

# Android SDK

## Lecture 2

Operating Systems Practical

12 October 2016

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.

Applications

Activities

Services

Intents

Broadcast Receivers

Content Providers

Tools

Applications

Activities

Services

Intents

Broadcast Receivers

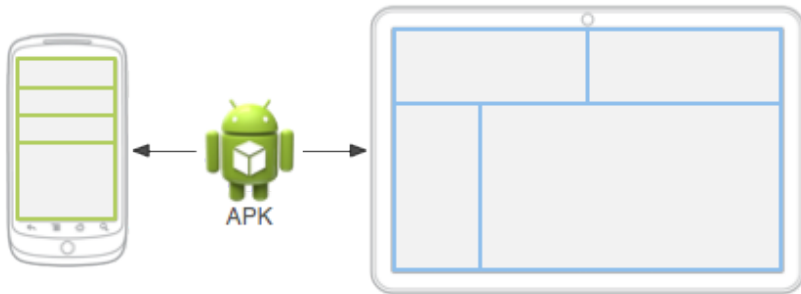
Content Providers

Tools

- ▶ `AndroidManifest.xml` file
- ▶ In the root of an app's directory
- ▶ Describes application components and resources
  - ▶ Application name and Java package name (unique)
  - ▶ Activities, Services, Broadcast Receivers, Content Providers
  - ▶ Main(default) activity
  - ▶ Permissions
  - ▶ Libraries
  - ▶ Target/Minimum API level

- ▶ Request access to resources and APIs for the application
- ▶ Provide security through sandboxing
- ▶ Declared in the Manifest
  - ▶ `<uses-permission`  
    `android:name="android.permission.INTERNET" />`
- ▶ Control who can access your components and resources
  - ▶ Start Activity, start/bind Service, send broadcasts, access data in Content Providers
  - ▶ `<activity android:name=".ExampleActivity"`  
    `android.permission="com.example.perm.START">`  
    ...  
    `</activity>`
  - ▶ URI permissions

- ▶ res/ directory
- ▶ Each resource type in a different subdirectory
  - ▶ Specific name
  - ▶ drawable/, layout/, values/, menu/, xml/, etc.
- ▶ Different configurations may require different resources
  - ▶ Bigger screen -> different layout
  - ▶ Different language -> different strings
  - ▶ Subdirectory for each alternative set of resources
  - ▶ `<resources_name>-<config_qualifier>`
  - ▶ drawable-hdpi/ for High Density Screens
  - ▶ Resource chosen at runtime based on device configuration
- ▶ An ID is generated for each resource name in gen/



Source: <http://developer.android.com>

- ▶ Resources from `res/layouts/`
- ▶ Describe the UI of an activity or part of the UI
- ▶ UI elements
  - ▶ Button, TextView, etc.
- ▶ `res/layout/filename.xml`
  - ▶ `filename` is used as resource ID
  - ▶ `R.layout.filename`
  - ▶ `R.java` includes all resource IDs
- ▶ Can be edited as xml or using graphical tools



```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<LinearLayout xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res
/android"
                android:layout_width="match_parent"
                android:layout_height="match_parent"
                android:orientation="vertical" >
    <TextView    android:id="@+id/text"
                android:layout_width="wrap_content"
                android:layout_height="wrap_content"
                android:text="Hello , I am a TextView" />
    <Button     android:id="@+id/button"
                android:layout_width="wrap_content"
                android:layout_height="wrap_content"
                android:text="Hello , I am a Button" />
</LinearLayout>
```

```
public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
    super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
    setContentView(R.layout.main_activity);
}
```

- ▶ Resources from `res/drawables/`
- ▶ Element that can be drawn on the screen
- ▶ Can be images (.png, .jpg, or .gif) or xmls
- ▶ xmls describe how an UI element reacts to input (pressed, focused)
- ▶ xmls point to images
- ▶ Visual feedback for interaction

