

# JSONStore in Android applications

## Overview

IBM MobileFirst Platform Foundation's **JSONStore** is an optional client-side API providing a lightweight, document-oriented storage system. JSONStore enables persistent storage of **JSON documents**. Documents in an application are available in JSONStore even when the device that is running the application is offline. This persistent, always-available storage can be useful to give users access to documents when, for example, there is no network connection available in the device.

## Key features

- Data indexing for efficient searching
- Data encryption in production environments
- Mechanism for tracking local-only changes to the stored data
- Support for multiple users

**Note:** Some features such as data encryption are beyond the scope of this tutorial. All features are documented in detail in the IBM MobileFirst Platform Foundation user documentation website.

**Prerequisite:** Make sure the MobileFirst Native SDK was added to the Android Studio project. Follow the Adding the MobileFirst Platform Foundation SDK to iOS applications ([../..adding-the-mfpf-sdk/android/](#)) tutorial.

## Jump to:

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## Adding JSONStore

1. In **Android → Gradle Scripts**, select the **build.gradle (Module: app)** file.
2. Add the following to the existing in `dependencies` section:

```
compile 'com.ibm.mobile.foundation:ibmmobilefirstplatformfoundationjsonstore:8.0.0-SNAPSHOT'
```

## Basic Usage

### Open

Use `openCollections` to open one or more JSONStore collections.

Starting or provisioning a collections means creating the persistent storage that contains the collection and documents, if it does not exists. If the persistent storage is encrypted and a correct password is passed, the necessary security procedures to make the data accessible are run.

For optional features that you can enable at initialization time, see **Security, Multiple User Support** and **MobileFirst Adapter Integration** in the second part of this tutorial.

```
Context context = getContext();
try {
    JSONStoreCollection people = new JSONStoreCollection("people");
    people.setSearchField("name", SearchFieldType.STRING);
    people.setSearchField("age", SearchFieldType.INTEGER);
    List<JSONStoreCollection> collections = new LinkedList<JSONStoreCollection>();
    collections.add(people);
    WLJSONStore.getInstance(context).openCollections(collections);
    // handle success
} catch(JSONStoreException e) {
    // handle failure
}
```

## Get

Use `getCollectionByName` to create an accessor to the collection. You must call `openCollections` before you call `getCollectionByName`.

```
Context context = getContext();
try {
    String collectionName = "people";
    JSONStoreCollection collection = WLJSONStore.getInstance(context).getCollectionByName(collectionName);
    // handle success
} catch(JSONStoreException e) {
    // handle failure
}
```

The variable `collection` can now be used to perform operations on the `people` collection such as `add`, `find`, and `replace`

## Add

Use `addData` to store data as documents inside a collection

```
Context context = getContext();
try {
    String collectionName = "people";
    JSONStoreCollection collection = WLJSONStore.getInstance(context).getCollectionByName(collectionName);
    //Add options.
    JSONStoreAddOptions options = new JSONStoreAddOptions();
    options.setMarkDirty(true);
    JSONObject data = new JSONObject("{\"age: 23, name: 'yoel'\"}");
    collection.addData(data, options);
    // handle success
} catch(JSONStoreException e) {
    // handle failure
}
```

## Find

Use `findDocuments` to locate a document inside a collection by using a query. Use `findAllDocuments` to retrieve all the documents inside a collection. Use `findDocumentById` to search by the document unique identifier.

```
Context context = getContext();
try {
    String collectionName = "people";
    JSONStoreQueryPart queryPart = new JSONStoreQueryPart();
    // fuzzy search LIKE
    queryPart.addLike("name", name);
    JSONStoreQueryParts query = new JSONStoreQueryParts();
    query.addQueryPart(queryPart);
    JSONStoreFindOptions options = new JSONStoreFindOptions();
    // returns a maximum of 10 documents, default: returns every document
    options.setLimit(10);
    JSONStoreCollection collection = WLJSONStore.getInstance(context).getCollectionByName(collectionName);
    List<JSONObject> results = collection.findDocuments(query, options);
    // handle success
} catch (JSONStoreException e) {
    // handle failure
}
```

## Replace

Use `replaceDocument` to modify documents inside a collection. The field that you use to perform the replacement is `_id`, the document unique identifier.

```
Context context = getContext();
try {
    String collectionName = "people";
    JSONStoreCollection collection = WLJSONStore.getInstance(context).getCollectionByName(collectionName);
    JSONStoreReplaceOptions options = new JSONStoreReplaceOptions();
    // mark data as dirty
    options.setMarkDirty(true);
    JSONStore replacement = new JSONObject("{\"_id\": 1, json: {age: 23, name: 'chevy'}}");
    collection.replaceDocument(replacement, options);
    // handle success
} catch (JSONStoreException e) {
    // handle failure
}
```

This examples assumes that the document `{_id: 1, json: {name: 'yoel', age: 23}}` is in the collection.

