# Introduction to Android

Session 1

# Learning Objectives

- At the end of this meeting is expected that students will be able to:
  - Explain the Java Programming language concept on Android

# Contents

- What is Android
- Android Architecture
- Setting Environment
- Build App
- Run App
- Refining App

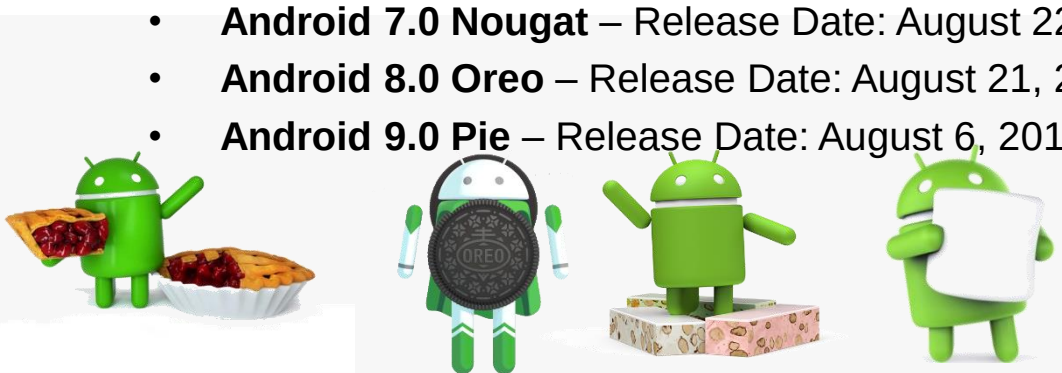
# What is Android

- Android is a **mobile operating system** that is based on a modified version of Linux.
- Developed by Android, Inc. and purchased by Google in 2005.
- It's a powerful development framework that includes everything you need to build great apps using mix java and XML.

# Android Version


- **Android 1.0 -** Release Date: September 23, 2008
- **Android 1.1 -** Release Date: February 9, 2009
- **Android 1.5 Cupcake –** Release Date: April 30, 2009
- **Android 1.6 Donut -** Release Date: September 15, 2009
- **Android 2.0/2.1 Éclair –** Release Date: October 26, 2009
- **Android 2.2 Froyo (Frozen Yogurt) –** Release Date: May 20, 2010
- **Android 2.3 Gingerbread -** Release Date: December 6, 2010
- **Android 3.0 Honeycomb -** Release Date: February 22, 2011
- **Android 4.0 Ice Cream Sandwich -** Release Date: October 19, 2011
- **Android 4.1 Jelly Bean -** Release Date: July 9, 2012.
- **Android 4.4 Kit Kat** – Release Date: October 31, 2013.
- **Android 5.0 Lollipop** – Release Date: November 12, 2014.
- **Android 6.0 Marshmallow** – Release Date: October 5, 2015.
- **Android 7.0 Nougat** – Release Date: August 22, 2016.
- **Android 8.0 Oreo** – Release Date: August 21, 2017.
- **Android 9.0 Pie** – Release Date: August 6, 2018





# Android Distribution

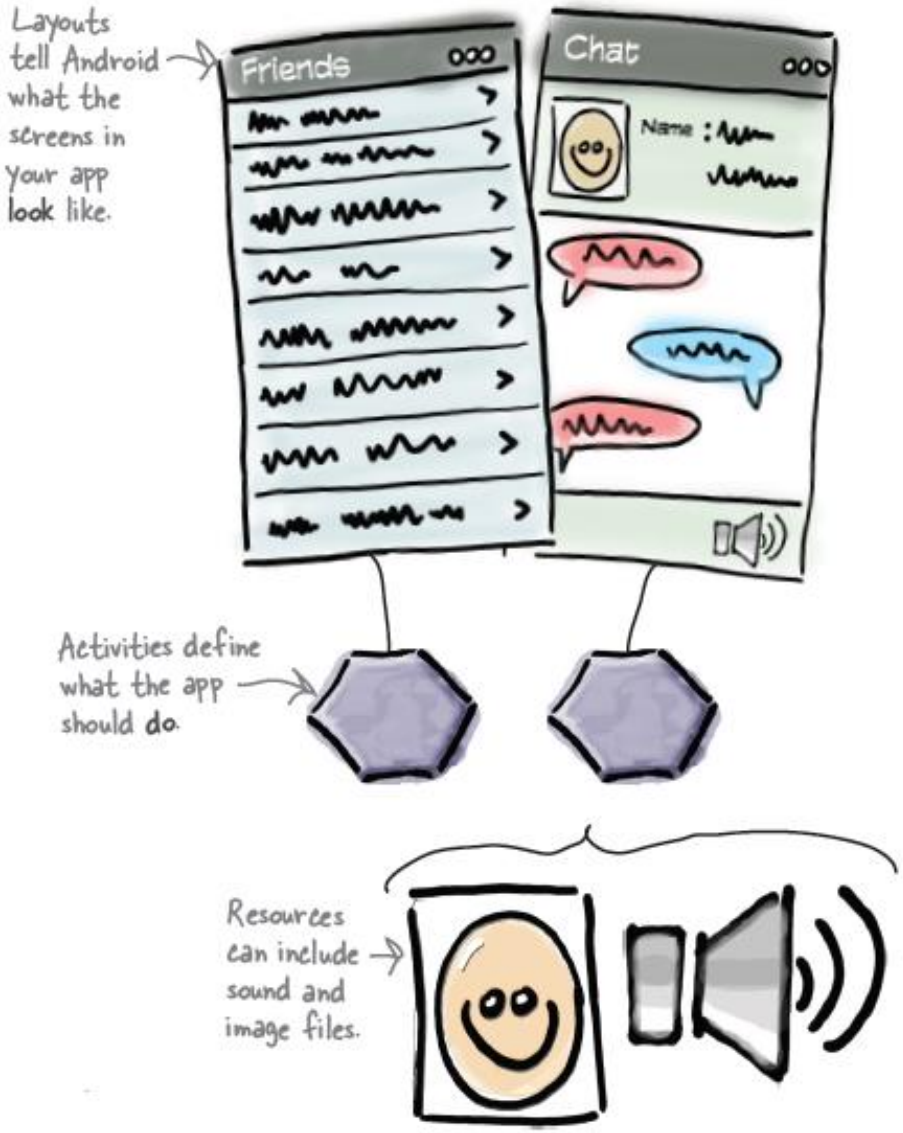
| Version | Codename | API | Distribution |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4.0.3 - 4.0.4 | Ice Cream Sandwich | 15 | 0.3% |
| 4.1.x | Jelly Bean | 16 | 1.1% |
| 4.2.x | | 17 | 1.5% |
| 4.3 | | 18 | 0.4% |
| 4.4 | KitKat | 19 | 7.6% |
| 5.0 | Lollipop | 21 | 3.5% |
| 5.1 | | 22 | 14.4% |
| 6.0 | Marshmallow | 23 | 21.3% |
| 7.0 | Nougat | 24 | 18.1% |
| 7.1 | | 25 | 10.1% |
| 8.0 | Oreo | 26 | 14.0% |
| 8.1 | | 27 | 7.5% |

# Android Architecture

The Android OS is roughly divided into five sections in four main layers:

- Linux Kernel
- Libraries
- Android Runtime
- Application Framework
- Applications

# What makes up a typical Android App?



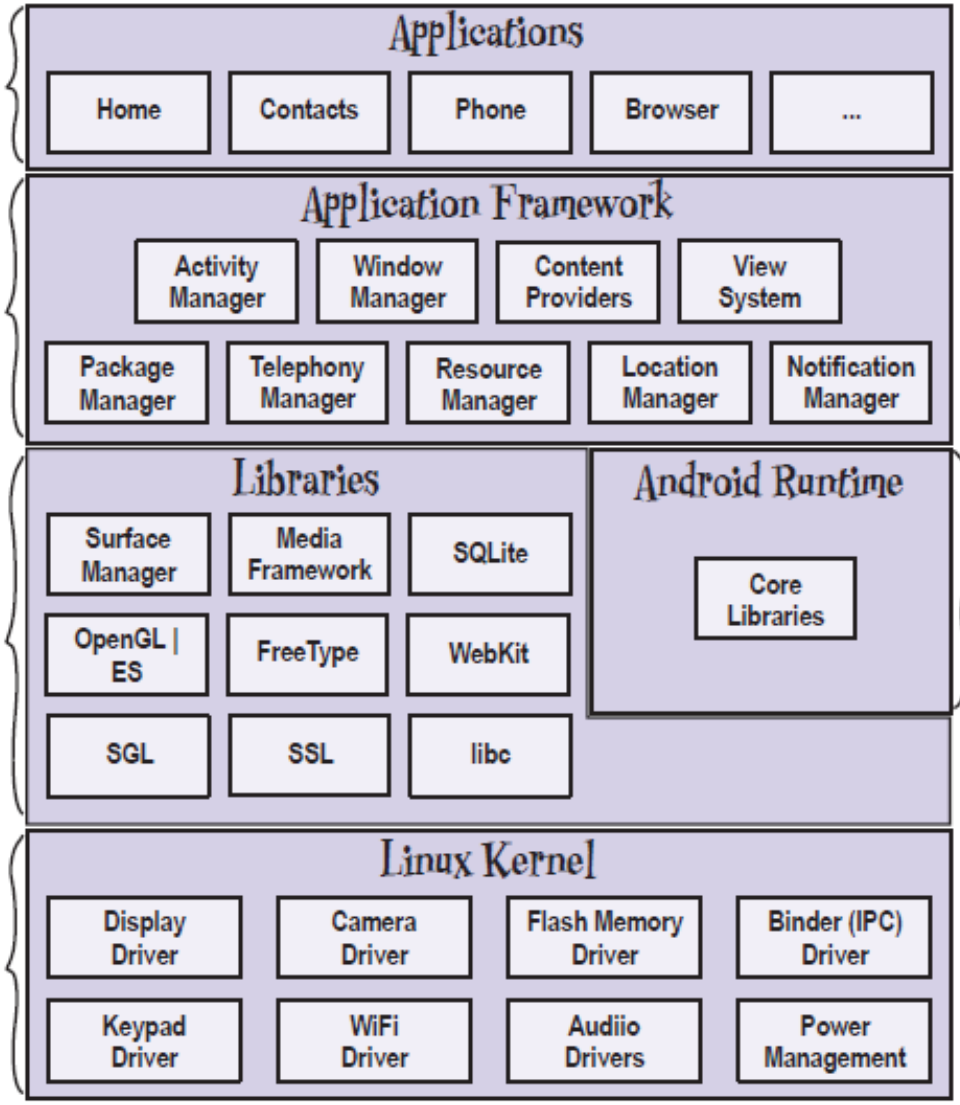
# Android Architecture

Android comes with a set of core applications such as Contacts, Calendar, Maps, and a browser.