Applications

Activities

Services

Intents

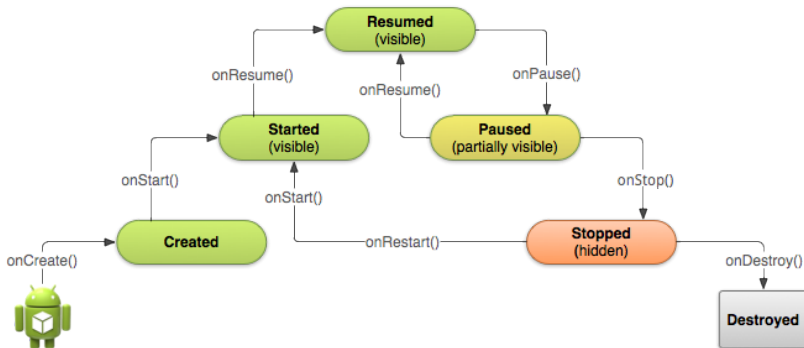
Broadcast Receivers

Content Providers

Tools

- ▶ Application component
- ▶ User interface window, provide user interaction
- ▶ Require a layout
- ▶ Can only draw and change UI from the Looper thread
  - ▶ Computationally intensive or wait based tasks on separate threads
- ▶ An application may include multiple activities
  - ▶ Only one is the main activity
  - ▶ Activities can start each other -> the previous one is stopped
  - ▶ Activity stack ("*back stack*")
  - ▶ Back -> activity destroyed and previous one resumed

```
<manifest ... >
  <application ... >
    <activity android:name=".ExampleActivity" />
    ...
  </application ... >
  ...
</manifest >
```



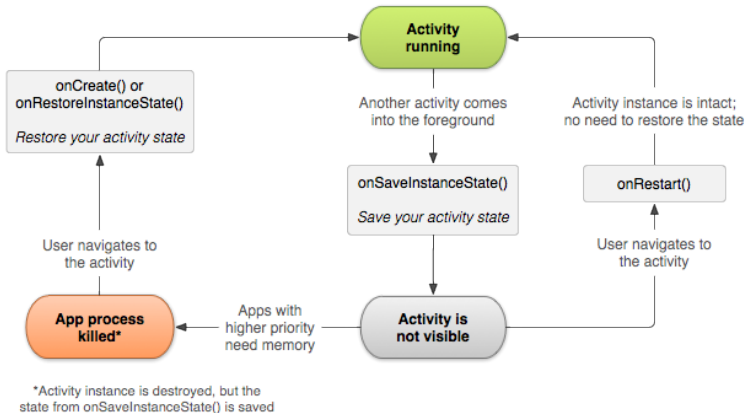
Source: <http://developer.android.com>

```
public class ExampleActivity extends Activity {  
    @Override  
    public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {  
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);  
        // The activity is being created.  
    }  
    @Override  
    protected void onStart() {  
        super.onStart();  
        // The activity is about to become visible.  
    }  
    @Override  
    protected void onResume() {  
        super.onResume();  
        // The activity has become visible (it is now "resumed").  
    }  
    [...]
```

```
[...]
@Override
protected void onPause() {
    super.onPause();
    // Another activity is taking focus (this activity is
    // about to be "paused").
}
@Override
protected void onStop() {
    super.onStop();
    // The activity is no longer visible (is now "stopped")
}
@Override
protected void onDestroy() {
    super.onDestroy();
    // The activity is about to be destroyed.
}
}
```

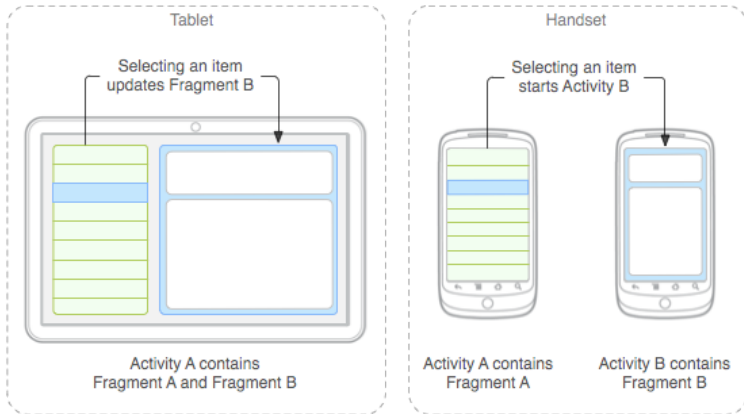


- ▶ Activities can be killed after `onPause()`, `onStop()` in low memory situations
  - ▶ The activity state (objects) are lost
  - ▶ Can preserve state by saving objects
  - ▶ User interaction can be saved and restored
  - ▶ `onSaveInstanceState()` callback
    - ▶ Save information in a `Bundle`
  - ▶ `onCreate()`, `onRestoreInstanceState()`
    - ▶ Restore the activity state
  - ▶ Threads can be stopped gracefully
    - ▶ In `onPause()` threads should be signaled to stop

