

Media Playback

The Android multimedia framework includes support for playing variety of common media types, so that you can easily integrate audio, video and images into your applications. You can play audio or video from media files stored in your application's resources (raw resources), from standalone files in the filesystem, or from a data stream arriving over a network connection, all using [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) APIs.

This document shows you how to write a media-playing application that interacts with the user and the system in order to obtain good performance and a pleasant user experience.

Note: You can play back the audio data only to the standard output device. Currently, that is the mobile device speaker or a Bluetooth headset. You cannot play sound files in the conversation audio during a call.

The Basics

The following classes are used to play sound and video in the Android framework:

[MediaPlayer](#)

This class is the primary API for playing sound and video.

[AudioManager](#)

This class manages audio sources and audio output on a device.

Manifest Declarations

Before starting development on your application using [MediaPlayer](#), make sure your manifest has the appropriate declarations to allow use of related features.

- **Internet Permission** - If you are using [MediaPlayer](#) to stream network-based content, your application must request network access.

```
<uses-permission android:name="android.permission.INTERNET" />
```

- **Wake Lock Permission** - If your player application needs to keep the screen from dimming or the processor from sleeping, or uses the [MediaPlayer.setScreenOnWhilePlaying\(\)](#) or [MediaPlayer.setWakeMode\(\)](#) methods, you must request this permission.

```
<uses-permission android:name="android.permission.WAKE_LOCK" />
```

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KEY CLASSES

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Using MediaPlayer

One of the most important components of the media framework is the [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) class. An object of this class can fetch, decode, and play both audio and video with minimal setup. It supports several different media sources such as:

- Local resources
- Internal URIs, such as one you might obtain from a Content Resolver
- External URLs (streaming)

For a list of media formats that Android supports, see the [Android Supported Media Formats](/guide/appendix/media-formats.html) (</guide/appendix/media-formats.html>) document.

Here is an example of how to play audio that's available as a local raw resource (saved in your application's `res/raw/` directory):

```
MediaPlayer mediaPlayer = MediaPlayer.create(context, R.raw.sound_file_1);
mediaPlayer.start(); // no need to call prepare(); create() does that for you
```

In this case, a "raw" resource is a file that the system does not try to parse in any particular way. However, the content of this resource should not be raw audio. It should be a properly encoded and formatted media file in one of the supported formats.

And here is how you might play from a URI available locally in the system (that you obtained through a Content Resolver, for instance):

```
Uri myUri = ....; // initialize Uri here
MediaPlayer mediaPlayer = new MediaPlayer();
mediaPlayer.setAudioStreamType(AudioManager.STREAM_MUSIC);
mediaPlayer.setDataSource(getApplicationContext(), myUri);
mediaPlayer.prepare();
mediaPlayer.start();
```

Playing from a remote URL via HTTP streaming looks like this:

```
String url = "http://....."; // your URL here
MediaPlayer mediaPlayer = new MediaPlayer();
mediaPlayer.setAudioStreamType(AudioManager.STREAM_MUSIC);
mediaPlayer.setDataSource(url);
mediaPlayer.prepare(); // might take long! (for buffering, etc)
mediaPlayer.start();
```

Note: If you're passing a URL to stream an online media file, the file must be capable of progressive download.

Caution: You must either catch or pass [IllegalArgumentException](/reference/java/lang/IllegalArgumentException.html) (</reference/java/lang/IllegalArgumentException.html>) and [IOException](/reference/java/io/IOException.html) (</reference/java/io/IOException.html>) when using [setDataSource\(\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#setDataSource(android.content.Context,android.net.Uri)) ([/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#setDataSource\(android.content.Context, android.net.Uri\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#setDataSource(android.content.Context,android.net.Uri))), because the file you are referencing might not exist.