## Remove

Use `removeDocumentById` to delete a document from a collection. Documents are not erased from the collection until you call `markDocumentClean`. For more information, see the **MobileFirst Adapter Integration** section later in this tutorial.

```
Context context = getContext();
try {
    String collectionName = "people";
    JSONStoreCollection collection = WLJSONStore.getInstance(context).getCollectionByName(collectionName);
    JSONStoreRemoveOptions options = new JSONStoreRemoveOptions();
    // Mark data as dirty
    options.setMarkDirty(true);
    collection.removeDocumentById(1, options);
    // handle success
} catch(JSONStoreException e) {
    // handle failure
}
```

## Remove Collection

Use `removeCollection` to delete all the documents that are stored inside a collection. This operation is similar to dropping a table in database terms.

```
Context context = getContext();
try {
    String collectionName = "people";
    JSONStoreCollection collection = WLJSONStore.getInstance(context).getCollectionByName(collectionName);
    collection.removeCollection();
    // handle success
} catch(JSONStoreException e) {
    // handle failure
}
```

## Destroy

Use `destroy` to remove the following data:

- All documents
- All collections
- All Stores - See **Multiple User Support** later in this tutorial
- All JSONStore metadata and security artifacts - See **Security** later in this tutorial

```
Context context = getContext();
try {
    WLJSONStore.getInstance(context).destroy();
    // handle success
} catch(JSONStoreException e) {
    // handle failure
}
```

## Advanced Usage

### Security

You can secure all the collections in a store by passing a `JSONStoreInitOptions` object with a password to the `openCollections` function. If no password is passed, the documents of all the collections in the store are not encrypted.

Some security metadata is stored in the shared preferences (Android).

The store is encrypted with a 256-bit Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) key. All keys are strengthened with Password-Based Key Derivation Function 2 (PBKDF2).

Use `closeAll` to lock access to all the collections until you call `openCollections` again. If you think of `openCollections` as a login function you can think of `closeAll` as the corresponding logout function.

Use `changePassword` to change the password.

```
Context context = getContext();
try {
    JSONStoreCollection people = new JSONStoreCollection("people");
    people.setSearchField("name", SearchFieldType.STRING);
    people.setSearchField("age", SearchFieldType.INTEGER);
    List<JSONStoreCollection> collections = new LinkedList<JSONStoreCollection>();
    collections.add(people);
    JSONStoreInitOptions options = new JSONStoreInitOptions();
    options.setPassword("123");
    WLJSONStore.getInstance(context).openCollections(collections, options);
    // handle success
} catch (JSONStoreException e) {
    // handle failure
}
```

## Multiple User Support

You can create multiple stores that contain different collections in a single MobileFirst application. The `openCollections` function can take an options object with a username. If no username is given, the default username is `""jsonstore""`.

```
Context context = getContext();
try {
    JSONStoreCollection people = new JSONStoreCollection("people");
    people.setSearchField("name", SearchFieldType.STRING);
    people.setSearchField("age", SearchFieldType.INTEGER);
    List<JSONStoreCollection> collections = new LinkedList<JSONStoreCollection>();
    collections.add(people);
    JSONStoreInitOptions options = new JSONStoreInitOptions();
    options.setUsername("yoel");
    WLJSONStore.getInstance(context).openCollections(collections, options);
    // handle success
} catch (JSONStoreException e) {
    // handle failure
}
```

## MobileFirst Adapter Integration

This section assumes that you are familiar with MobileFirst adapters. MobileFirst Adapter Integration is optional and provides ways to send data from a collection to an adapter and get data from an adapter into a collection. You can achieve these goals by using functions such as `WLResourceRequest` or your own instance of an `HttpClient` if you need more flexibility.