When you build your apps, you have access to the same APIs used by the core applications. You use these APIs to control what your app looks like and how it behaves.

Underneath the application framework lies a set of C and C++ libraries. These libraries get exposed to you through the framework APIs.

Underneath everything else lies the Linux kernel. Android relies on the kernel for drivers, and also core services such as security and memory management.




The Android runtime comes with a set of core libraries that implement most of the Java programming language. Each Android app runs in its own process.

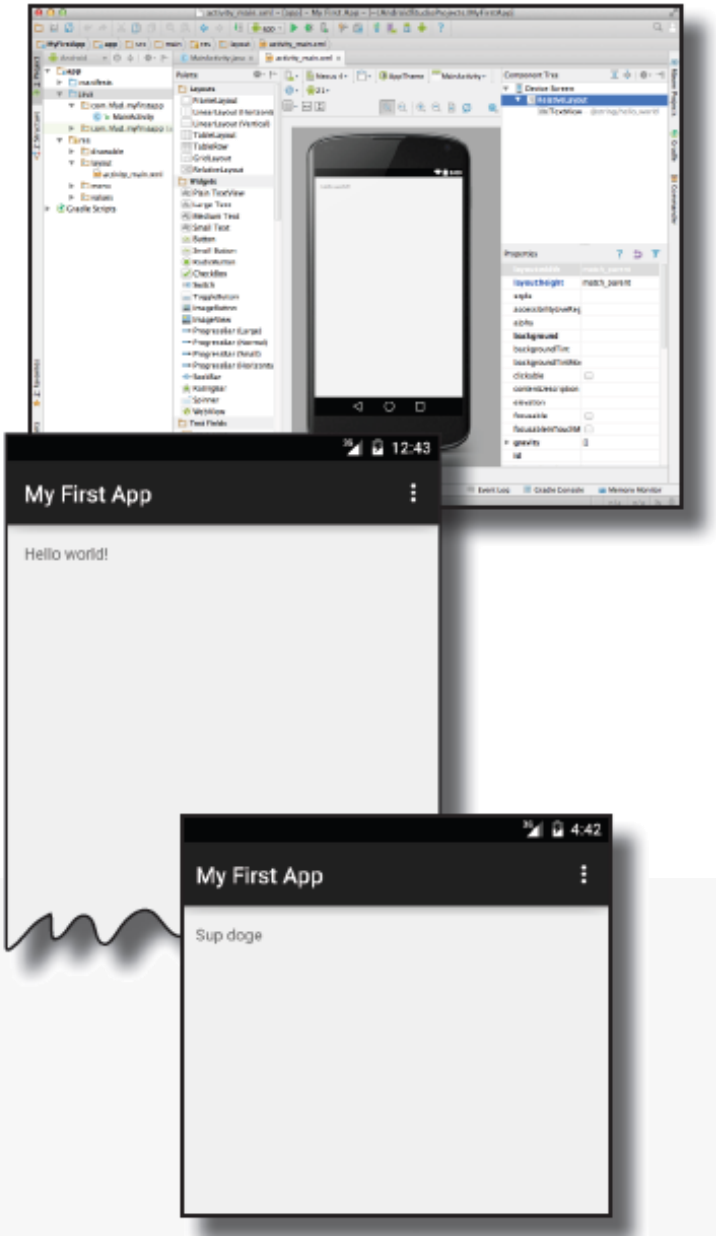
# What are we're going to do?

1. **Set up a development environment.**
We need to install Android Studio, which includes all the tools you need to develop your Android apps.

2. **Build a basic app.**
We'll build a simple app using Android Studio that will display some sample text on the screen.

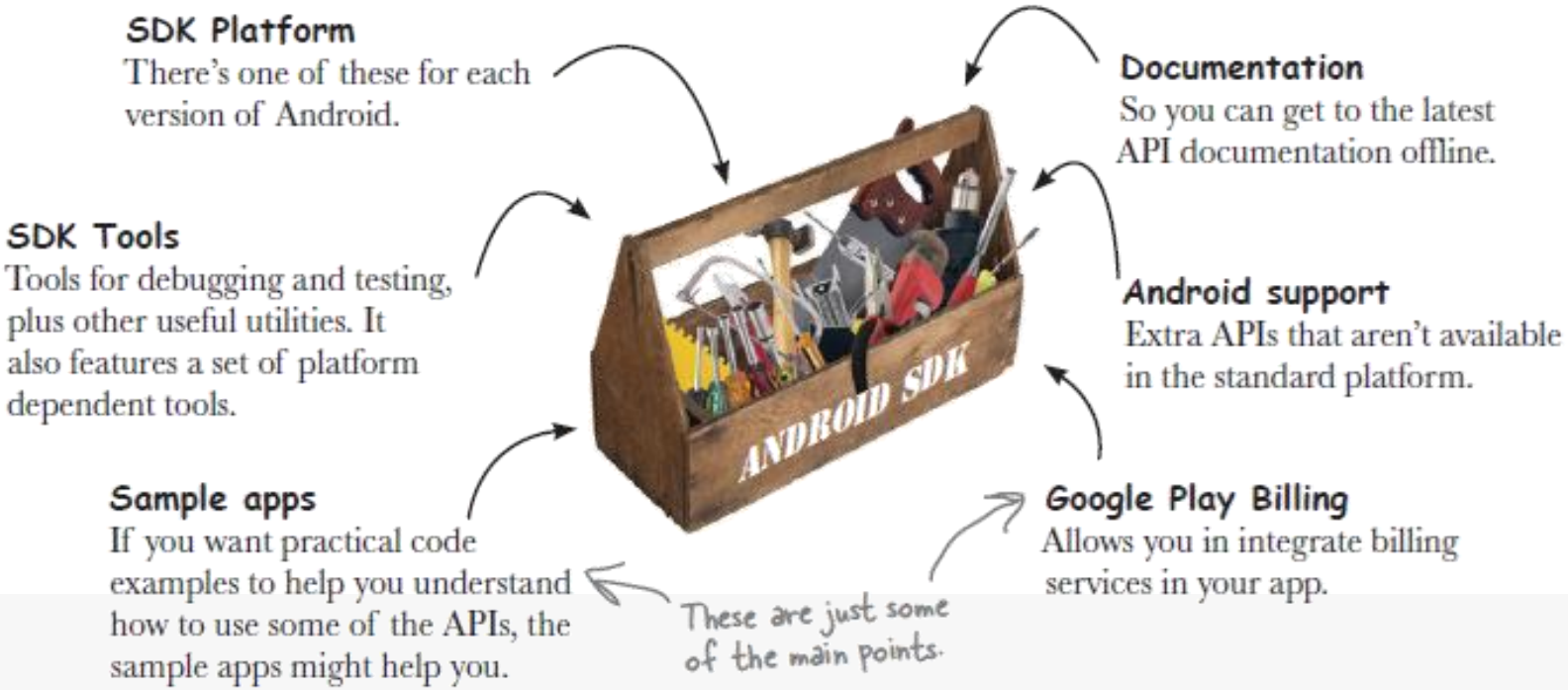
3. **Run the app in the Android emulator.**
We'll use the built-in emulator to see the app up and running.

4. **Change the app.**
Finally, we'll make a few tweaks to the app we created in step 2, and run it again.



# Getting Started – Set Up Environment

## The Android SDK



# Getting Started – Set Up Environment

## Android Studio is a special version of IntelliJ IDEA

- IntelliJ IDEA is one of the most popular IDEs for Java Development.
- Android Studio is a version of IDEA

## Install Java

- Android studio is Java development environment, so make sure the right java is installed on your machine.
- First, check android studio requirement of which Java Development Kit (JDK) and Java Runtime Edition (JRE).

*http://developer.android.com/sdk/index.html#Requirements*

- Get them and install

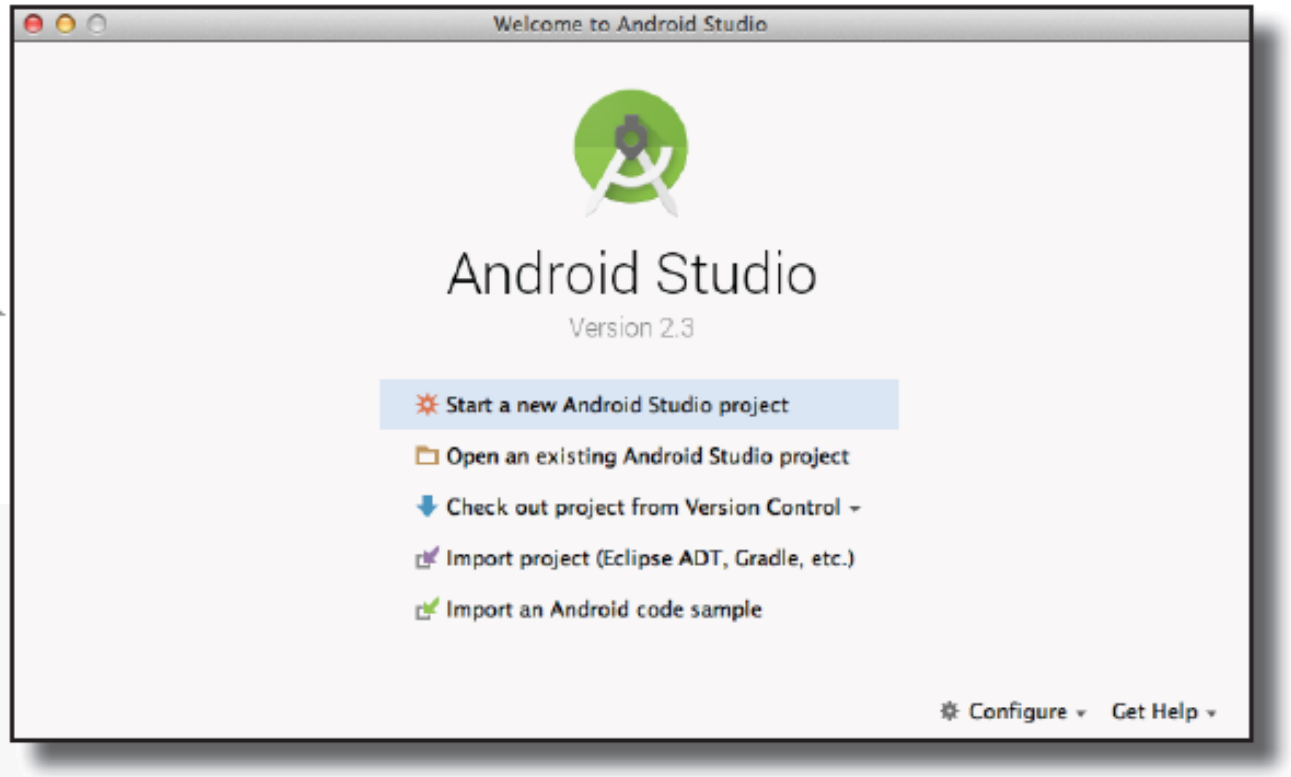
*http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javase/downloads/index.html*