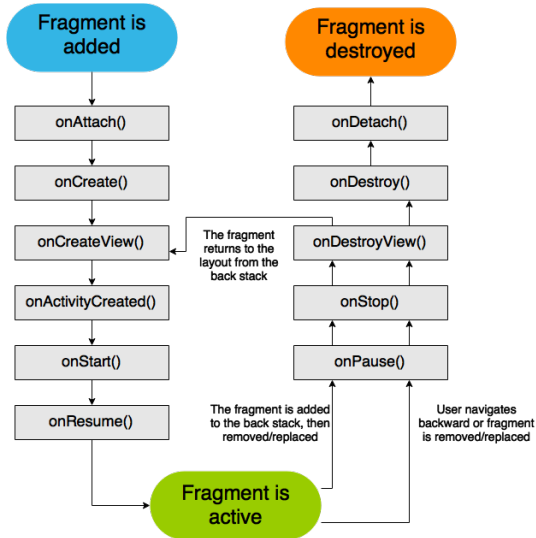


Source: <http://developer.android.com>

- ▶ Represent portions of UI in an Activity
- ▶ Can be combined to build a multi-pane UI
  - ▶ Same code, different layout for phone / tablet
- ▶ Can be reused in multiple Activities



Source: <http://developer.android.com>



Source: <http://developer.android.com>

- ▶ UI is a hierarchy of views
- ▶ View: rectangular space, provides user interaction
- ▶ Buttons, Lists, Images, TextViews, EditTexts
- ▶ Callbacks for actions
  - ▶ `onTouch()`, `onClick()`, `onLongClick()`
- ▶ A `ViewGroup` is a container for other Views or `ViewGroups`
- ▶ View / `ViewGroup` classes can be extended to create complex views
- ▶ Adapters allows for more complex data types to be displayed

Applications

Activities

Services

Intents

Broadcast Receivers

Content Providers

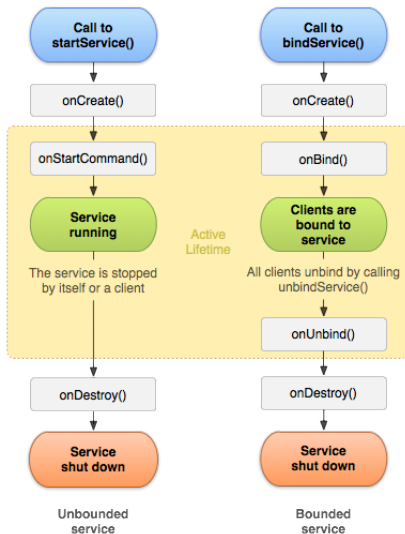
Tools

- ▶ Perform operations in the background
- ▶ Do not provide a UI
- ▶ Continue to run even if another application is in foreground
- ▶ Able to perform network transactions, file I/O operations, interact with content providers, etc.
- ▶ Run in the main thread of the hosting process
  - ▶ A separate thread should be created if the service performs CPU intensive or blocking operations
- ▶ Start using Intents
- ▶ Private service



```
<manifest ... >
  ...
  <application ... >
    <service android:name=". ExampleService"
             android:exported=" false" />
    ...
  </application>
</manifest>
```

- ▶ Started
  - ▶ An application component calls `startService()`
  - ▶ Performs a single operation, then stops itself and does not return a result to the caller
  - ▶ Runs even if the caller component is destroyed
- ▶ Bound
  - ▶ An application component binds to it by calling `bindService()`
  - ▶ Provides a client-server interface - send requests, return results
  - ▶ Runs as long as the application component is bound to it
  - ▶ Check for null service
  - ▶ Multiple components can bind to a service at once
  - ▶ Service destroyed after all components unbind