Asynchronous Preparation

Using [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) can be straightforward in principle. However, it's important to keep in mind that a few more things are necessary to integrate it correctly with a typical Android application. For example, the call to [prepare\(\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#prepare()) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#prepare()) can take a long time to execute, because it might involve fetching and decoding media data. So, as is the case with any method that may take long to execute, you should **never call it from your application's UI thread**. Doing that will cause the UI to hang until the method returns, which is a very bad user experience and can cause an ANR (Application Not Responding) error. Even if you expect your resource to load quickly, remember that anything that takes more than a tenth of a second to respond in the UI will cause a noticeable pause and will give the user the impression that your application is slow.

To avoid hanging your UI thread, spawn another thread to prepare the [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) and notify the main thread when done. However, while you could write the threading logic yourself, this pattern is so common when using [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) that the framework supplies a convenient way to accomplish this task by using the [prepareAsync\(\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#prepareAsync()) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#prepareAsync()) method. This method starts preparing the media in the background and returns immediately. When the media is done preparing, the [onPrepared\(\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.OnPreparedListener.html#onPrepared(android.media.MediaPlayer)) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.OnPreparedListener.html#onPrepared(android.media.MediaPlayer)) method of the [MediaPlayer.OnPreparedListener](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.OnPreparedListener.html) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.OnPreparedListener.html), configured through [setOnPreparedListener\(\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#setOnPreparedListener(android.media.MediaPlayer.OnPreparedListener)) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#setOnPreparedListener(android.media.MediaPlayer.OnPreparedListener)) is called.

Managing State

Another aspect of a [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) that you should keep in mind is that it's state-based. That is, the [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) has an internal state that you must always be aware of when writing your code, because certain operations are only valid when the player is in specific states. If you perform an operation while in the wrong state, the system may throw an exception or cause other undesirable behaviors.

The documentation in the [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) class shows a complete state diagram, that clarifies which methods move the [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) from one state to another. For example, when you create a new [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html), it is in the *Idle* state. At that point, you should initialize it by calling [setDataSource\(\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#setDataSource(android.content.Context, android.net.Uri)) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#setDataSource(android.content.Context, android.net.Uri)), bringing it to the *Initialized* state. After that, you have to prepare it using either the [prepare\(\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#prepare()) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#prepare()) or [prepareAsync\(\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#prepareAsync()) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#prepareAsync()) method. When the [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) is done preparing, it will then enter the *Prepared* state, which means you can call [start\(\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#start()) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#start()) to make it play the media. At that point, as the diagram illustrates, you can move between the *Started*, *Paused* and *PlaybackCompleted* states by calling such methods as [start\(\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#start()) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#start()), [pause\(\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#pause()) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#pause()), and [seekTo\(\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#seekTo(int)) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#seekTo(int)), amongst others. When you call [stop\(\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#stop()) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#stop()), however, notice that you cannot call [start\(\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#start()) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#start()) again until you prepare the [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) again.

Always keep the state diagram (/images/mediaplayer_state_diagram.gif) in mind when writing code that interacts with a [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) object, because calling its methods from

the wrong state is a common cause of bugs.

Releasing the MediaPlayer

A [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) can consume valuable system resources. Therefore, you should always take extra precautions to make sure you are not hanging on to a [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) instance longer than necessary. When you are done with it, you should always call [`release\(\)`](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#release()) ([`release\(\)`](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#release())) to make sure any system resources allocated to it are properly released. For example, if you are using a [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) and your activity receives a call to [`onStop\(\)`](/reference/android/app/Activity.html#onStop()) ([`onStop\(\)`](/reference/android/app/Activity.html#onStop())), you must release the [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>), because it makes little sense to hold on to it while your activity is not interacting with the user (unless you are playing media in the background, which is discussed in the next section). When your activity is resumed or restarted, of course, you need to create a new [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) and prepare it again before resuming playback.

Here's how you should release and then nullify your [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>):

```
mediaPlayer.release();  
mediaPlayer = null;
```

As an example, consider the problems that could happen if you forgot to release the [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) when your activity is stopped, but create a new one when the activity starts again. As you may know, when the user changes the screen orientation (or changes the device configuration in another way), the system handles that by restarting the activity (by default), so you might quickly consume all of the system resources as the user rotates the device back and forth between portrait and landscape, because at each orientation change, you create a new [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) that you never release. (For more information about runtime restarts, see [Handling Runtime Changes](/guide/topics/resources/runtime-changes.html) (</guide/topics/resources/runtime-changes.html>).)