# Getting Started – Set Up Environment

## Then install Android Studio

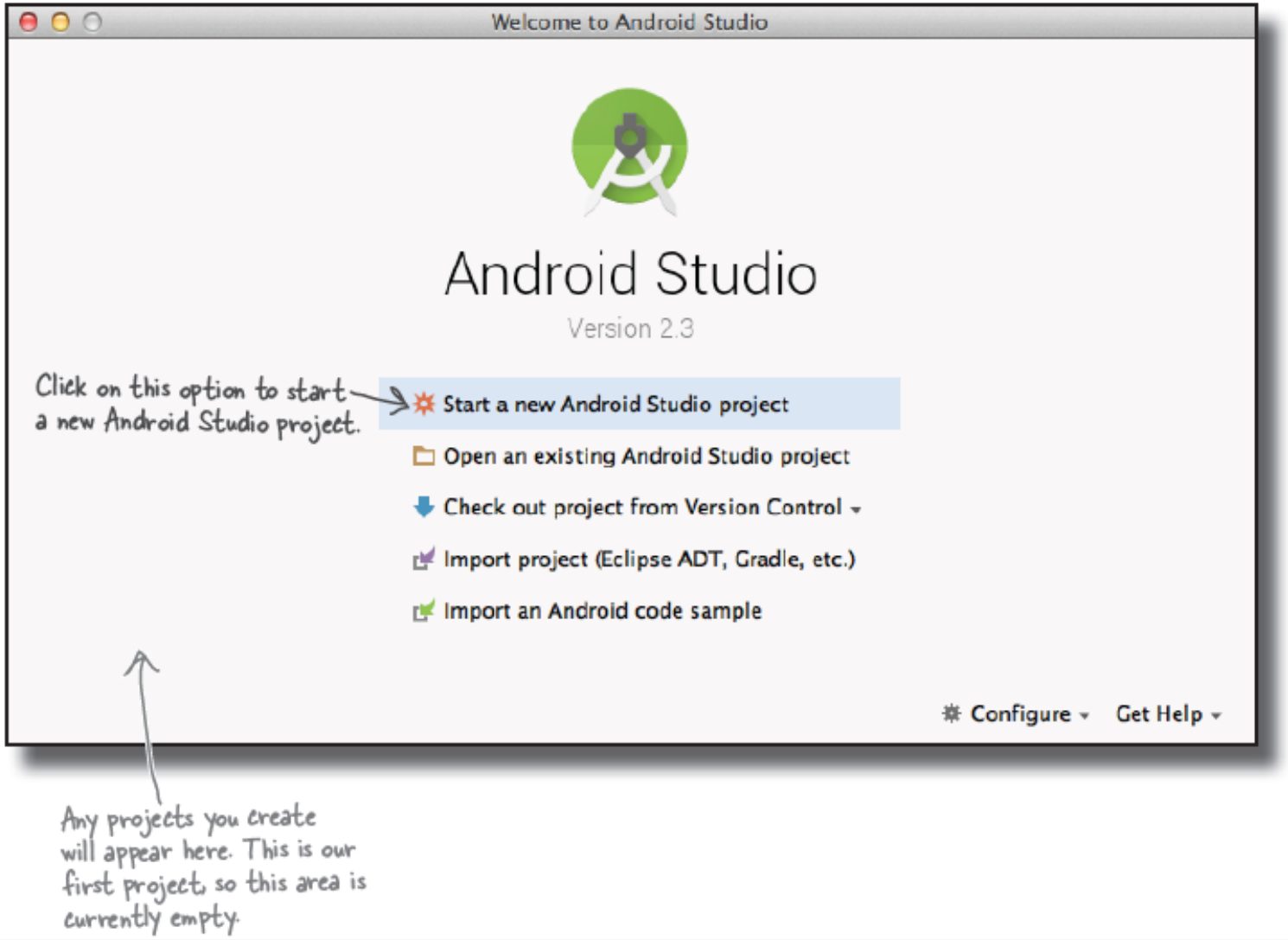
https://developer.android.com/sdk/installing/index.html?pkg=studio

This is the Android Studio welcome screen. It includes a set of options for things you can do.



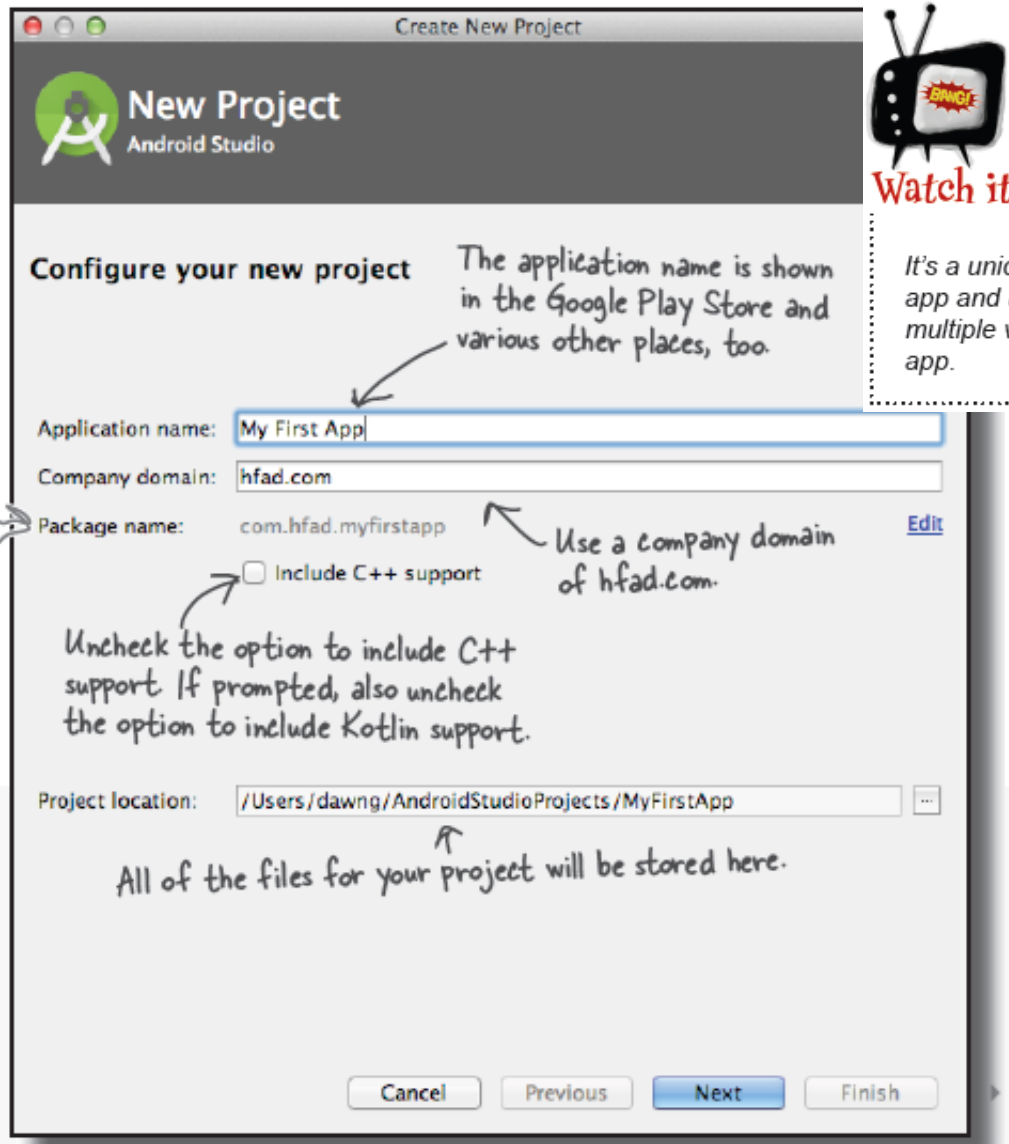
# Getting Started – Build App

## 1. Create a new Project



# Getting Started – Build App

## 2. Configure the Project




The wizard forms the package name by combining the application name and the company domain.



