

# Interacting with Other Apps

An Android app typically has several [activities](#) ([/guide/components/activities.html](#)). Each activity displays a user interface that allows the user to perform a specific task (such as view a map or take a photo). To take the user from one activity to another, your app must use an [Intent](#) ([/reference/android/content/Intent.html](#)) to define your app's "intent" to do something. When you pass an [Intent](#) ([/reference/android/content/Intent.html](#)) to the system with a method such as [startActivity\(\)](#) ([/reference/android/app/Activity.html#startActivity\(android.content.Intent\)](#)), the system uses the [Intent](#) ([/reference/android/content/Intent.html](#)) to identify and start the appropriate app component. Using intents even allows your app to start an activity that is contained in a separate app.

An [Intent](#) ([/reference/android/content/Intent.html](#)) can be *explicit* in order to start a specific component (a specific [Activity](#) ([/reference/android/app/Activity.html](#)) instance) or *implicit* in order to start any component that can handle the intended action (such as "capture a photo").

This class shows you how to use an [Intent](#) ([/reference/android/content/Intent.html](#)) to perform some basic interactions with other apps, such as start another app, receive a result from that app, and make your app able to respond to intents from other apps.

## DEPENDENCIES AND PREREQUISITES

- Basic understanding of the Activity lifecycle (see [Managing the Activity Lifecycle](#))

## YOU SHOULD ALSO READ

- [Sharing Simple Data](#)
- [Sharing Files](#)
- [Integrating Application with Intents \(blog post\)](#)
- [Intents and Intent Filters](#)

## Lessons

### **Sending the User to Another App**

Shows how you can create implicit intents to launch other apps that can perform an action.

### **Getting a Result from an Activity**

Shows how to start another activity and receive a result from the activity.

### **Allowing Other Apps to Start Your Activity**

Shows how to make activities in your app open for use by other apps by defining intent filters that declare the implicit intents your app accepts.