You may be wondering what happens if you want to continue playing "background media" even when the user leaves your activity, much in the same way that the built-in Music application behaves. In this case, what you need is a [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) controlled by a [Service](/reference/android/app/Service.html) (</reference/android/app/Service.html>), as discussed in [Using a Service with MediaPlayer](#) ([#mpandservices](#)).

Using a Service with MediaPlayer

If you want your media to play in the background even when your application is not onscreen—that is, you want it to continue playing while the user is interacting with other applications—then you must start a [Service](/reference/android/app/Service.html) (</reference/android/app/Service.html>) and control the [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) instance from there. You should be careful about this setup, because the user and the system have expectations about how an application running a background service should interact with the rest of the system. If your application does not fulfil those expectations, the user may have a bad experience. This section describes the main issues that you should be aware of and offers suggestions about how to approach them.

Running asynchronously

First of all, like an [Activity](/reference/android/app/Activity.html) (</reference/android/app/Activity.html>), all work in a [Service](/reference/android/app/Service.html) (</reference/android/app/Service.html>) is done in a single thread by default—in fact, if you're running an activity and a

service from the same application, they use the same thread (the "main thread") by default. Therefore, services need to process incoming intents quickly and never perform lengthy computations when responding to them. If any heavy work or blocking calls are expected, you must do those tasks asynchronously: either from another thread you implement yourself, or using the framework's many facilities for asynchronous processing.

For instance, when using a [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) from your main thread, you should call [prepareAsync\(\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#prepareAsync()) rather than [prepare\(\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#prepare()), and implement a [MediaPlayer.OnPreparedListener](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.OnPreparedListener.html) in order to be notified when the preparation is complete and you can start playing. For example:

```
public class MyService extends Service implements MediaPlayer.OnPreparedListener {
    private static final ACTION_PLAY = "com.example.action.PLAY";
    MediaPlayer mMediaPlayer = null;

    public int onStartCommand(Intent intent, int flags, int startId) {
        ...
        if (intent.getAction().equals(ACTION_PLAY)) {
            mMediaPlayer = ... // initialize it here
            mMediaPlayer.setOnPreparedListener(this);
            mMediaPlayer.prepareAsync(); // prepare async to not block main thread
        }
    }

    /** Called when MediaPlayer is ready */
    public void onPrepared(MediaPlayer player) {
        player.start();
    }
}
```

Handling asynchronous errors

On synchronous operations, errors would normally be signaled with an exception or an error code, but whenever you use asynchronous resources, you should make sure your application is notified of errors appropriately. In the case of a [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html), you can accomplish this by implementing a [MediaPlayer.OnErrorListener](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.OnErrorListener.html) and setting it in your [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) instance:

```
public class MyService extends Service implements MediaPlayer.OnErrorListener {
    MediaPlayer mMediaPlayer;

    public void initMediaPlayer() {
        // ...initialize the MediaPlayer here...

        mMediaPlayer.setOnErrorListener(this);
    }

    @Override
    public boolean onError(MediaPlayer mp, int what, int extra) {
        // ... react appropriately ...
    }
}
```

```

        // The MediaPlayer has moved to the Error state, must be reset!
    }
}

```

It's important to remember that when an error occurs, the [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) moves to the *Error* state (see the documentation for the [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) class for the full state diagram) and you must reset it before you can use it again.

Using wake locks

When designing applications that play media in the background, the device may go to sleep while your service is running. Because the Android system tries to conserve battery while the device is sleeping, the system tries to shut off any of the phone's features that are not necessary, including the CPU and the Wi-Fi hardware. However, if your service is playing or streaming music, you want to prevent the system from interfering with your playback.

In order to ensure that your service continues to run under those conditions, you have to use "wake locks." A wake lock is a way to signal to the system that your application is using some feature that should stay available even if the phone is idle.