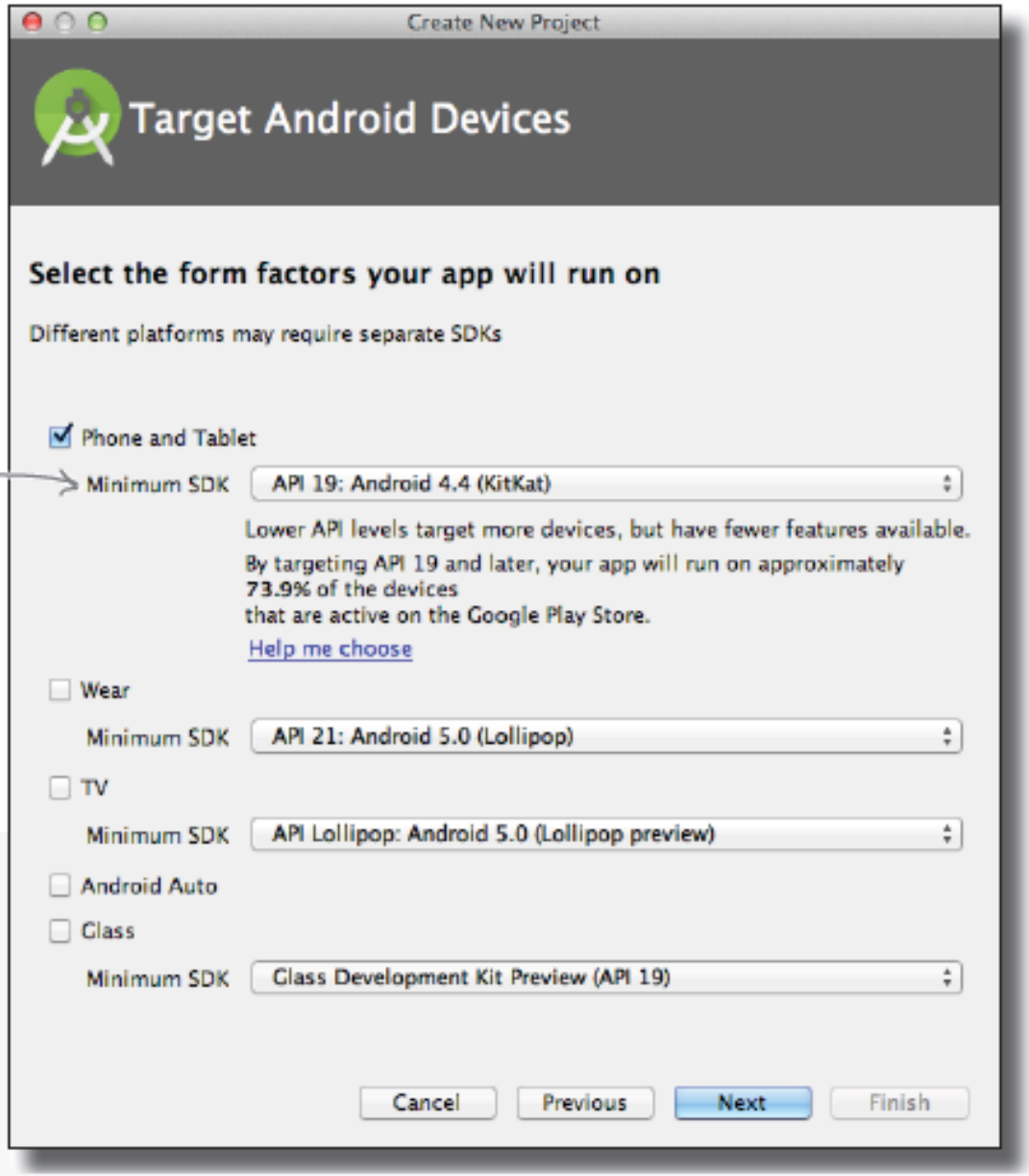

**The package name must stay the same for the lifetime of your app.**

*It's a unique identifier for your app and used to manage multiple versions of the same app.*

# Getting Started – Build App

## 3. Specify the API Level

The minimum required SDK is the lowest version your app will support. Your app will run on devices with this level API or higher. It won't run on devices with a lower API.



# API Level for Android Version

| Version | Codename | API level |
|---|---|---|
| 1.0 | | 1 |
| 1.1 | | 2 |
| 1.5 | Cupcake | 3 |
| 1.6 | Donut | 4 |
| 2.0–2.1 | Eclair | 5–7 |
| 2.2.x | Froyo | 8 |
| 2.3–2.3.7 | Gingerbread | 9–10 |
| 3.0 - 3.2 | Honeycomb | 11–13 |
| 4.0–4.0.4 | Ice Cream Sandwich | 14–15 |
| 4.1 - 4.3 | Jelly Bean | 16–18 |
| 4.4 | KitKat | 19–20 |
| 5.0–5.1 | Lollipop | 21–22 |
| 6.0 | Marshmallow | 23 |
| 7.0 | Nougat | 24 |
| 7.1–7.1.2 | Nougat | 25 |

Hardly anyone uses these versions anymore.

Most devices use one of these APIs.

**If you specify that your app is only compatible with the very latest version of the SDK, you might find that it can't be run on many devices in the first instance.**

# Getting Started – Build App

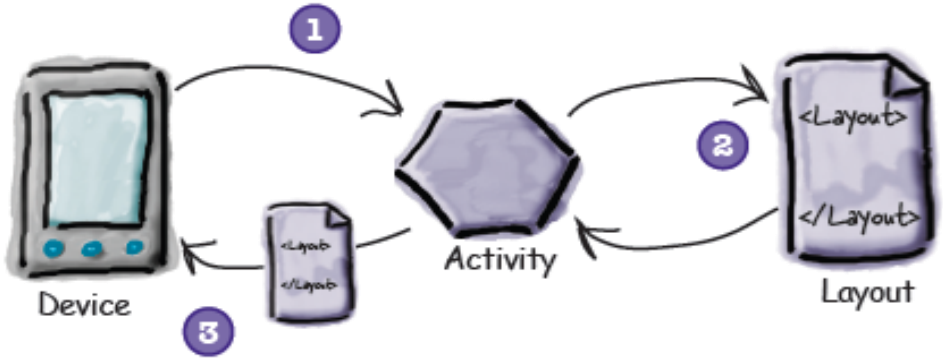
## Activity and Layout

- **An activity** is a single, defined thing that your user can do. Activities are usually associated with one screen, and they're written in java.
- **Activities** define actions.
- A **layout** describes the appearance of the screen. Layouts are written as XML files and they tell Android how the different screen elements are arranged.
- **Layout** define how the user interface is presented.

# Getting Started – Build App

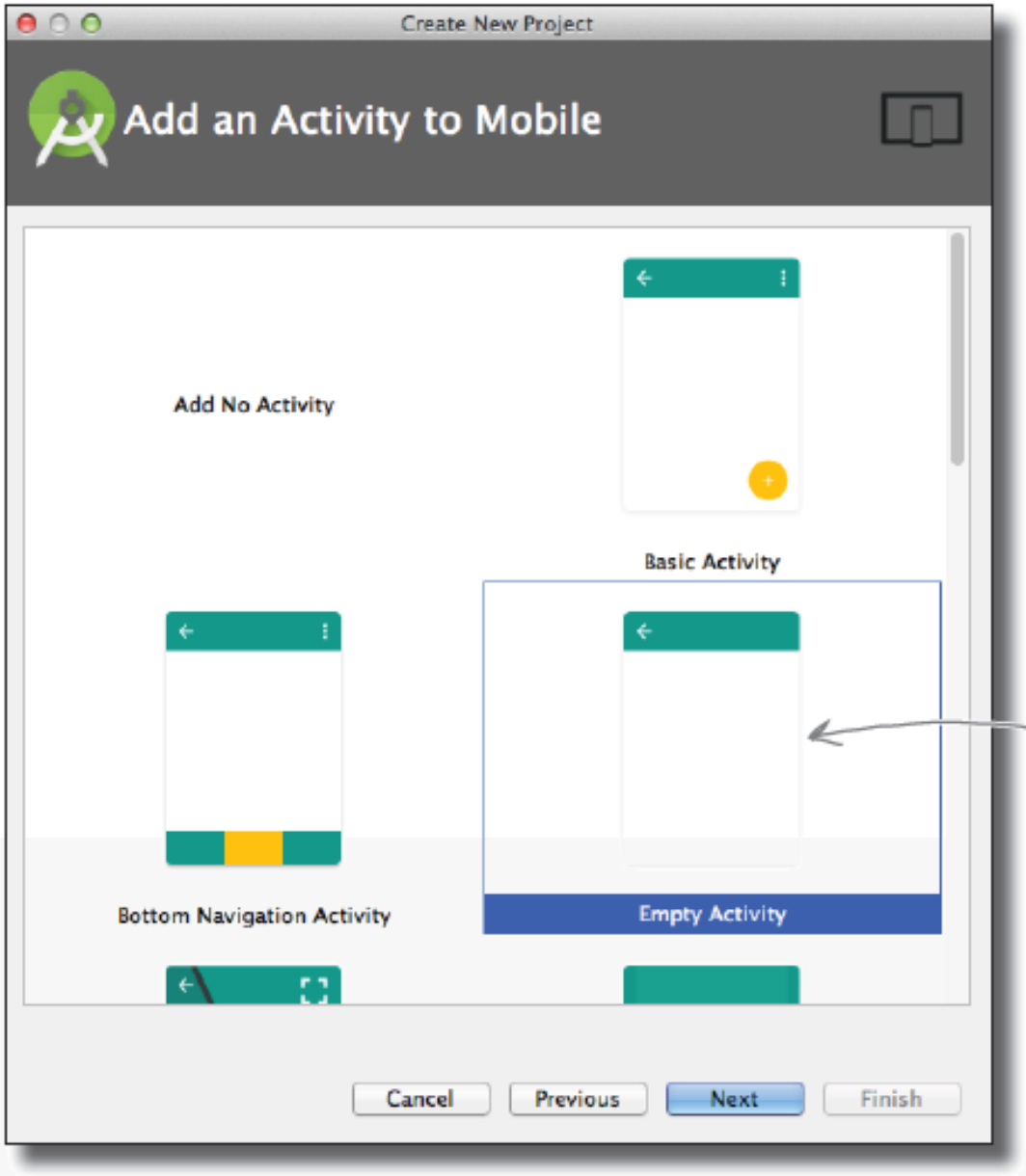
## Activity and Layout

1. The device launches your app and creates an activity object.
2. The activity object specifies a layout.
3. The activity tells Android to display the layout on screen.
4. The user interacts with the layout that's displayed on the device.
5. The activity responds to these interactions by running application code.
6. The activity updates the display...
7. ...which the user sees on the device.




