  String textFieldValue = "";
```





TextField c-tor has a lot of parameters

```
(new) TextField TextField({
  Key? key,
  TextEditingController? controller,
  FocusNode? focusNode,
  UndoHistoryController? undoController,
  InputDecoration? decoration = const InputDecoration(),
  TextInputType? keyboardType,
  TextInputAction? textInputAction,
  TextCapitalization textCapitalization = TextCapitalization.none,
  TextStyle? style,
  StrutStyle? strutStyle,
  TextAlign textAlign = TextAlign.start,
  TextAlignVertical? textAlignVertical,
  TextDirection? textDirection,
  bool readOnly = false,
  ToolbarOptions? toolbarOptions,
  bool? showCursor,
  bool autofocus = false,
  String obscuringCharacter = '•',
  bool obscureText = false,
  bool autocorrect = true,
  SmartDashesType? smartDashesType,
```

```
SmartQuotesType? smartQuotesType,
bool enableSuggestions = true,
int? maxLines = 1,
int? minLines,
bool expands = false,
int? maxLength,
MaxLengthEnforcement? maxLengthEnforcement,
void Function(String)? onChanged,
void Function()? onEditingComplete,
void Function(String)? onSubmitted,
void Function(String, Map<String, dynamic>)? onAppPrivateCommand,
List<TextInputFormatter>? inputFormatters,
bool? enabled,
double cursorWidth = 2.0,
double? cursorHeight,
Radius? cursorRadius,
bool? cursorOpacityAnimates,
Color? cursorColor,
BoxHeightStyle selectionHeightStyle = ui.BoxHeightStyle.tight,
BoxWidthStyle selectionWidthStyle = ui.BoxWidthStyle.tight,
Brightness? keyboardAppearance,
EdgeInsets scrollPadding = const EdgeInsets.all(20.0),
DragStartBehavior dragStartBehavior = DragStartBehavior.start,
```

and even more ...



Multiline TextField with text alignment

```
// a multiline text field
TextField(
  textAlign: TextAlign.left,
  textCapitalization: TextCapitalization.words,
  minLines: 1,
  maxLines: 5,
  onChanged: (value) {
    textFieldValue = value;
  },
), // TextField
```

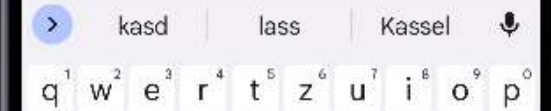
```
enum TextAlign {
  /// Align the text on the left edge of the container.
  left,

  /// Align the text on the right edge of the container.
  right,

  /// Align the text in the center of the container.
  center,

  /// Stretch lines of text that end with a soft line break to fill the width of
  /// the container.
  ///
  /// Lines that end with hard line breaks are aligned towards the [start] edge.
  justify,
```

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TextField with decoration

```
TextField(  
  decoration: InputDecoration(  
    //label: const Icon(Icons.person),  
    labelText: "Name",  
    hintText: "please enter your name",  
    // default border is an UnderlineInputBorder  
    border: const OutlineInputBorder(  
      borderRadius: BorderRadius.all(Radius.circular(15))), // OutlineInputBorder  
    counterText: "${textFieldValue.length}",  
  ), // InputDecoration  
  onChanged: (value) {  
    // setState is needed to update counterText  
    setState(() {  
      textFieldValue = value;  
    });  
  },  
) // TextField
```

Without user input:

With user input:

Using “label” instead of “labelText” *) :

*)
you cannot define both label and labelText (this leads to an exception)



Define a Checkbox



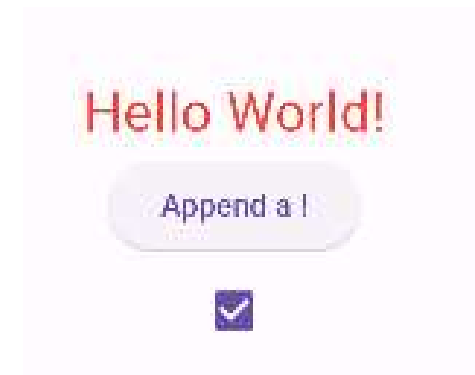
IntelliSense of VS Code helps as usual:

```
Che
  Checkbox(...) ({required bool? value, required void Fun...
  Checkbox.adaptive(...)
  CheckboxListTile(...)
```

