Android Services
Xamarin Android Level 2, Chapter 4

Overview

Services enable tasks to be performed in the background. They run in their own lifecycles, so they can continue to operate even after the caller, such as an Activity, exits. Additionally, they can run locally, in the same process as the caller, as well as in separate processes.

There are two fundamental ways that services can be used:

➔ They can be used to perform some long running task without any need for interaction with a caller other than the request that some task be performed. An example of this would be a service that downloads some information in the background. These services are referred to as Started Services.

➔ They can provide a programmatic interface for callers to interact with, such as a location service, which the system already includes, that provides a variety of methods that applications can use to gleam information about the current location. These services are referred to as Bound Services.

These aren't mutually exclusive. The same service can be both a Started Service and a Bound Service and will run until it is explicitly stopped and no clients are bound to it, or the system shuts it down under memory pressure.

Summary

This should be a quick summary of what we covered in the article.