# Getting Started – Build App

## 4. Create an Activity

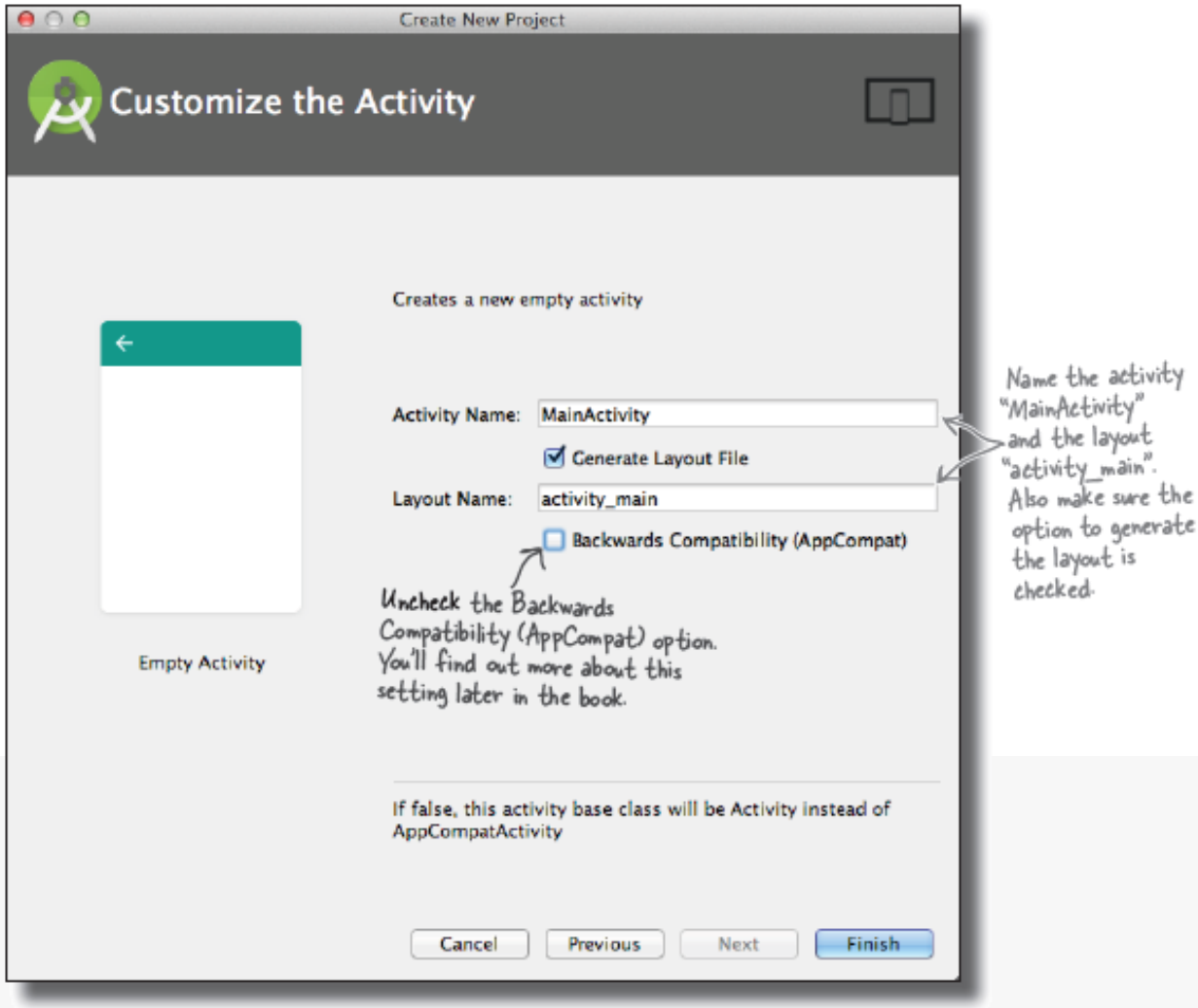



There are other types of activity you can choose from, but for this exercise make sure you select the Empty Activity option.

# Getting Started – Build App

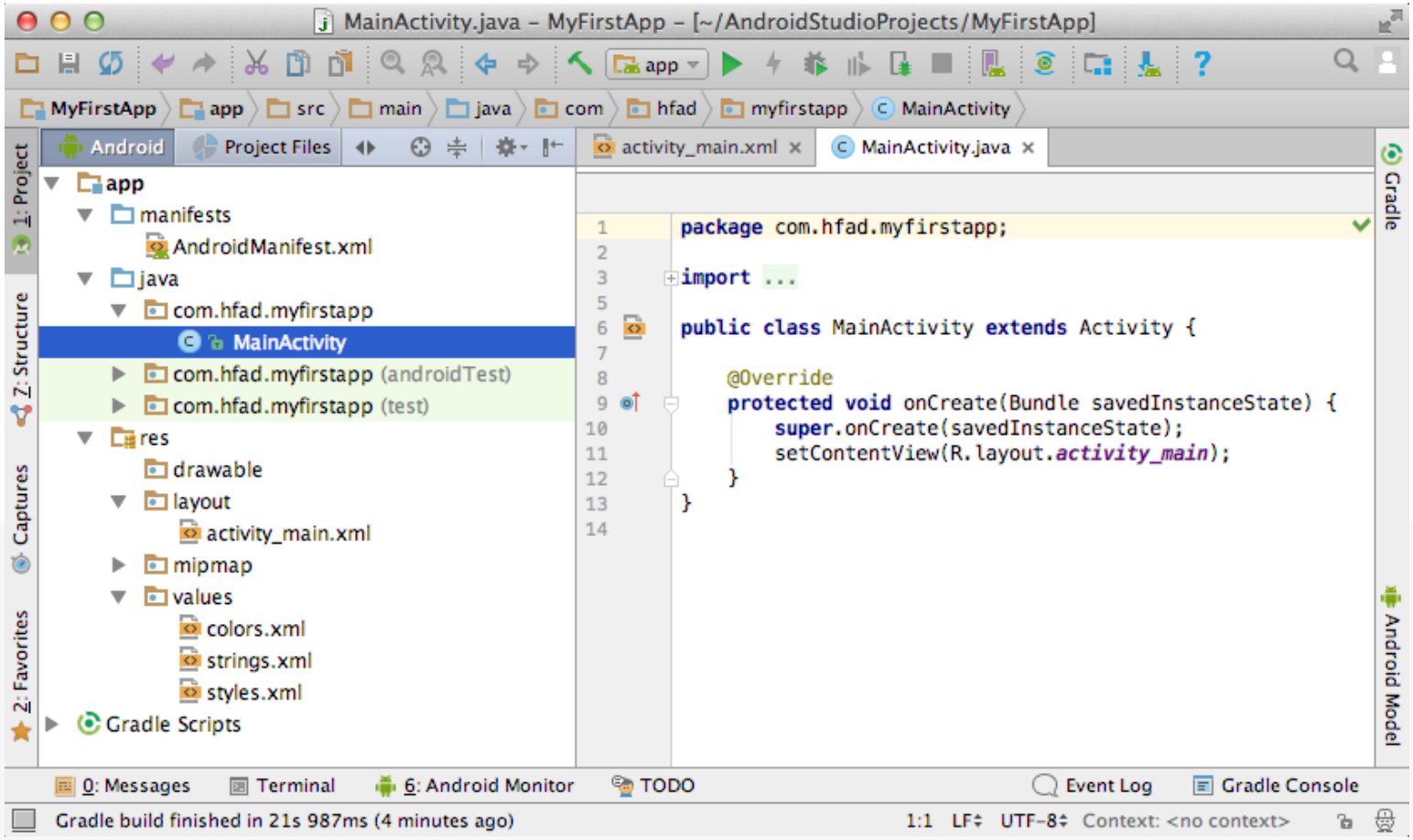
## 5. Configure the Activity

- The activity is a Java class, and the layout is an XML file, so the names we've given here will create a Java class file called *MainActivity.java and an XML file called activity_main.xml*.

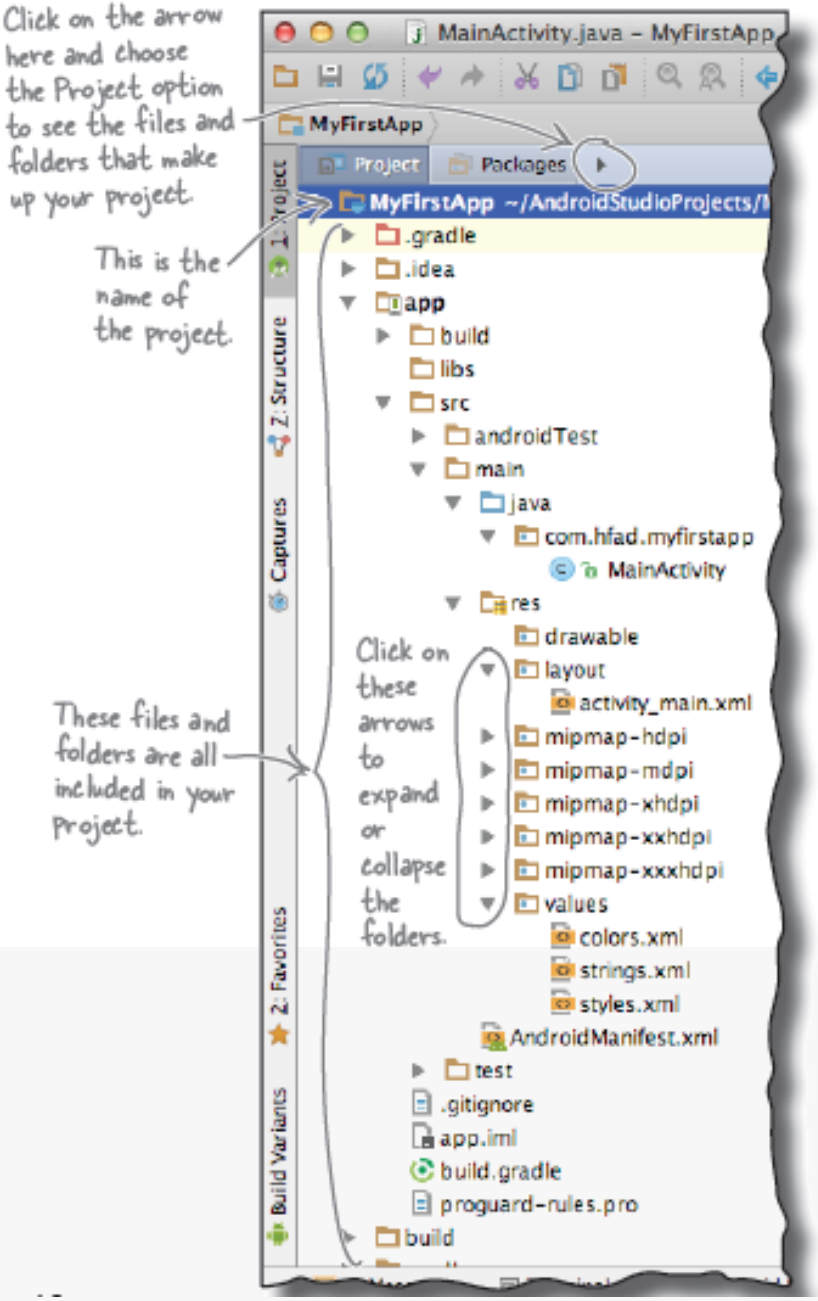


# What Just Happened?

- The Android Studio wizard created a project for your app, configured to your specifications.
- It created a basic activity and layout with template code.