```
Checkbox(value: value, onChanged: onChanged)
```

```
Checkbox(
  value: checkboxValue,
  onChanged: (value) {
    setState(() {
      print(value);
      checkboxValue = value;
    });
  }), // Checkbox
```

```
class _MainPageState extends State<MainPage> {
  bool? checkboxValue = true;
```



Type “bool?” is needed for **tristate checkboxes** with values true, false, null. See next slide.




Tristate checkbox



IntelliSense shows the c-tor arguments:

```
(new) Checkbox Checkbox({  
  Key? key,  
  required bool? value,  
  bool tristate = false,  
  required void Function(bool?)? onChanged,  
  MouseCursor? mouseCursor,  
  Color? activeColor,  
  MaterialStateProperty<Color?>? fillColor,  
  Color? checkColor,  
  Color? focusColor,  
  Color? hoverColor,  
  MaterialStateProperty<Color?>? overlayColor,  
  double? splashRadius,  
  MaterialTapTargetSize? materialTapTargetSize,  
  VisualDensity? visualDensity,  
  FocusNode? focusNode,  
  bool autofocus = false,  
  OutlinedBorder? shape,  
  BorderSide? side,  
  bool isError = false,  
  String? semanticLabel,  
})
```

```
Checkbox(  
  tristate: true,  
  activeColor: Colors.amber,  
  checkColor: Colors.green,  
  splashRadius: 50, // effect size when pressed  
  value: checkboxValue,  
  onChanged: (value) {  
    setState(() {  
      checkboxValue = value;  
      print("checkboxValue is $checkboxValue");  
    });  
  },  
, // Checkbox
```

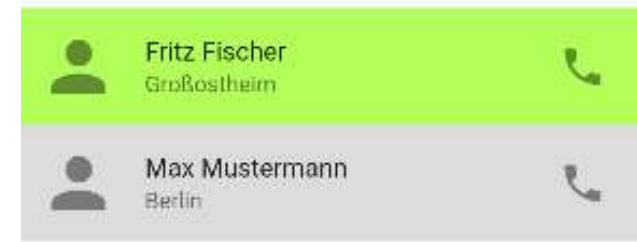
	true	
checkboxValue:	false	
	null	



Define ListTile^{*)} as preparation for CheckboxListTiles

```
ListTile  
ListTileTheme
```

```
(new) ListTile({  
  Key? key,  
  Widget? leading,  
  Widget? title,  
  Widget? subtitle,  
  Widget? trailing,  
  bool isThreeLine = false,  
  bool? dense,  
  VisualDensity? visualDensity,  
  ShapeBorder? shape,  
  ListTileStyle? style,  
  Color? selectedColor,  
  Color? iconColor,  
  ListTile()  
}
```



```
ListTile(  
  title: Text("Fritz Fischer"),  
  subtitle: Text("Großostheim"),  
  leading: Icon(Icons.person, size: 50),  
  trailing: IconButton(  
    icon: Icon(Icons.phone),  
    iconSize: 30,  
    onPressed: () {},  
  ), // IconButton  
  tileColor: Colors.lightGreenAccent,  
), // ListTile
```

*) "Tile" in German: Fliese, Ziegel, Plättchen



CheckboxListTile

```
CheckboxListTile(  
  title: const Text("Do you accept our conditions?"),  
  subtitle: const Text("Please activate the left checkbox."),  
  value: checkboxValue,  
  onChanged: (value) {  
    setState(() {  
      checkboxValue = value;  
    });  
  },  
  tileColor: Colors.yellow,  
  secondary: const Icon(Icons.question_mark),  
  // with next line the checkbox is displayed on the left  
  controlAffinity: ListTileControlAffinity.leading,  
), // CheckboxListTile
```

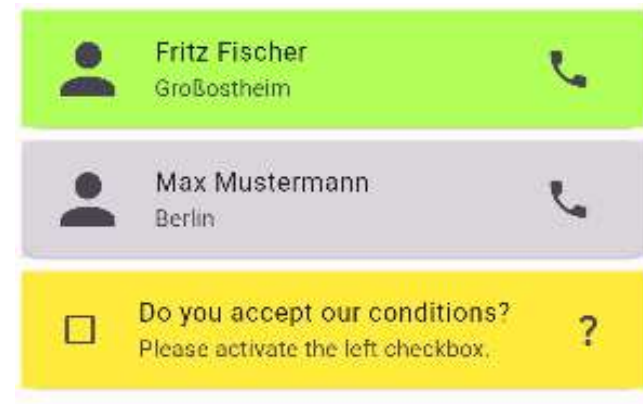
Tapping anywhere in the tile is modifying the Checkbox !





Surrounding ListTile with a Card widget