## Adapter Implementation

Create a MobileFirst adapter and name it "**JSONStoreAdapter**". Define it's procedures `addPerson`, `getPeople`, `pushPeople`, `removePerson`, and `replacePerson`.

```
function getPeople() {
    var data = { peopleList : [{name: 'chevy', age: 23}, {name: 'yoel', age: 23}] };
    WL.Logger.debug('Adapter: people, procedure: getPeople called.');
```

WL.Logger.debug('Sending data: ' + JSON.stringify(data));

```
    return data;
}

function pushPeople(data) {
    WL.Logger.debug('Adapter: people, procedure: pushPeople called.');
```

WL.Logger.debug('Got data from JSONStore to ADD: ' + data);

```
    return;
}

function addPerson(data) {
    WL.Logger.debug('Adapter: people, procedure: addPerson called.');
```

WL.Logger.debug('Got data from JSONStore to ADD: ' + data);

```
    return;
}

function removePerson(data) {
    WL.Logger.debug('Adapter: people, procedure: removePerson called.');
```

WL.Logger.debug('Got data from JSONStore to REMOVE: ' + data);

```
    return;
}

function replacePerson(data) {
    WL.Logger.debug('Adapter: people, procedure: replacePerson called.');
```

WL.Logger.debug('Got data from JSONStore to REPLACE: ' + data);

```
    return;
}
```

## Load data from MobileFirst Adapter

To load data from a MobileFirst Adapter use `WLResourceRequest`.

```
WLResponseListener responseListener = new WLResponseListener() {
    @Override
    public void onFailure(final WLFailResponse response) {
        // handle failure
    }
    @Override
    public void onSuccess(WLResponse response) {
        try {
            JSONArray loadedDocuments = response.getResponseJSON().getJSONArray("peopleList");
        } catch (Exception e) {
            // error decoding JSON data
        }
    }
};

try {
    WLResourceRequest request = new WLResourceRequest(new URI("/adapters/JSONStoreAdapter/getP
eople"), WLResourceRequest.GET);
    request.send(responseListener);
} catch (URISyntaxException e) {
    // handle error
}
```

## Get Push Required (Dirty Documents)

Calling `findAllDirtyDocuments` returns an array of so called "dirty documents", which are documents that have local modifications that do not exist on the back-end system.

```
Context context = getContext();
try {
    String collectionName = "people";
    JSONStoreCollection collection = WLJSONStore.getInstance(context).getCollectionByName(collectionName);
    List<JSONObject> dirtyDocs = collection.findAllDirtyDocuments();
    // handle success
} catch (JSONStoreException e) {
    // handle failure
}
```

To prevent JSONStore from marking the documents as "dirty", pass the option `options.setMarkDirty(false)` to `add`, `replace`, and `remove`.

## Push changes

To push changes to a MobileFirst adapter, call the `findAllDirtyDocuments` to get a list of documents with modifications and then use `WLResourceRequest`. After the data is sent and a successful response is received make sure you call `markDocumentsClean`.

```
WLResponseListener responseListener = new WLResponseListener() {
    @Override
    public void onFailure(final WLFailResponse response) {
        // handle failure
    }
    @Override
    public void onSuccess(WLResponse response) {
        // handle success
    }
};
Context context = getContext();

try {
    String collectionName = "people";
    JSONStoreCollection collection = WLJSONStore.getInstance(context).getCollectionByName(collectionName);
    List<JSONObject> dirtyDocuments = collection.findAllDirtyDocuments();

    JSONObject payload = new JSONObject();
    payload.put("people", dirtyDocuments);

    WLResourceRequest request = new WLResourceRequest(new URI("/adapters/JSONStoreAdapter/pushPeople"), WLResourceRequest.POST);
    request.send(payload, responseListener);
} catch (JSONStoreException e) {
    // handle failure
} catch (URISyntaxException e) {
    // handle error
}
```

# Sample application

The JSONStoreAndroid project contains a native Android application that utilizes the JSONStore API set. Included is a JavaScript adapter Maven project.

Click to download (<https://github.com/MobileFirst-Platform-Developer-Center/JSONStoreAndroid>) the Native Android project. Click to download (<https://github.com/MobileFirst-Platform-Developer-Center/JSONStoreAdapter/tree/release80>) the adapter Maven project.

## Sample usage

1. From the command line, navigate to the project's root folder.
2. Ensure the sample is registered in the MobileFirst Server by running the command: `mfpdev app register`.
3. The sample uses the `JSONStoreAdapter` contained in the Adapters Maven project. Use either Maven or MobileFirst Developer CLI to build and deploy the adapter (`../../adapters/creating-adapters/`).
4. Import the project to Android Studio, and run the sample by clicking the **Run** button.