# A complete Folder Structure



# The Folder Structure

- **Java and XML Files**

  These are the activity and layout files the wizard created for you.
- **Android-generated Java Files**

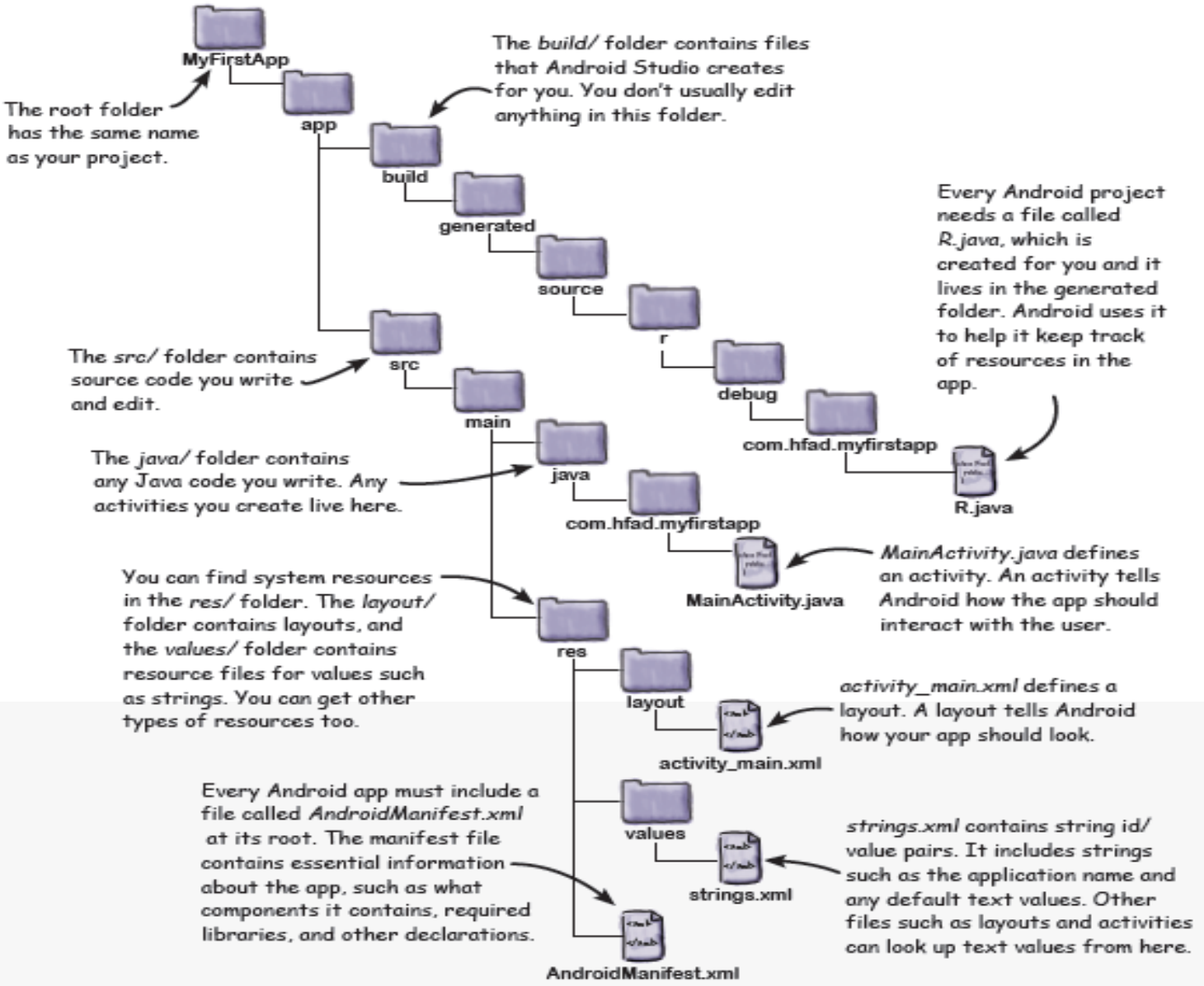
  There are some extra Java files you don't need to touch which Android Studio generates for you automatically.
- **Resources Files**

  These include default image files for icons, styles your app might use, and any common String values your app might want to look up.
- **Android Libraries**

  In the wizard, you specified the minimum SDK version you want your app to be compatible with. Android Studio makes sure it includes the relevant Android libraries for this version.
- **Configuration Files**

  The configuration files tell Android what's actually in the app and how it should run.

# Useful Files in Your Project

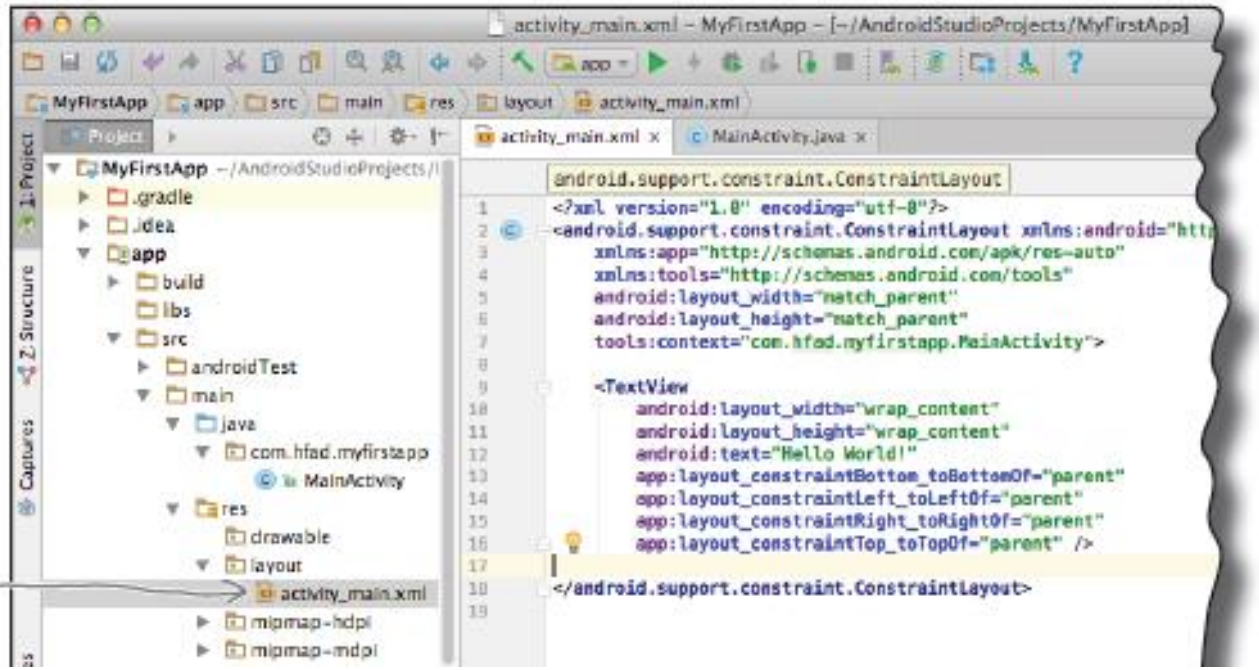


# Edit Code

## The code editor

Most files get displayed in the code editor, which is just like a text editor, but with extra features such as color coding and code checking.

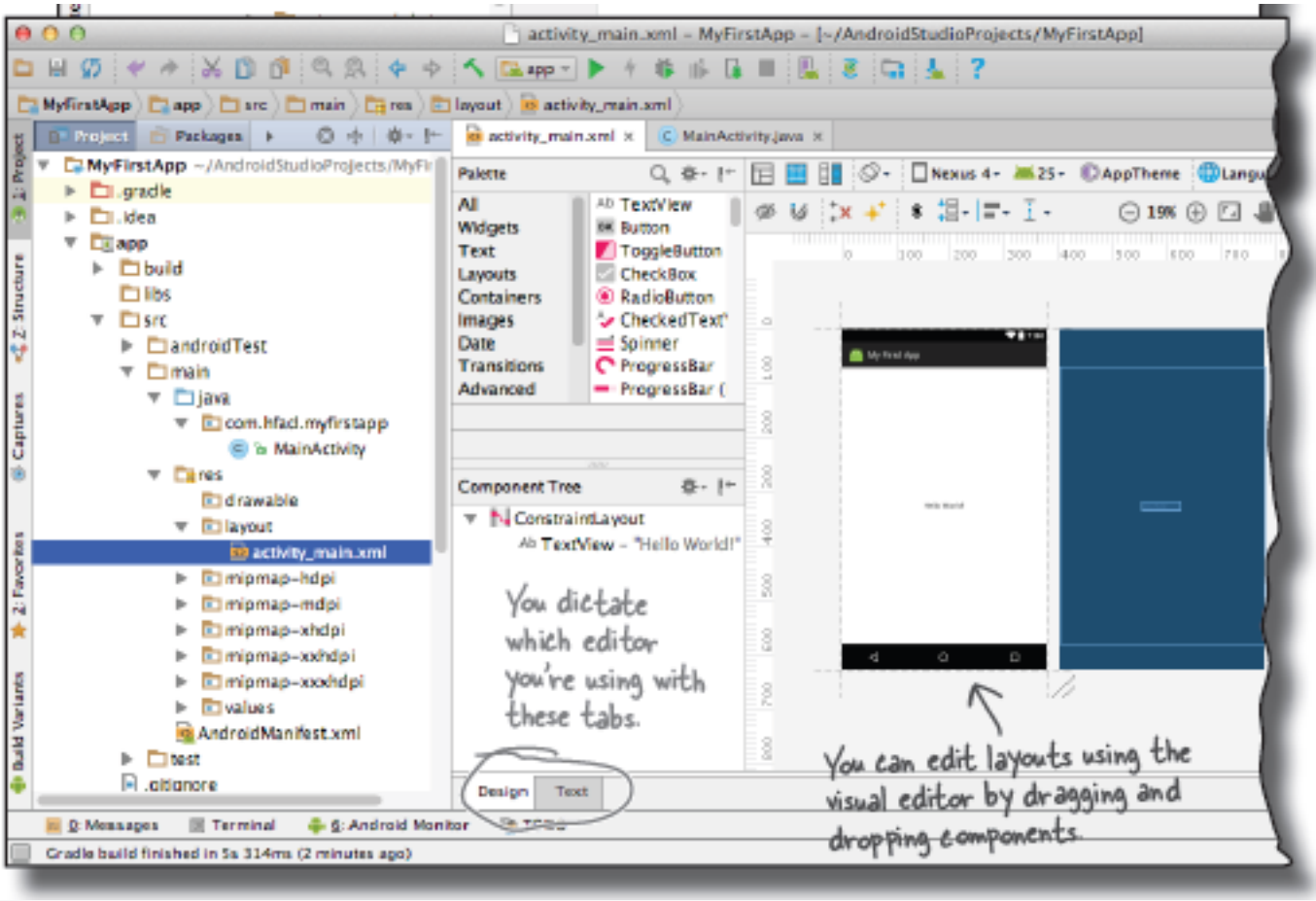
Double-click on the file in the explorer and the file contents appear in the editor panel.