```
Card(  
  child: ListTile(  
    title: const Text("Fritz Fischer"),  
    subtitle: const Text("Großostheim"),  
    leading: const Icon(Icons.person, size: 50),  
    trailing: IconButton(  
      icon: const Icon(Icons.phone),  
      iconSize: 30,  
      onPressed: () {},  
    ), // IconButton  
    tileColor: Colors.lightGreenAccent,  
  ), // ListTile  
, // Card
```



Same without Card:

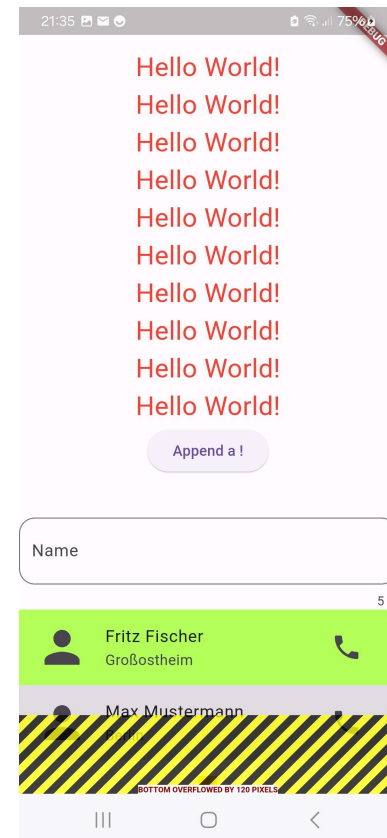




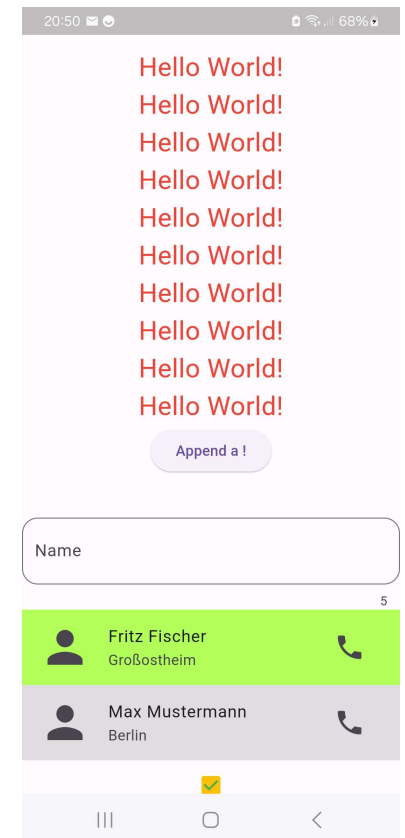
Overflow at the bottom

In case we have too many UI elements, those on the bottom are not visible.

When debugging, we get a hatched (in German “schraffierte”) warning.



Warning shown during debugging.



When installed as Release, elements are just cut off.



SingleChildScrollView

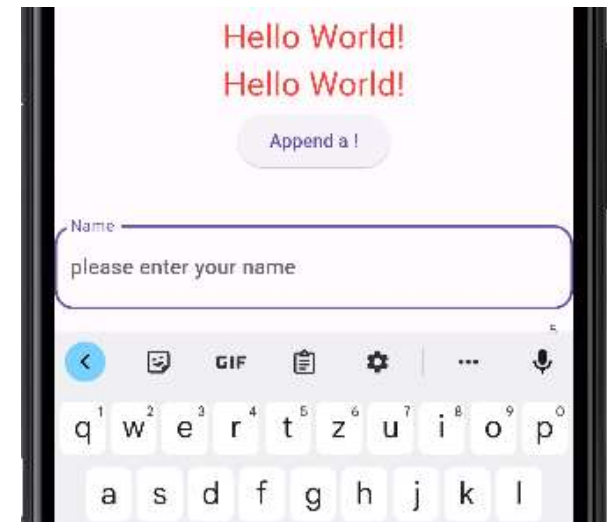
Solution:

Wrap the column with a SingleChildScrollView:

```
body: Center(  
  child: SingleChildScrollView(  
    child: Column(  
      mainAxisAlignment: MainAxisAlignment.center,  
      children: [  
        const SizedBox(height: 40),  
        Text(helloText,  
          style: const TextStyle(color: Colors.red),  
        ),  
        Text(helloText,  
          style: const TextStyle(color: Colors.red),  
        ),  
      ],  
    ),  
  ),  
)
```

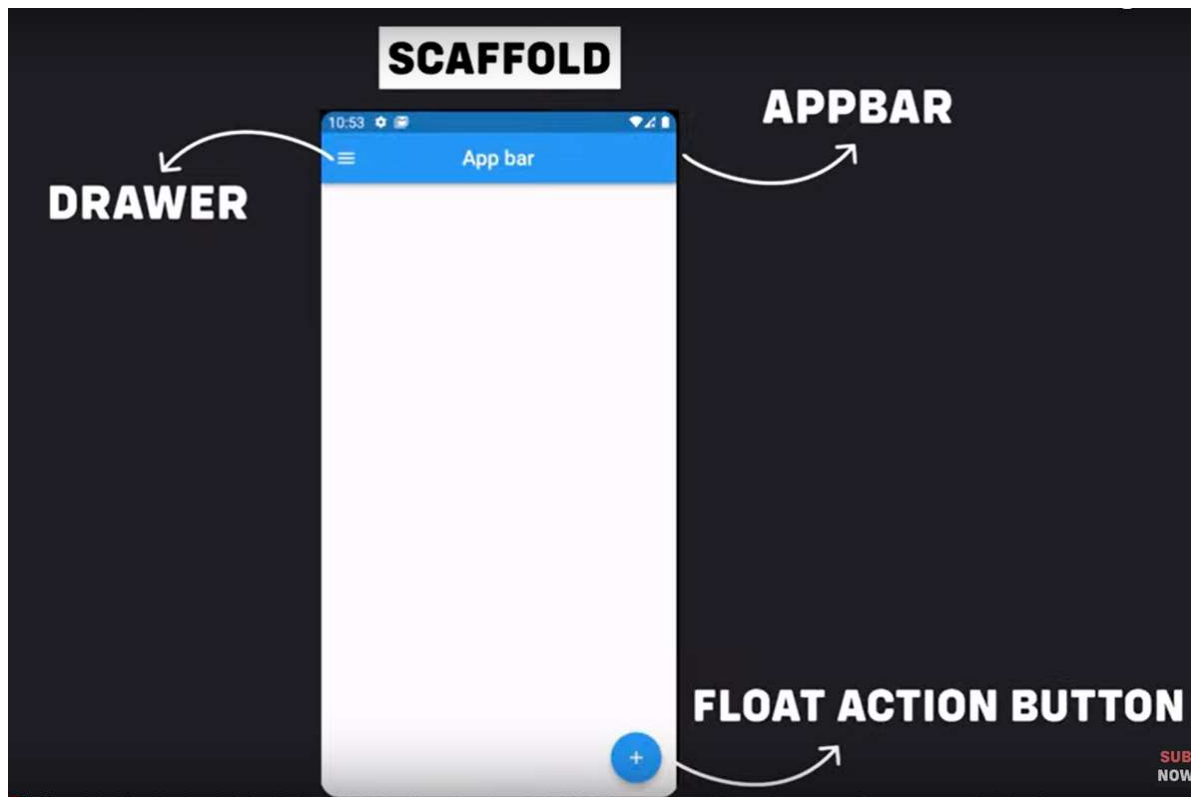
Additional advantage:

during typing in a TextField, it is automatically scrolled up above the virtual android keyboard:





Adding some more standard UI elements

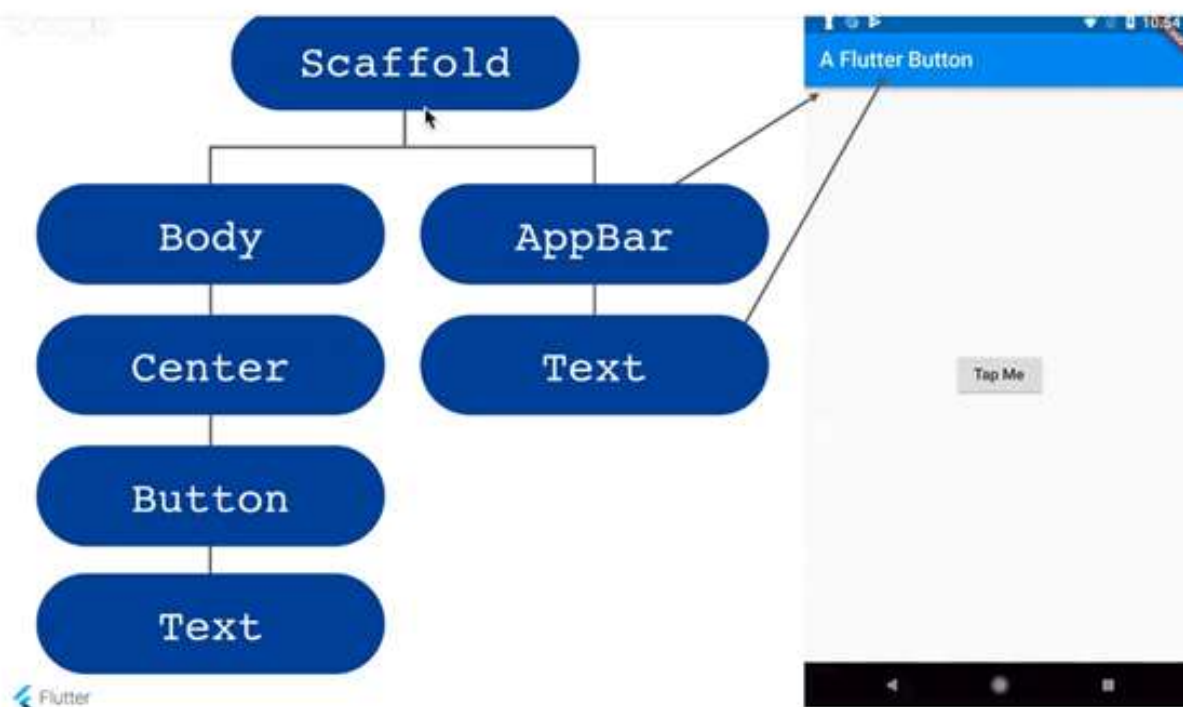


Copied from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=D4nhaszNW4o> at 3:34



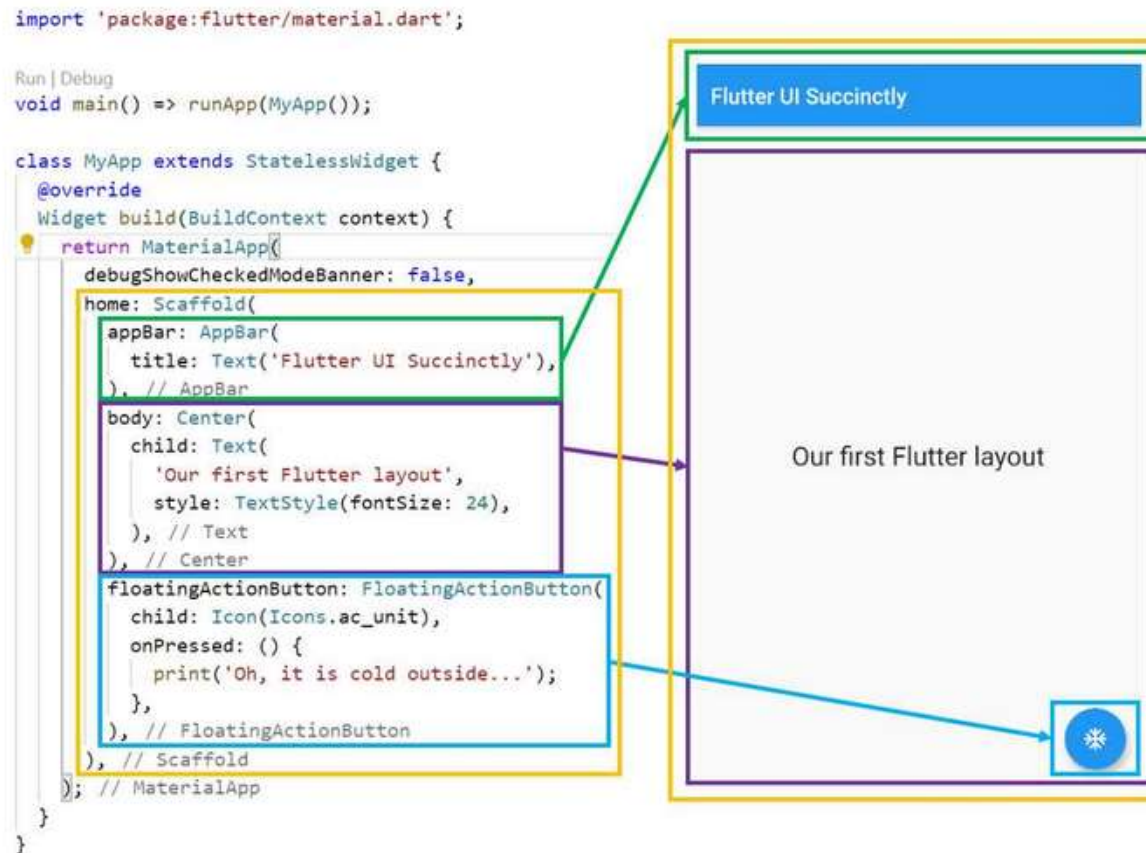
The widget tree below Scaffold

Scaffold widget





Scaffold's c-tor arguments





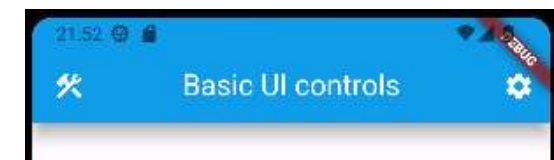
Defining an AppBar