Source: <http://developer.android.com>

```

public class ExampleService extends Service {
    int mStartMode;           // indicates how to behave
                             // if the service is killed
    IBinder mBinder;         // interface for clients that bind
    boolean mAllowRebind;    // indicates whether onRebind
                             // should be used

    @Override
    public void onCreate() {
        // The service is being created
    }

    @Override
    public int onStartCommand(Intent intent, int flags,
                             int startId) {
        // The service is starting,
        // due to a call to startService()
        return mStartMode;
    }
    [...]
}

```

```
[...]
@Override
public IBinder onBind(Intent intent) {
    // A client is binding to the service with bindService()
    return mBinder;
}
@Override
public boolean onUnbind(Intent intent) {
    // All clients have unbound with unbindService()
    return mAllowRebind;
}
@Override
public void onRebind(Intent intent) {
    // A client is binding to the service with bindService(),
    // after onUnbind() has already been called
}
@Override
public void onDestroy() {
    // The service is no longer used and is being destroyed
}
}
```

Applications

Activities

Services

**Intents**

Broadcast Receivers

Content Providers

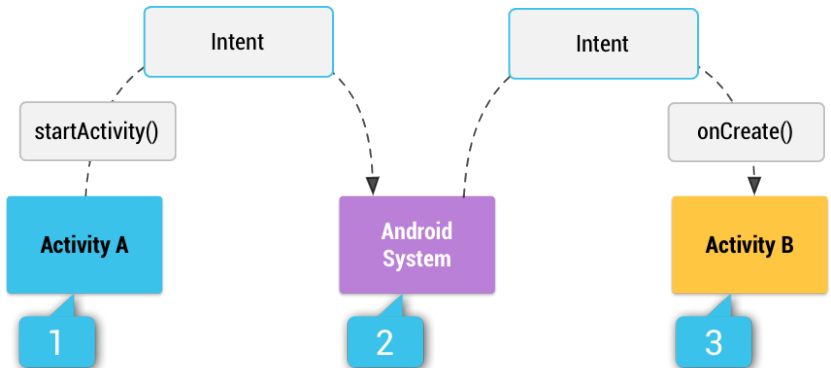
Tools

- ▶ An object used for delivering a message
- ▶ Includes: target, action and data
- ▶ Intent filters
  - ▶ Declare the types of intents that a component can receive
  - ▶ Specified in the manifest - `<intent-filter>`
  - ▶ `<action>`, `<data>`

- ▶ Starting an activity
  - ▶ Pass Intent to `startActivity()` or `startActivityForResult()`
- ▶ Starting or binding a service
  - ▶ Pass Intent to `startService()` or `bindService()`
- ▶ Delivering a broadcast message
  - ▶ Pass Intent to `sendBroadcast()`, `sendOrderedBroadcast()`, or `sendStickyBroadcast()`



- ▶ Explicit intents
  - ▶ Specify exactly which component to start (the class name)
  - ▶ Typically used to start components in your own app
  - ▶ Will be delivered even if there is no intent filter declared
- ▶ Implicit intents
  - ▶ Do not specify the exact component
  - ▶ Declare a general action to be performed
  - ▶ The Android system finds the appropriate component
  - ▶ Compares the intent to the intent filters in the manifest of the apps
  - ▶ Multiple components that match the intent
  - ▶ Intent filters are mandatory



Source: <http://developer.android.com>

```
// Create the text message with a string
Intent sendIntent = new Intent();
sendIntent.setAction(Intent.ACTION_SEND);
sendIntent.putExtra(Intent.EXTRA_TEXT, textMessage);
sendIntent.setType("text/plain");

// Verify that the intent will resolve to an activity
if (sendIntent.resolveActivity(getPackageManager()) != null) {
    startActivity(sendIntent);
}
```

```
<activity android:name=".ExampleActivity">
    <intent-filter>
        <action android:name="android.intent.action.SEND" />
        <category android:name="android.intent.category.DEFAULT" />
        <data android:mimeType="text/plain" />
    </intent-filter>
</activity>
```

Applications

Activities

Services

Intents

**Broadcast Receivers**

Content Providers

Tools

- ▶ Responds to system-wide broadcast announcements
- ▶ The system generates many broadcasts
  - ▶ Example: battery is low, screen has turned off, etc.
- ▶ Apps can generate broadcasts - send an announcement for other apps
- ▶ No UI, may create a notification in the status bar to alert the user
- ▶ The receiver lets other components perform the work based on the event