Notice: You should always use wake locks sparingly and hold them only for as long as truly necessary, because they significantly reduce the battery life of the device.

To ensure that the CPU continues running while your [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) is playing, call the [`setWakeMode\(\)`](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#setWakeMode(android.content.Context, int)) ([`setWakeMode\(android.content.Context, int\)`](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#setWakeMode(android.content.Context, int))) method when initializing your [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>). Once you do, the [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) holds the specified lock while playing and releases the lock when paused or stopped:

```

mMediaPlayer = new MediaPlayer();
// ... other initialization here ...
mMediaPlayer.setWakeMode(getApplicationContext(), PowerManager.PARTIAL_WAKE_LOCK);

```

However, the wake lock acquired in this example guarantees only that the CPU remains awake. If you are streaming media over the network and you are using Wi-Fi, you probably want to hold a [WifiLock](/reference/android/net/wifi/WifiManager.WifiLock.html) (</reference/android/net/wifi/WifiManager.WifiLock.html>) as well, which you must acquire and release manually. So, when you start preparing the [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) with the remote URL, you should create and acquire the Wi-Fi lock. For example:

```

WifiLock wifiLock = ((WifiManager) getSystemService(Context.WIFI_SERVICE))
    .createWifiLock(WifiManager.WIFI_MODE_FULL, "mylock");

wifiLock.acquire();

```

When you pause or stop your media, or when you no longer need the network, you should release the lock:

```

wifiLock.release();

```

Running as a foreground service

Services are often used for performing background tasks, such as fetching emails, synchronizing data, downloading content, amongst other possibilities. In these cases, the user is not actively aware of the service's execution, and probably wouldn't even notice if some of these services were interrupted and later restarted.

But consider the case of a service that is playing music. Clearly this is a service that the user is actively aware of and the experience would be severely affected by any interruptions. Additionally, it's a service that the user will likely wish to interact with during its execution. In this case, the service should run as a "foreground service." A foreground service holds a higher level of importance within the system—the system will almost never kill the service, because it is of immediate importance to the user. When running in the foreground, the service also must provide a status bar notification to ensure that users are aware of the running service and allow them to open an activity that can interact with the service.

In order to turn your service into a foreground service, you must create a [Notification](#) ([/reference/android/app/Notification.html](#)) for the status bar and call [startForeground\(\)](#) ([/reference/android/app/Service.html#startForeground\(int, android.app.Notification\)](#)) from the [Service](#) ([/reference/android/app/Service.html](#)). For example:

```
String songName;
// assign the song name to songName
PendingIntent pi = PendingIntent.getActivity(getApplicationContext(), 0,
    new Intent(getApplicationContext(), MainActivity.class),
    PendingIntent.FLAG_UPDATE_CURRENT);
Notification notification = new Notification();
notification.tickerText = text;
notification.icon = R.drawable.play0;
notification.flags |= Notification.FLAG_ONGOING_EVENT;
notification.setLatestEventInfo(getApplicationContext(), "MusicPlayerSample",
    "Playing: " + songName, pi);
startForeground(NOTIFICATION_ID, notification);
```

While your service is running in the foreground, the notification you configured is visible in the notification area of the device. If the user selects the notification, the system invokes the [PendingIntent](#) ([/reference/android/app/PendingIntent.html](#)) you supplied. In the example above, it opens an activity (MainActivity).

Figure 1 shows how your notification appears to the user:

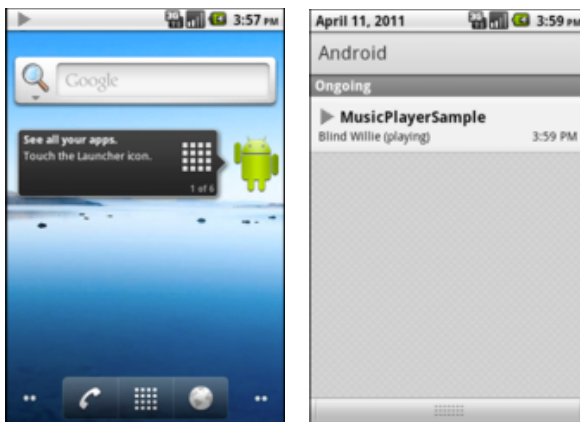


Figure 1. Screenshots of a foreground service's notification, showing the notification icon in the status bar (left) and the expanded view (right).