```
@override
Widget build(BuildContext context) {
  return Scaffold(
    appBar: AppBar(
      title: const Text("Basic UI controls"),
    ), // AppBar
  );
}
```



Setting more properties:

```
appBar: AppBar(
  title: const Text("Basic UI controls"),
  centerTitle: true,
  backgroundColor: Colors.lightBlue,
  foregroundColor: Colors.white,
  shadowColor: Colors.grey,
  elevation: 10,
  leading: const Icon(Icons.construction),
  actions: [
    IconButton(onPressed: () {}, icon: const Icon(Icons.settings))
  ],
), // AppBar
```





More c-tor arguments for an AppBar

```
(new) AppBar AppBar({  
  Key? key,  
  Widget? leading,  
  bool automaticallyImplyLeading = true,  
  Widget? title,  
  List<Widget>? actions,  
  Widget? flexibleSpace,  
  PreferredSizeWidget? bottom,  
  double? elevation,  
  double? scrolledUnderElevation,  
  bool Function(ScrollNotification) notificationPredicate = defaultScrollNotificationPredicate,  
  Color? shadowColor,  
  Color? surfaceTintColor,  
  ShapeBorder? shape,  
  Color? backgroundColor,  
  Color? foregroundColor,  
  IconThemeData? iconTheme,  
  IconThemeData? actionsIconTheme,  
  bool primary = true,  
  bool? centerTitle,  
  bool excludeHeaderSemantics = false,  
  double? titleSpacing,  
  double toolbarOpacity = 1.0,  
  double bottomOpacity = 1.0,  
})
```



Defining a Floating Action Button

```
@override
Widget build(BuildContext context) {
  return Scaffold(
    appBar: AppBar( // AppBar ...