- ▶ Each broadcast is delivered as an *Intent*
  - ▶ Intent passed to `startBroadcast()` or `startOrderedBroadcast()`
- ▶ Local broadcasts using *LocalBroadcastManager*
  - ▶ More efficient
  - ▶ Data does not leave the app
  - ▶ Other apps cannot send the broadcast - no security holes
- ▶ Register a receiver in two ways
  - ▶ Statically in the manifest using the `<receiver>` tag
  - ▶ Dynamically using `Context.registerReceiver()`

- ▶ Normal broadcasts
  - ▶ Completely Asynchronous
  - ▶ All receivers run in an undefined order
  - ▶ `sendBroadcast()`
- ▶ Ordered broadcasts
  - ▶ Delivered to one receiver at a time
  - ▶ Each receiver executes and may propagate the result to the next or abort the broadcast
  - ▶ The order is determined using the `android:priority` in the `<intent-filter>` of the receiver
  - ▶ `sendOrderedBroadcast()`



```
<manifest ... >
  <uses-permission android:name=
    "android.permission.RECEIVE_BOOT_COMPLETED" />
  <application ... >
    <receiver android:name="ExampleReceiver" >
      <intent-filter>
        <action android:name=
          "android.intent.action.BOOT_COMPLETED" />
      </intent-filter>
    </receiver>
    ...
  </application ... >
  ...
</manifest >
```

```
public class ExampleReceiver extends BroadcastReceiver {  
    @Override  
    public void onReceive(Context context, Intent intent) {  
        Intent intent = new Intent(context,  
                                   ExampleService.class);  
        context.startService(intent);  
    }  
}
```

Applications

Activities

Services

Intents

Broadcast Receivers

Content Providers

Tools

- ▶ Provides access to a repository of data
- ▶ System Content Providers
- ▶ To access a provider you have to request specific permissions (in the manifest)
  - ▶ `<uses-permission  
    android:name="android.permission.READ_USER-  
    DICTIONARY">`
- ▶ Two ways of storing data
  - ▶ File data - audio, video, photos
  - ▶ Structured data - database, array, etc.
    - ▶ Form compatible with tables of rows and columns
    - ▶ Usually a SQLite database

- ▶ Interface for accessing data in one process from another process
  - ▶ Provider and client
  - ▶ The application that owns the data includes the provider
  - ▶ The client application owns the client
- ▶ Access data using a *ContentResolver* client object
  - ▶ Its methods provide CRUD (create, retrieve, update, delete) functions
  - ▶ Calls the methods with the same name in the *ContentProvider* object

- ▶ Identify data in the provider
- ▶ Include a symbolic name for the provider (*authority*) and a name for the table (*path*)
  - ▶ Example: `content://user_dictionary/words`
  - ▶ The *ContentResolver* uses the *authority* for identifying the provider
  - ▶ From a system table with all known providers
  - ▶ The *ContentResolver* sends a query to the provider
  - ▶ The *ContentProvider* uses the *path* to identify the table

```
mCursor = getContentResolver().query(
    UserDictionary.Words.CONTENT_URI,
    mProjection,
    mSelectionClause,
    mSelectionArgs,
    mSortOrder);
[...]
```

```
mNewUri = getContentResolver().insert(
    UserDictionary.Word.CONTENT_URI,
    mNewValues);
[...]
```

```
mRowsUpdated = getContentResolver().update(
    UserDictionary.Words.CONTENT_URI,
    mUpdateValues,
    mSelectionClause,
    mSelectionArgs);
```