You should only hold on to the "foreground service" status while your service is actually performing

something the user is actively aware of. Once that is no longer true, you should release it by calling `stopForeground()` ([/reference/android/app/Service.html#stopForeground\(boolean\)](/reference/android/app/Service.html#stopForeground(boolean))):

```
stopForeground(true);
```

For more information, see the documentation about [Services](/guide/components/services.html#Foreground) (</guide/components/services.html#Foreground>) and [Status Bar Notifications](/guide/topics/ui/notifiers/notifications.html) (</guide/topics/ui/notifiers/notifications.html>).

Handling audio focus

Even though only one activity can run at any given time, Android is a multi-tasking environment. This poses a particular challenge to applications that use audio, because there is only one audio output and there may be several media services competing for its use. Before Android 2.2, there was no built-in mechanism to address this issue, which could in some cases lead to a bad user experience. For example, when a user is listening to music and another application needs to notify the user of something very important, the user might not hear the notification tone due to the loud music. Starting with Android 2.2, the platform offers a way for applications to negotiate their use of the device's audio output. This mechanism is called Audio Focus.

When your application needs to output audio such as music or a notification, you should always request audio focus. Once it has focus, it can use the sound output freely, but it should always listen for focus changes. If it is notified that it has lost the audio focus, it should immediately either kill the audio or lower it to a quiet level (known as "ducking"—there is a flag that indicates which one is appropriate) and only resume loud playback after it receives focus again.

Audio Focus is cooperative in nature. That is, applications are expected (and highly encouraged) to comply with the audio focus guidelines, but the rules are not enforced by the system. If an application wants to play loud music even after losing audio focus, nothing in the system will prevent that. However, the user is more likely to have a bad experience and will be more likely to uninstall the misbehaving application.

To request audio focus, you must call `requestAudioFocus()` ([/reference/android/media/AudioManager.html#requestAudioFocus\(android.media.AudioManager.OnAudioFocusChangeListener, int, int\)](/reference/android/media/AudioManager.html#requestAudioFocus(android.media.AudioManager.OnAudioFocusChangeListener, int, int))) from the `AudioManager` (</reference/android/media/AudioManager.html>), as the example below demonstrates:

```
AudioManager audioManager = (AudioManager) getSystemService(Context.AUDIO_SERVICE)  
int result = audioManager.requestAudioFocus(this, AudioManager.STREAM_MUSIC,  
    AudioManager.AUDIOFOCUS_GAIN);  
  
if (result != AudioManager.AUDIOFOCUS_REQUEST_GRANTED) {  
    // could not get audio focus.  
}
```

The first parameter to `requestAudioFocus()` ([/reference/android/media/AudioManager.html#requestAudioFocus\(android.media.AudioManager.OnAudioFocusChangeListener, int, int\)](/reference/android/media/AudioManager.html#requestAudioFocus(android.media.AudioManager.OnAudioFocusChangeListener, int, int))) is an `AudioManager.OnAudioFocusChangeListener` (</reference/android/media/AudioManager.OnAudioFocusChangeListener.html>), whose `onAudioFocusChange()` ([/reference/android/media/AudioManager.OnAudioFocusChangeListener.html#onAudioFocusChange\(int\)](/reference/android/media/AudioManager.OnAudioFocusChangeListener.html#onAudioFocusChange(int))) method is called whenever there is a change in audio focus. Therefore, you should also implement this interface on your service and activities. For example:

```
class MyService extends Service
```



```

        implements AudioManager.OnAudioFocusChangeListener {
// ....
    public void onAudioFocusChange(int focusChange) {
        // Do something based on focus change...
    }
}

