

Supporting multiple form-factors using skins

Overview

Skins provide support for multiple form factors in a single executable file for devices of the same OS family.

Skins are a sub-variant of an environment.

Skins are packaged together in one application.

The decision on which skin to use is made automatically at run time.

Different
Screen
Sizes



Different
Screen
Densities



Different
Input
Methods



Support
for
HTML5



Skin creation

Skins are created by using the IBM MobileFirst Platform Foundation Application Skin wizard. The skins are placed in directories that are next to the corresponding environment directory. Before a skin can be added, first add the environment for which you want to create the skin.



New MobileFirst Application Skin

MobileFirst Application Skin

Add a new skin for an application environment.

Project name: HelloWorld

Application name: HelloWorld

Environment: Android phones and tablets

Skin name: android.tablet

Cancel Finish



A skin folder contains the following folders: *images*, *CSS*, and *js*.

Create new *.css* and *.js* files in the corresponding folders.

To extend existing code and styling from the default skin, use the same filenames as those of the default skin.





















To create new code and styling, use different filenames than those in of the default skin. When you choose this option, you need to copy the HTML file to the skin folder. You must also change the reference to the *.js* and *.css* files in the HEAD element of the HTML file.

Skin packaging

All skins for a specific environment are packaged within the app.

- ▼  HelloWorldHelloWorklightAndroid
 - ▶  src
 - ▶  gen [Generated Java Files]
 - ▶  Android 4.4.2
 - ▶  Android Private Libraries
 - ▶  Android Dependencies
 - ▼  assets
 - ▶  featurelibs
 - ▼  www
 - ▶  android.tablet
 - ▶  default
 -  skinLoader.html
 -  wlclient.properties
 - ▶  bin
 - ▶  libs
 - ▶  res
 -  AndroidManifest.xml
 -  HelloWorklight.iml
 -  project.properties

Applying skins at run time

- ▼  HelloWorld
 - ▶  Java Resources
 - ▶  JavaScript Resources
 - ▶  adapters
 - ▼  apps
 - ▼  HelloWorld
 - ▼  android
 - ▶  css
 - ▶  images
 - ▼  js
 - ▶  main.js
 - ▶  skinLoader.js
 - ▶  native
 - ▶  nativeResources
 - ▶  android.tablet
 - ▶  common
 - ▶  iphone
 - ▶  legal
 -  application-descriptor.xml
 -  build-settings.xml

The default *skinLoader.js* contains examples of code.

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