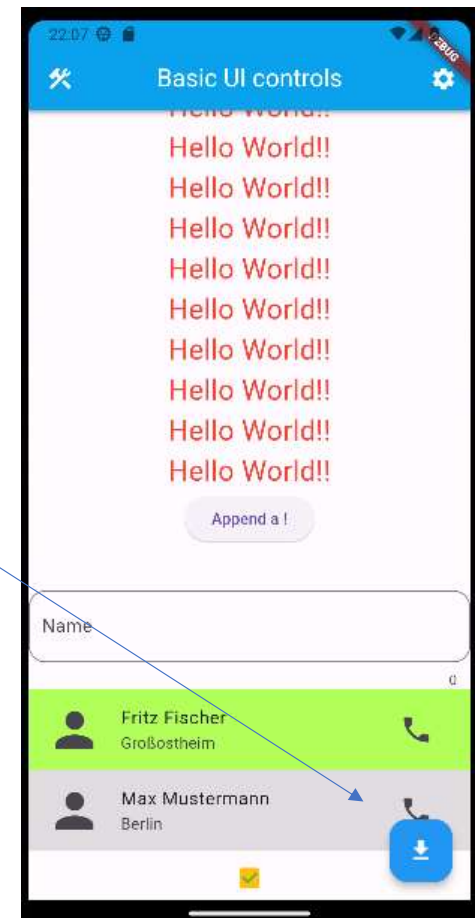
    floatingActionButton: FloatingActionButton(
      foregroundColor: Colors.white,
      backgroundColor: Colors.blue,
      onPressed: () {},
      child: const Icon(Icons.download),
    ), // FloatingActionButton
```

Properties:

It is displayed above the other UI elements.

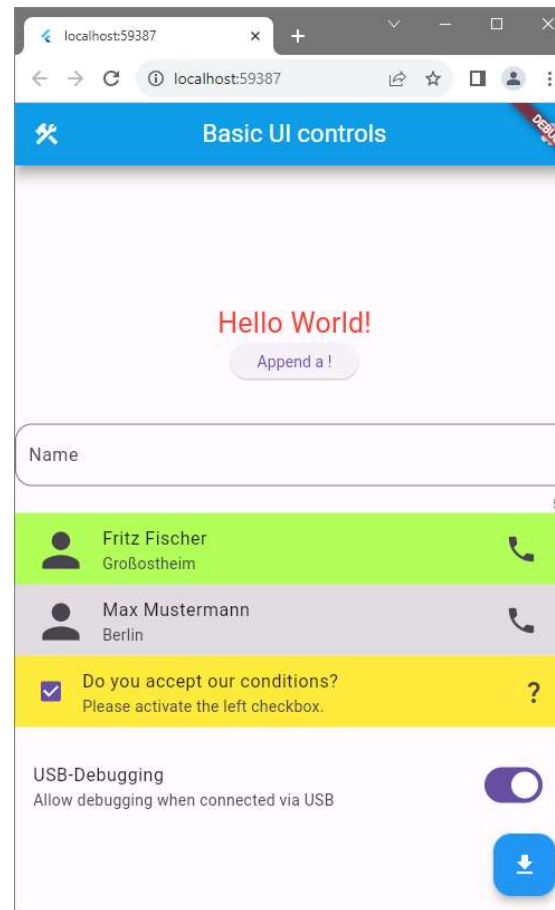
It stays at a fixed position during scrolling.

It “jumps up” when a virtual keyboard is swapped in.

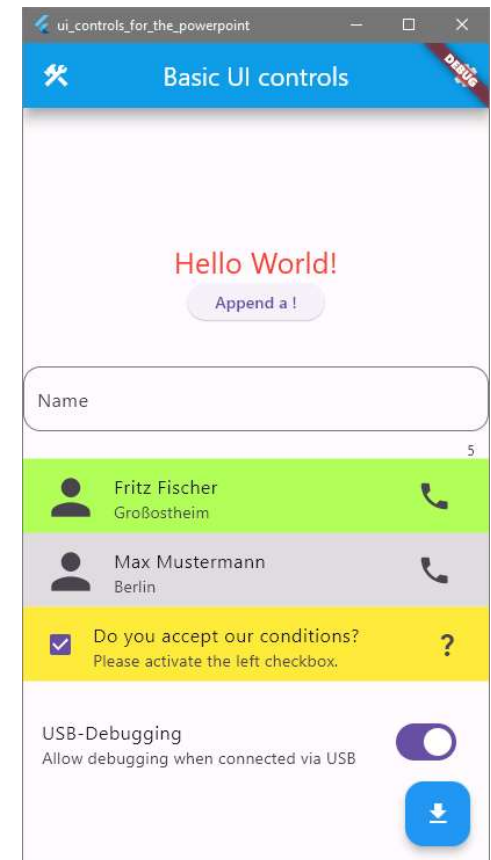




Same UI on different devices



As Windows app:

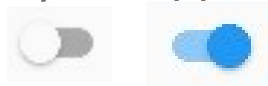




Exercise (based on what you learned about Checkbox and CheckboxListTile)

- Define a Switch in your App.

It has 2 states:



Hint: Let IntelliSense help you by entering “Sw” in a new line of your code.

- Define a SwitchListTile in your App which looks like



- Find and watch YouTube videos on Flutter Switch and Flutter SwitchListTile.

Some samples:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MnR2xBcqgw8>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J_8bZ2trhrM

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0igljvtEWNu>