```

The focusChange parameter tells you how the audio focus has changed, and can be one of the following values (they are all constants defined in [AudioManager](#) (/reference/android/media/AudioManager.html)):

- **AUDIOFOCUS_GAIN**: You have gained the audio focus.
- **AUDIOFOCUS_LOSS**: You have lost the audio focus for a presumably long time. You must stop all audio playback. Because you should expect not to have focus back for a long time, this would be a good place to clean up your resources as much as possible. For example, you should release the [MediaPlayer](#).
- **AUDIOFOCUS_LOSS_TRANSIENT**: You have temporarily lost audio focus, but should receive it back shortly. You must stop all audio playback, but you can keep your resources because you will probably get focus back shortly.
- **AUDIOFOCUS_LOSS_TRANSIENT_CAN_DUCK**: You have temporarily lost audio focus, but you are allowed to continue to play audio quietly (at a low volume) instead of killing audio completely.

Here is an example implementation:

```

public void onAudioFocusChange(int focusChange) {
    switch (focusChange) {
        case AudioManager.AUDIOFOCUS_GAIN:
            // resume playback
            if (mMediaPlayer == null) initMediaPlayer();
            else if (!mMediaPlayer.isPlaying()) mMediaPlayer.start();
            mMediaPlayer.setVolume(1.0f, 1.0f);
            break;

        case AudioManager.AUDIOFOCUS_LOSS:
            // Lost focus for an unbounded amount of time: stop playback and
            if (mMediaPlayer.isPlaying()) mMediaPlayer.stop();
            mMediaPlayer.release();
            mMediaPlayer = null;
            break;

        case AudioManager.AUDIOFOCUS_LOSS_TRANSIENT:
            // Lost focus for a short time, but we have to stop
            // playback. We don't release the media player because playback
            // is likely to resume
            if (mMediaPlayer.isPlaying()) mMediaPlayer.pause();
            break;

        case AudioManager.AUDIOFOCUS_LOSS_TRANSIENT_CAN_DUCK:
            // Lost focus for a short time, but it's ok to keep playing
            // at an attenuated level
            if (mMediaPlayer.isPlaying()) mMediaPlayer.setVolume(0.1f, 0.1f);
            break;
    }
}

```

you want to support previous versions of Android, you should adopt a backward compatibility strategy that allows you to use this feature if available, and fall back seamlessly if not.

You can achieve backward compatibility either by calling the audio focus methods by reflection or by implementing all the audio focus features in a separate class (say, `AudioFocusHelper`). Here is an example of such a class:

```
public class AudioFocusHelper implements AudioManager.OnAudioFocusChangeListener {
    AudioManager mAudioManager;

    // other fields here, you'll probably hold a reference to an interface
    // that you can use to communicate the focus changes to your Service

    public AudioFocusHelper(Context ctx, /* other arguments here */) {
        mAudioManager = (AudioManager) mContext.getSystemService(Context.AUDIO
        // ...
    }

    public boolean requestFocus() {
        return AudioManager.AUDIOFOCUS_REQUEST_GRANTED ==
            mAudioManager.requestAudioFocus(mContext, AudioManager.STREAM_MUSIC,
            AudioManager.AUDIOFOCUS_GAIN);
    }

    public boolean abandonFocus() {
        return AudioManager.AUDIOFOCUS_REQUEST_GRANTED ==
            mAudioManager.abandonAudioFocus(this);
    }

    @Override
    public void onAudioFocusChange(int focusChange) {
        // let your service know about the focus change
    }
}
```

You can create an instance of `AudioFocusHelper` class only if you detect that the system is running API level 8 or above. For example:

```
if (android.os.Build.VERSION.SDK_INT >= 8) {
    mAudioFocusHelper = new AudioFocusHelper(getApplicationContext(), this);
} else {
    mAudioFocusHelper = null;
}
```

