

Handling Push Notifications in Android applications

Overview

Before Android applications are able to handle any received push notifications, they must be configured with support for Google Play Services. Once an application has been configured, MobileFirst-provided Notifications API can be used in order to register & unregister devices, and subscribe & unsubscribe to tags.

In this tutorial you learn how to configure an Android application and how to use the MobileFirst-provided Notifications API.

Prerequisites:

- Make sure you have read the following tutorials:
 - Setting up your MobileFirst development environment ([../setting-up-your-development-environment/index](#))
 - Adding the MobileFirst Platform Foundation SDK to Android applications ([../adding-the-mfpf-sdk/android](#))
 - Push Notifications Overview ([../push-notifications-overview](#))
- MobileFirst Server to run locally, or a remotely running MobileFirst Server.
- MobileFirst Developer CLI installed on the developer workstation

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Notifications Configuration

Create a new Android Studio project or use an existing one.

If the MobileFirst Native Android SDK is not already present in the project, follow the instructions in the [Adding the MobileFirst Platform Foundation SDK to Android applications](#) ([../adding-the-mfpf-sdk/android](#)) tutorial.

Project setup

1. In **Android → Gradle scripts**, select the **build.gradle (Module: app)** file and add the following lines to **dependencies**:

```
com.google.android.gms:play-services-gcm:8.4.0
```

And:

```
compile group: 'com.ibm.mobile.foundation',
name: 'ibmmobilefirstplatformfoundationpush',
version: '8.0.0.0.Beta1-SNAPSHOT',
ext: 'aar',
transitive: true
```

- Or in a single line:

```
compile 'com.ibm.mobile.foundation:ibmmobilefirstplatformfoundationpush:8.0.Beta1-SNAPSHOT'
```

remove step 2 below before going live

2. Copy `ibmmobilefirstplatformfoundationpush-1.0.0.aar` (from halpert Electra DevOps Latest integration build) to `\extras\google\m2repository\com\ibm\mobile\foundation\ibmmobilefirstplatformfoundationpush\1.0.0\ibmmobilefirstplatformfoundationpush-1.0.0.aar`. Also remove `libs` folder from the `aar`.
3. In **Android → app → manifests**, open the `AndroidManifest.xml` file.
 - Add the following permissions to the top the `manifest` tag:

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

<!-- GCM Permissions -->
<uses-permission android:name="com.google.android.c2dm.permission.RECEIVE" />
<permission
    android:name="your.application.package.name.permission.C2D_MESSAGE"
    android:protectionLevel="signature" />
```

- Add the following (MFPPush Intent Service, MFPPush Instance ID Listener Service) to the application tag:

```
<!-- GCM Receiver -->
<receiver
    android:name="com.google.android.gms.gcm.GcmReceiver"
    android:exported="true"
    android:permission="com.google.android.c2dm.permission.SEND">
    <intent-filter>
        <action android:name="com.google.android.c2dm.intent.RECEIVE" />
        <category android:name="your.application.package.name" />
    </intent-filter>
</receiver>

<!-- MFPPush Intent Service -->
<service
    android:name="com.ibm.mobilefirstplatform.clientsdk.android.push.api.MFPPushIntentService"
    android:exported="false">
    <intent-filter>
        <action android:name="com.google.android.c2dm.intent.RECEIVE" />
    </intent-filter>
</service>

<!-- MFPPush Instance ID Listener Service -->
<service
    android:name="com.ibm.mobilefirstplatform.clientsdk.android.push.api.MFPPushInstanceIdListenerService"
    android:exported="false">
    <intent-filter>
        <action android:name="com.google.android.gms.iid.InstanceID" />
    </intent-filter>
</service>
```

Note: Be sure to replace `your.application.package.name` with the actual package name of your application.

Notifications API

Client-side

Java Methods	Description
<code>MFPPush.initialize(Context context);</code>	Initializes MFPPush for supplied context.
<code>MFPPush.isPushSupported();</code>	Does the device support push notifications.
<code>MFPPush.registerDevice(MFPPushResponseListener);</code>	Registers the device with the Push Notifications Service.
<code>MFPPush.getTags(MFPPushResponseListener)</code>	Retrieves the tag(s) available in a push notification service instance.
<code>MFPPush.subscribe(String[] tagNames, MFPPushResponseListener)</code>	Subscribes the device to the specified tag(s).
<code>MFPPush.getSubscriptions(MFPPushResponseListener)</code>	Retrieves all tags the device is currently subscribed to.
<code>MFPPush.unsubscribe(String[] tagNames, MFPPushResponseListener)</code>	Unsubscribes from a particular tag(s).
<code>MFPPush.unregisterDevice(MFPPushResponseListener)</code>	Unregisters the device from the Push Notifications Service

API implementation

All API calls must be called on an instance of `MFPPush`. This can be by created a class level field such as `private MFPPush push = MFPPush.getInstance();`, and then calling `push.<api-call>` throughout the class.

Alternatively you can call `MFPPush.getInstance().<api-call>` for each instance in which you need to access the push API methods.

Initialization

Required for the client application to connect to MFPPush service with the right application context. * The API method should be called first before using any other MFPPush APIs. * Registers the callback function to handle received push notifications.