# Edit Code

## The design editor

If you're editing a layout, you have an extra option. Rather than edit the XML (such as that shown on the next page), you can use the design editor, which allows you to drag GUI components onto your layout, and arrange them how you want. The code editor and design editor give different views of the same file, so you can switch back and forth between the two.



# Activity_main.xml

**activity_main.xml**

```
<RelativeLayout xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
xmlns:tools="http://schemas.android.com/tools"
android:layout_width="match_parent"
android:layout_height="match_parent"
android:paddingLeft="16dp"
android:paddingRight="16dp"
android:paddingTop="16dp"
android:paddingBottom="16dp"
tools:context=".MainActivity">

<TextView
    android:text="@string/hello_world"
    android:layout_width="wrap_content"
    android:layout_height="wrap_content" />

</RelativeLayout>
```

Add padding to the screen margins.

Display the text value of a string resource called `hello_world`.

Include a `TextView` GUI component for displaying text.

Make the layout the same width and height as the screen size on the device.

Make the text wrap horizontally and vertically.

# MainActivity.java

**MainActivity.java**

```
package com.hfad.myfirstapp;

import android.os.Bundle;
import android.app.Activity;

public class MainActivity extends Activity {

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

This is the package name.

These are Android classes used in `MainActivity`.

Specifies which layout to use.

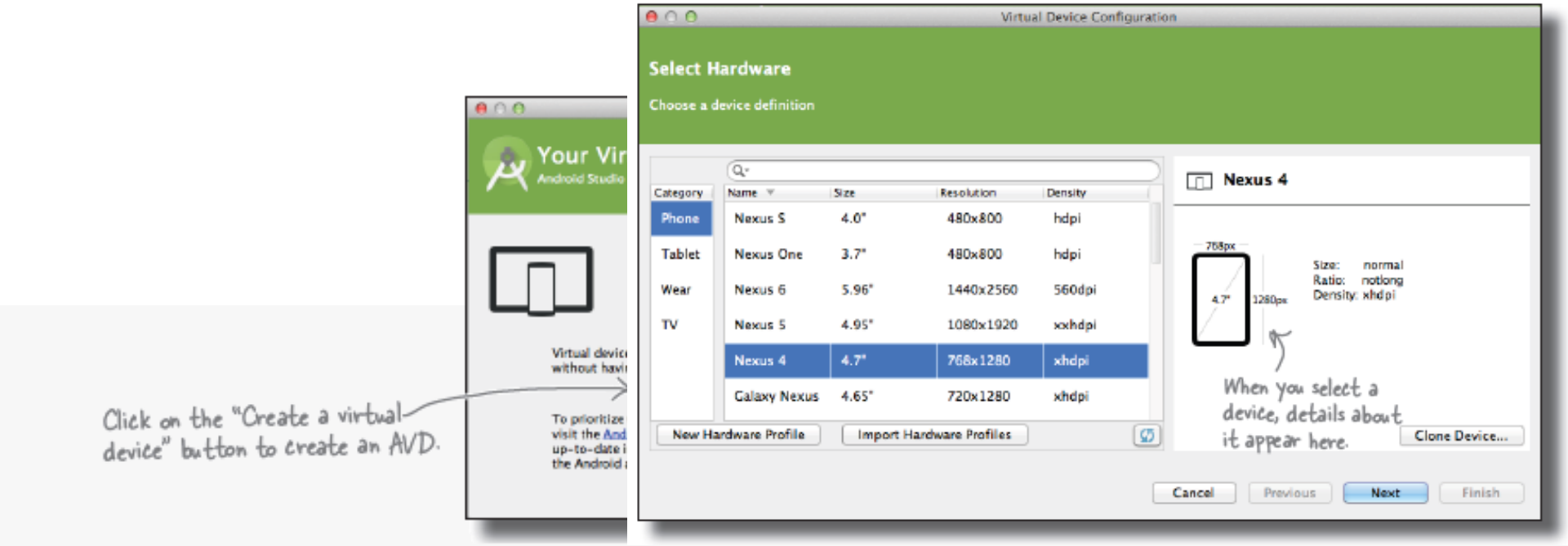
Implement the `onCreate()` method from the `Activity` class. This method is called when the activity is first created.

`MainActivity` extends the Android class `android.app.Activity`.

# Getting Started – Run App

## 1. Open AVD and Select the Hardware

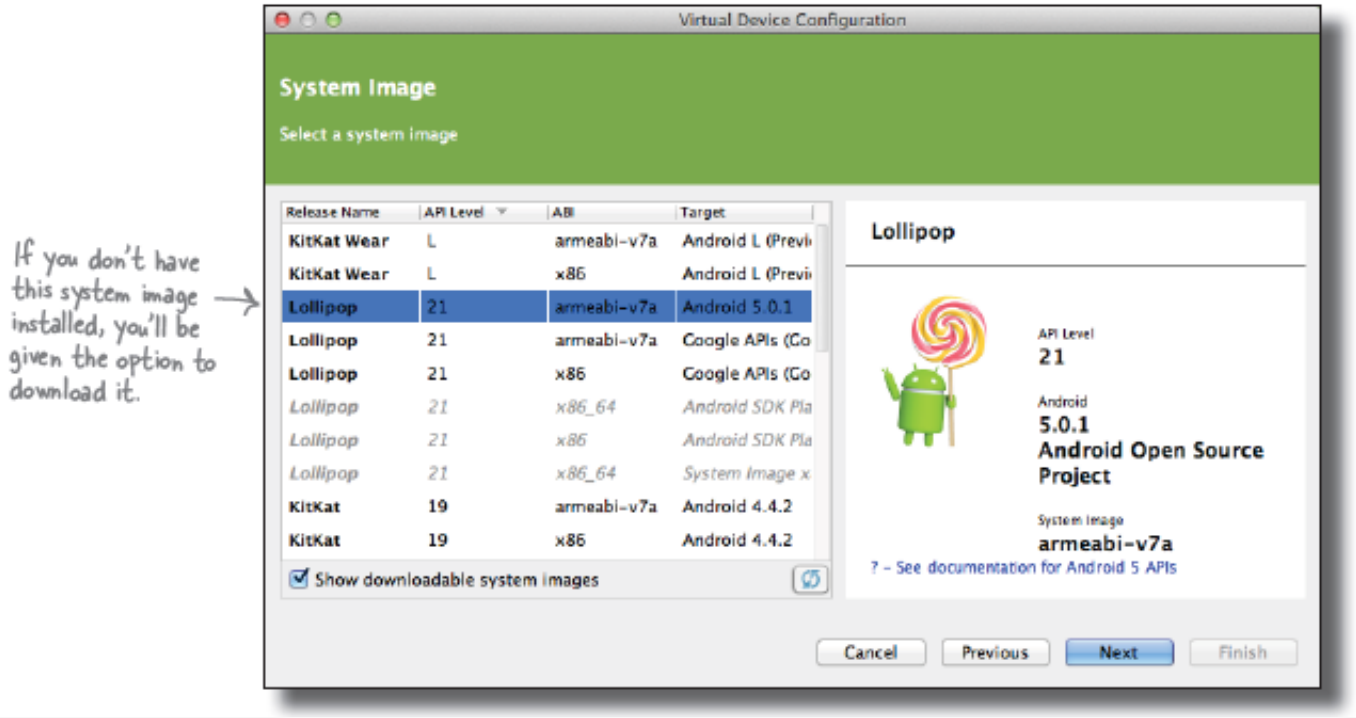
- The Android emulator allows you to run your app on an Android Virtual Device (AVD).
- AVD behaves just like physical Android device.
- You can set up numerous AVDs,each emulating a different type of devices.



# Getting Started – Run App

## 2. Creating an AVD

### Select a system Image



# Getting Started – Run App

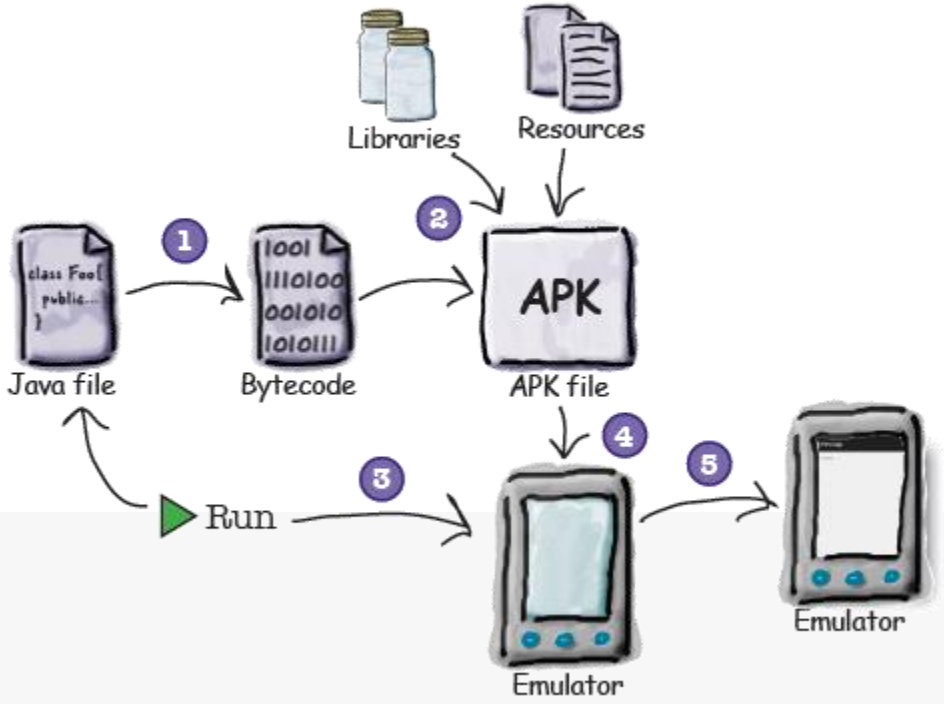
## 2. Creating an AVD

## Verify the AVD configuration

# Getting Started – Run App

## 3. Compile, Package, Deploy, and Run

- An APK File is an application package. It's basically a JAR or ZIP file for android application.




1. **The Java source files get compiled to bytecode.**

2. **An Android application package, or APK file, gets created.**
The APK file includes the compiled Java files, along with any libraries and resources needed by your app.

3. **Assuming there's not one already running, the emulator gets launched with the AVD.**

4. **Once the emulator has been launched and the AVD is active, the APK file is uploaded to the AVD and installed.**

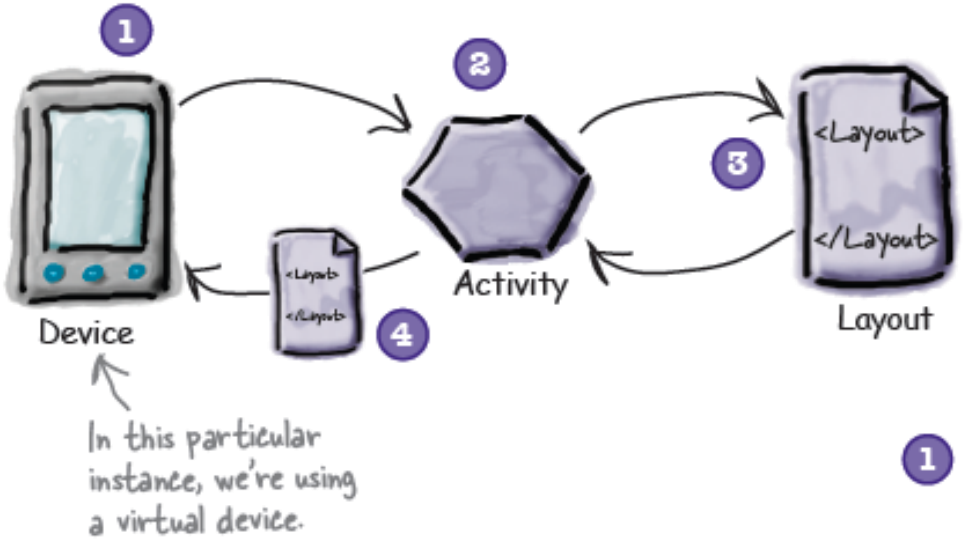
5. **The AVD starts the main activity associated with the app.**
Your app gets displayed on the AVD screen, and it's all ready for you to test out.

# Getting Started – Run App

## 4. Test Drive

# Getting Started – Run App

## 4. Test Drive (Cont.)




1. Android Studio launches the emulator, loads the AVD, and installs the app.

2. When the app gets launched, an activity object is created from MainActivity.java.

3. The activity specifies that it uses the layout activity_main.xml.

4. The activity tells Android to display the layout on the screen. The text "Hello world!" gets displayed.

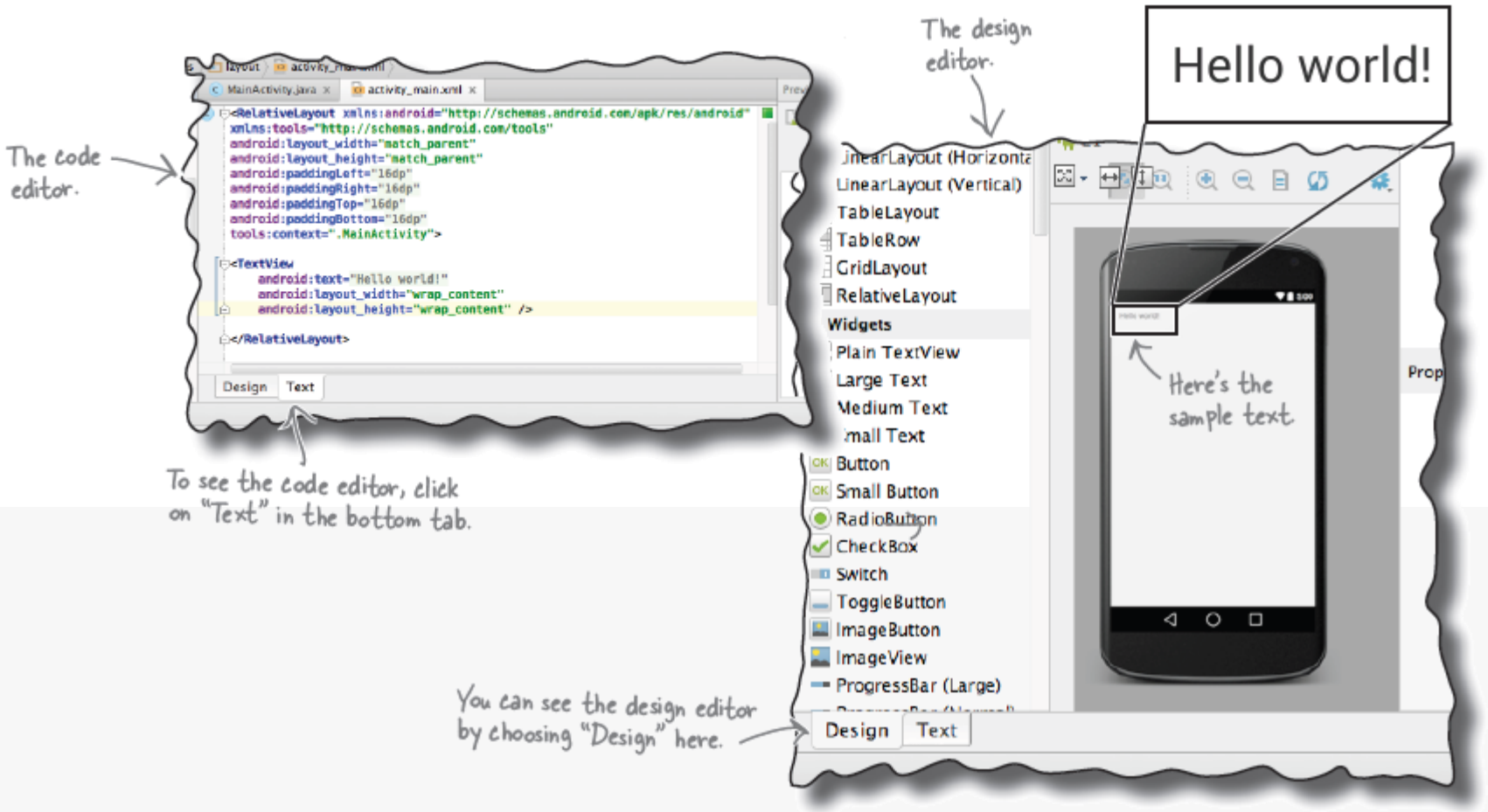
# Getting Started – Refining App

- The app has one activity and one layout

# Getting Started – Refining App

## What's in the Layout?

- There are two ways of viewing and editing layout files in Android studio through the **code editor** and **design editor**



# Getting Started – Refining App

## Activity_main.xml has 2 Elements

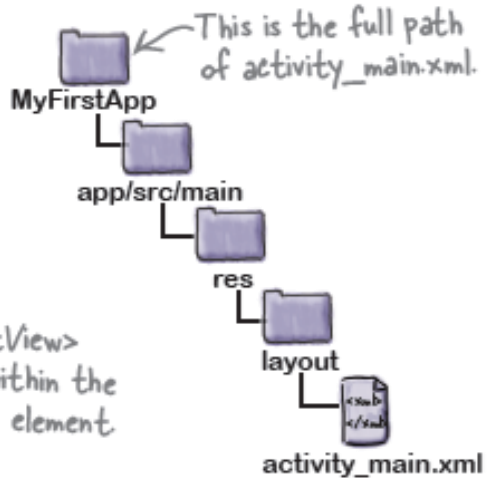
```
<RelativeLayout xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
    xmlns:tools="http://schemas.android.com/tools"
    android:layout_width="match_parent"
    android:layout_height="match_parent"
    ...
    tools:context=".MainActivity" >