Performing cleanup

As mentioned earlier, a `MediaPlayer` (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) object can consume a significant amount of system resources, so you should keep it only for as long as you need and call `release()` ([/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#release\(\)](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html#release())) when you are done with it. It's important to call this cleanup method explicitly rather than rely on system garbage collection because it might take some time before the garbage collector reclaims the `MediaPlayer` (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>), as it's only sensitive to memory needs and not to shortage of other media-related

resources. So, in the case when you're using a service, you should always override the `onDestroy()` ([/reference/android/app/Service.html#onDestroy\(\)](/reference/android/app/Service.html#onDestroy())) method to make sure you are releasing the `MediaPlayer` (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>):

```
public class MyService extends Service {
    MediaPlayer mMediaPlayer;
    // ...

    @Override
    public void onDestroy() {
        if (mMediaPlayer != null) mMediaPlayer.release();
    }
}
```

You should always look for other opportunities to release your `MediaPlayer` (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) as well, apart from releasing it when being shut down. For example, if you expect not to be able to play media for an extended period of time (after losing audio focus, for example), you should definitely release your existing `MediaPlayer` (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) and create it again later. On the other hand, if you only expect to stop playback for a very short time, you should probably hold on to your `MediaPlayer` (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>) to avoid the overhead of creating and preparing it again.

Handling the AUDIO_BECOMING_NOISY Intent

Many well-written applications that play audio automatically stop playback when an event occurs that causes the audio to become noisy (output through external speakers). For instance, this might happen when a user is listening to music through headphones and accidentally disconnects the headphones from the device. However, this behavior does not happen automatically. If you don't implement this feature, audio plays out of the device's external speakers, which might not be what the user wants.

You can ensure your app stops playing music in these situations by handling the `ACTION_AUDIO_BECOMING_NOISY` (/reference/android/media/AudioManager.html#ACTION_AUDIO_BECOMING_NOISY) intent, for which you can register a receiver by adding the following to your manifest:

```
<receiver android:name=".MusicIntentReceiver">
    <intent-filter>
        <action android:name="android.media.AUDIO_BECOMING_NOISY" />
    </intent-filter>
</receiver>
```

This registers the `MusicIntentReceiver` class as a broadcast receiver for that intent. You should then implement this class:

```
public class MusicIntentReceiver implements android.content.BroadcastReceiver {
    @Override
    public void onReceive(Context ctx, Intent intent) {
        if (intent.getAction().equals(
            android.media.AudioManager.ACTION_AUDIO_BECOMING_NOISY)) {
```

```

        // signal your service to stop playback
        // (via an Intent, for instance)
    }
}
}

```

Retrieving Media from a Content Resolver

Another feature that may be useful in a media player application is the ability to retrieve music that the user has on the device. You can do that by querying the [ContentResolver](/reference/android/content/ContentResolver.html) (</reference/android/content/ContentResolver.html>) for external media:

```

ContentResolver contentResolver = getContentResolver();
Uri uri = android.provider.MediaStore.Audio.Media.EXTERNAL_CONTENT_URI;
Cursor cursor = contentResolver.query(uri, null, null, null, null);
if (cursor == null) {
    // query failed, handle error.
} else if (!cursor.moveToFirst()) {
    // no media on the device
} else {
    int titleColumn = cursor.getColumnIndex(android.provider.MediaStore.Audio
    int idColumn = cursor.getColumnIndex(android.provider.MediaStore.Audio.Mec
    do {
        long thisId = cursor.getLong(idColumn);
        String thisTitle = cursor.getString(titleColumn);
        // ...process entry...
    } while (cursor.moveToNext());
}

```

To use this with the [MediaPlayer](/reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html) (</reference/android/media/MediaPlayer.html>), you can do this:

```

long id = /* retrieve it from somewhere */;
Uri contentUri = ContentUris.withAppendedId(
    android.provider.MediaStore.Audio.Media.EXTERNAL_CONTENT_URI, id);

mMediaPlayer = new MediaPlayer();
mMediaPlayer.setAudioStreamType(AudioManager.STREAM_MUSIC);
mMediaPlayer.setDataSource(getApplicationContext(), contentUri);

// ...prepare and start...

```