```
MFPPush.getInstance().initialize(this);
```

Is push supported

Checks if the device supports push notifications.

```
Boolean isSupported = MFPPush.getInstance().isPushSupported();

if (isSupported ) {
    // Push is supported
} else {
    // Push is not supported
}
```

Register device

Register the device to the push notifications service.

```
MFPPush.getInstance().registerDevice(new MFPPushResponseListener<String>() {
    @Override
    public void onSuccess(String s) {
        // Successfully registered
    }

    @Override
    public void onFailure(MFPPushException e) {
        // Registration failed with error
    }
});
```

Get tags

Retrieve all the available tags from the push notification service.

```
MFPPush.getInstance().getTags(new MFPPushResponseListener<List<String>>>() {
    @Override
    public void onSuccess(List<String> strings) {
        // Successfully retrieved tags as list of strings
    }

    @Override
    public void onFailure(MFPPushException e) {
        // Failed to receive tags with error
    }
});
```

Subscribe

Subscribe to desired tags.

```
String[] tags = {"Tag 1", "Tag 2"};

MFPPush.getInstance().subscribe(tags, new MFPPushResponseListener<String[]>() {
    @Override
    public void onSuccess(String[] strings) {
        // Subscribed successfully
    }

    @Override
    public void onFailure(MFPPushException e) {
        // Failed to subscribe
    }
});
```

Get subscriptions

Retrieve tags the device is currently subscribed to.

```
MFPPush.getInstance().getSubscriptions(new MFPPushResponseListener<List<String>>() {
    @Override
    public void onSuccess(List<String> strings) {
        // Successfully received subscriptions as list of strings
    }

    @Override
    public void onFailure(MFPPushException e) {
        // Failed to retrieve subscriptions with error
    }
});
```

Unsubscribe

Unsubscribe from tags.

```
String[] tags = {"Tag 1", "Tag 2"};

MFPPush.getInstance().unsubscribe(tags, new MFPPushResponseListener<String[]>() {
    @Override
    public void onSuccess(String[] strings) {
        // Unsubscribed successfully
    }

    @Override
    public void onFailure(MFPPushException e) {
        // Failed to unsubscribe
    }
});
```

Unregister

Unregister the device from push notification service instance.

```
MFPPush.getInstance().unregisterDevice(new MFPPushResponseListener<String>() {
    @Override
    public void onSuccess(String s) {
        disableButtons();
        // Unregistered successfully
    }

    @Override
    public void onFailure(MFPPushException e) {
        // Failed to unregister
    }
});
```

Handling a push notification

In order to handle a push notification you will need to set up a `MFPPushNotificationListener`. This can be achieved by implementing one of the following methods.

Option One

In the activity in which you wish to handle push notifications.

1. Add `implements MFPPushNotificationListener` to the class declaration.
2. Set the class to be the listener by calling `MFPPush.getInstance().listen(this)` in the `onCreate` method.
3. Then you will need to add the following *required* method:

```
@Override
public void onReceive(MFPPushNotification mfpSimplePushNotification) {
    // Handle push notification here
}
```

4. In this method you will receive the `MFPPushNotification` and can handle the notification for the desired behavior.

Option Two

Create a listener by calling `listen(new MFPPushNotificationListener())` on an instance of `MFPPush` as outlined below:

```
MFPPush.getInstance().listen(new MFPPushNotificationListener() {  
    @Override  
    public void onReceive(MFPSimplePushNotification mfpSimplePushNotification) {  
        // Handle push notification here  
    }  
});
```

Sample application

Click to download (<https://github.com/MobileFirst-Platform-Developer-Center/PushNotificationsAndroid/tree/release80>) the Android Studio 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:
`mpdev app register.`
3. Import the project to Android Studio, and run the sample by clicking the **Run** button.

