

# MobileFirst development in Cordova applications

## Overview

From <http://cordova.apache.org/> (<http://cordova.apache.org/>):

Apache Cordova is an open-source mobile development framework. It allows you to use standard web technologies such as HTML5, CSS3, and JavaScript for cross-platform development, avoiding each mobile platforms' native development language. Applications execute within wrappers targeted to each platform, and rely on standards-compliant API bindings to access each device's sensors, data, and network status.

IBM MobileFirst Platform Foundation provides an SDK in the form of a standard Cordova plug-in.

Learn how to Add the MobileFirst Platform Foundation SDK to Cordova applications ([../adding-the-mfpf-sdk/adding-the-mfpf-sdk-to-cordova-applications](#)).

The MobileFirst SDK feature set provides the following:

- Use MobileFirst `ResourceRequest` API to retrieve data from backend systems
- Protect applications using the MobileFirst `SecurityChecks` and other security features such as `Application Authenticity Protection`
- Ability to navigate and share data between web and native views and/or call Native code using the `MobileFirst SendAction` API
- Update an application's web resources using `Direct Update`
- And more...

For a complete list of MobileFirst SDK abilities visit the user documentation ([http://www-01.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/SSHS8R\\_8.0.0/wl\\_welcome.html](http://www-01.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/SSHS8R_8.0.0/wl_welcome.html)).

## Application development

Cordova applications can be further enhanced using Cordova plug-ins for adding UI elements such as dialogs, tabbars, spinners and the like as well as more advanced functionalities such as Geolocation and more. You can find Cordova plug-ins in the official Cordova plug-ins repository (<https://cordova.apache.org/plugins/>), as well as on [GitHub.com](https://github.com) (<https://github.com>) and in popular Cordova blog, such as [Plugreg](http://plugreg.com/) (<http://plugreg.com/>).

Example plug-ins:

- `cordova-plugin-dialogs` (<https://www.npmjs.com/package/cordova-plugin-dialogs>)
- `cordova-plugin-progress-indicator` (<https://www.npmjs.com/package/cordova-plugin-progress-indicator>)
- `cordova-plugin-statusbar` (<https://www.npmjs.com/package/cordova-plugin-statusbar>)

Cordova application development can be further enhanced by using frameworks such as [Ionic](http://ionicframework.com/) (<http://ionicframework.com/>), [AngularJS](https://angularjs.org/) (<https://angularjs.org/>), [jQuery Mobile](http://jquerymobile.com/) (<http://jquerymobile.com/>), [Backbone](http://backbonejs.org/) (<http://backbonejs.org/>) and others.

To get started with Cordova applications visit Cordova's Get Started website (<https://cordova.apache.org/#getstarted>).

## Tutorials to follow next

Get started by adding the MobileFirst SDK to your Cordova application ([../adding-the-mfpf-sdk/adding-the-mfpf-sdk-to-cordova-applications](#)), and review MobileFirst-provided features in the All Tutorials ([../all-tutorials/](#)) section.