Applications

Activities

Services

Intents

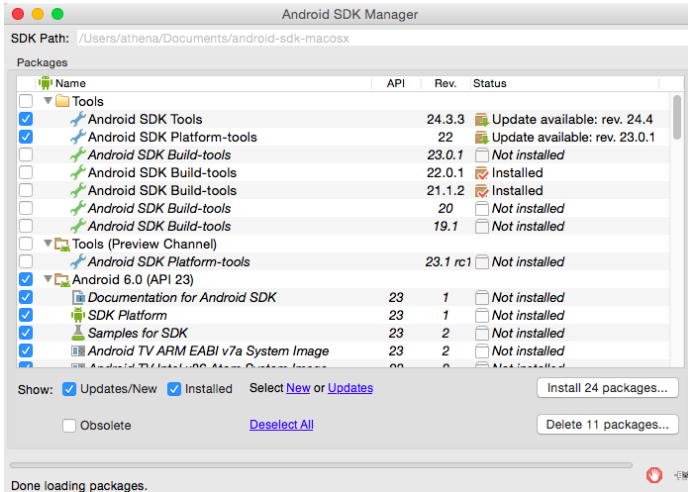
Broadcast Receivers

Content Providers

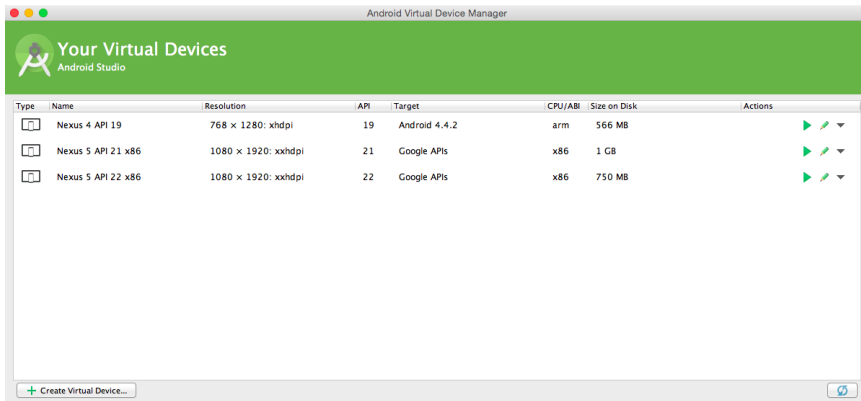
Tools



- ▶ Android SDK Manager
  - ▶ Download SDK packages, samples, emulator images, tools



- ▶ AVD Manager
  - ▶ Manages Android Virtual Devices (for emulator)
- ▶ Emulator
  - ▶ Virtual mobile devices running on a PC



- ▶ Dalvik Debug Monitor Server (ddms)
  - ▶ Debugging tool
  - ▶ Port forwarding, screen capture, call and SMS spoofing, location spoofing, etc.
- ▶ Android Debug Bridge (adb)
  - ▶ Communication between the development tools and (virtual) device
- ▶ dx
  - ▶ Generates the `classes.dex` file from several `.class` files

- ▶ Android Interface Definition Language (aidl)
  - ▶ To allow clients from another application to access your service
  - ▶ Generates interfaces and stubs that are used by the Binder
- ▶ Android Asset Packaging Tool (aapt)
  - ▶ Create, update and view Zip-compatible archives (zip, apk, jar)
  - ▶ Compile resources into binary assets (XML files, etc.)
- ▶ dexdump
  - ▶ Disassembler tool
  - ▶ Obtain the Dalvik bytecode from `classes.dex`

- ▶ Three components
  - ▶ Client: runs on the development machine
  - ▶ Server: background process on the development machine
  - ▶ Daemon: background process on the (virtual) device
- ▶ Copy files
- ▶ Install applications
- ▶ Debug
- ▶ Shell on the (virtual) device

- ▶ QEMU
- ▶ Screen, Keyboard, Network, Audio, GPS, Radio
- ▶ Can be accelerated through virtualization
  - ▶ x86 System Image
  - ▶ Intel Hardware Accelerated Execution Manager (HAXM) on Windows
  - ▶ KVM on Linux
- ▶ GPU accelerated

- ▶ <http://developer.android.com/guide/topics/manifest/manifest-intro.html>
- ▶ <http://developer.android.com/guide/topics/resources/overview.html>
- ▶ <http://developer.android.com/guide/components/activities.html>
- ▶ <http://developer.android.com/guide/components/services.html>
- ▶ <http://developer.android.com/guide/topics/providers/content-providers.html>
- ▶ <http://developer.android.com/guide/components/intents-filters.html>
- ▶ <http://developer.android.com/tools/help/index.html>

- ▶ Manifest file
- ▶ Permissions
- ▶ Resources
- ▶ Layouts
- ▶ Drawables
- ▶ Activity
- ▶ Service
- ▶ Intent
- ▶ Broadcast Receiver
- ▶ Content Provider
- ▶ Content URI
- ▶ Tools