    <TextView
        android:text="@string/hello_world"
        android:layout_width="wrap_content"
        android:layout_height="wrap_content" />
</RelativeLayout>
```

This is the <RelativeLayout> element.

Android Studio gave us more XML here, but you don't need to think about that just yet.

This is the <TextView> element nested within the <RelativeLayout> element.



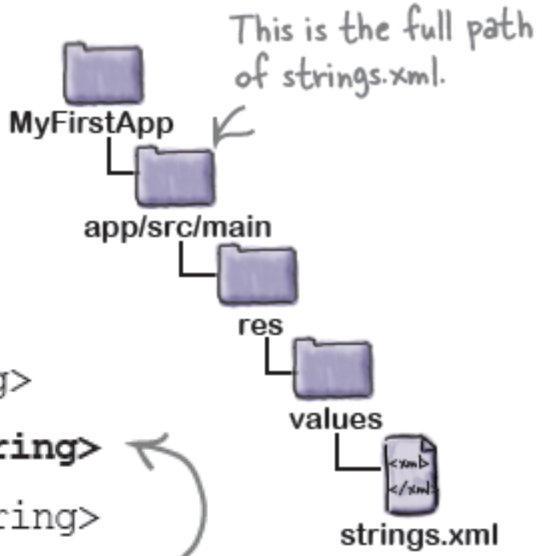
# Getting Started – Refining App

## Strings.xml

Display the text...

```
android:text="@string/hello_world" />
```

...for string resource hello_world.




```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<resources>
    <string name="app_name">My First App</string>
    <string name="hello_world">Hello world!</string>
    <string name="action_settings">Settings</string>
</resources>
```

strings.xml includes a string with a name of hello_world, and a value of "Hello world!".

- Put string values in string.xml rather than hardcoding them.
- String.xml is a resource file used to hold name/ value pairs of strings.

# Summary

## BULLET POINTS

- Versions of Android have a version number, API level, and code name.
- Android Studio is a special version of IntelliJ IDEA that interfaces with the Android Software Development Kit (SDK) and the Gradle build system.
- A typical Android app is composed of activities, layouts, and resource files.
- Layouts describe what your app looks like. They're held in the *app/src/main/res/layout* folder.
- Activities describe what your app does, and how it interacts with the user. The activities you write are held in the *app/src/main/java* folder.
- *AndroidManifest.xml* contains information about the app itself. It lives in the *app/src/main* folder.
- An AVD is an Android Virtual Device. It runs in the Android emulator and mimics a physical Android device.
- An APK is an Android application package. It's like a JAR file for Android apps, and contains your app's bytecode, libraries, and resources. You install an app on a device by installing the APK.
- Android apps run in separate processes using the Android runtime (ART).
- The `<TextView>` element is used for displaying text.

# References


- Head First Android Development. 2nd Edition. A Brain friendy guide. Dawn Griffiths and David Griffiths.O'reilly. ISBN:978-1-491-97405-6. Chapter 1
- https://developer.android.com/