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|  | [Android - enable USB tethering programmatically - there is an app that did it for 2.3](http://stackoverflow.com/questions/9913645/android-enable-usb-tethering-programmatically-there-is-an-app-that-did-it-fo) I've read many questions here on SO that ask how to enable USB tethering programmatically.  The answer is always the same, ordinary applications can't do it, only system apps.  Yet for 2.3 you could download an app in the market that would do it for you.  <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.tdtran.autousbtethering>  On ICS (Android 4.0.3) it no longer works.  How did they do it for 2.3? Is it possible also for 4.0?  [android](http://stackoverflow.com/questions/tagged/android) [usb](http://stackoverflow.com/questions/tagged/usb" \o "show questions tagged 'usb')   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | [share](http://stackoverflow.com/q/9913645)|[improve this question](http://stackoverflow.com/posts/9913645/edit) | [edited Oct 2 '12 at 7:47](http://stackoverflow.com/posts/9913645/revisions)  [kaiz.net](http://stackoverflow.com/users/3714/kaiz-net) **1,603**31625 | asked Mar 28 '12 at 18:35  [Elad Nava](http://stackoverflow.com/users/1123355/elad-nava) **1,419**1416 | |
|  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | | "The answer is always the same, ordinary applications can't do it, only system apps." -- More accurately, there is nothing in the Android SDK to manage USB tethering. –  [CommonsWare](http://stackoverflow.com/users/115145/commonsware" \o "364550 reputation) Mar 28 '12 at 19:40 | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **1** |  | | Yes, so how did that app manage to do it? It may not be in the SDK but it certainly is possible! Was it a dirty trick? An exploit? Maybe it was patched in 4.0? –  [Elad Nava](http://stackoverflow.com/users/1123355/elad-nava" \o "1419 reputation) Mar 29 '12 at 20:04 |   add comment |

**4 Answers**

[active](http://stackoverflow.com/questions/9913645/android-enable-usb-tethering-programmatically-there-is-an-app-that-did-it-fo?answertab=active#tab-top)[oldest](http://stackoverflow.com/questions/9913645/android-enable-usb-tethering-programmatically-there-is-an-app-that-did-it-fo?answertab=oldest#tab-top)[votes](http://stackoverflow.com/questions/9913645/android-enable-usb-tethering-programmatically-there-is-an-app-that-did-it-fo?answertab=votes#tab-top)

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| up vote4down vote | using the following code you can enable USB tethering. i didt test in 4.0.  public void switchOnTethering() {  Object obj = getSystemService(Context.CONNECTIVITY\_SERVICE);  for (Method m : obj.getClass().getDeclaredMethods()) {  if (m.getName().equals("tether")) {  try {  m.invoke(obj, "usb0");  } catch (IllegalArgumentException e) {  // TODO Auto-generated catch block  e.printStackTrace();  } catch (IllegalAccessException e) {  // TODO Auto-generated catch block  e.printStackTrace();  } catch (InvocationTargetException e) {  // TODO Auto-generated catch block  e.printStackTrace();  }  }  }  }   |  |  | | --- | --- | | [share](http://stackoverflow.com/a/10898921)|[improve this answer](http://stackoverflow.com/posts/10898921/edit) | answered Jun 5 '12 at 14:09  [abbas.aniefa](http://stackoverflow.com/users/504292/abbas-aniefa) **1,565**417 | |
|  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | | What device did you test this on? My Samsung Galaxy S II does not have a "usb0" interface. (According to netcfg) –  [Elad Nava](http://stackoverflow.com/users/1123355/elad-nava" \o "1419 reputation) Jul 12 '12 at 21:32 | | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | | is your Samsung S II has ICS ? i have tested in many devices, except ICS and above its working in all devices. –  [abbas.aniefa](http://stackoverflow.com/users/504292/abbas-aniefa" \o "1565 reputation) Jul 16 '12 at 4:53 | | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | | Yeah, it has ICS. Did this change in ICS? –  [Elad Nava](http://stackoverflow.com/users/1123355/elad-nava" \o "1419 reputation) Aug 17 '12 at 21:24 | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **1** |  | | Above code work is not working in ICS. I have tried in many ways and tired now. Please share if you find the way to switch on.. –  [abbas.aniefa](http://stackoverflow.com/users/504292/abbas-aniefa" \o "1565 reputation) Aug 20 '12 at 5:11 |   add comment |
| up vote2down vote | **ICS and above:** To execute the reflection method, the application would require the WRITE\_SECURE\_SETTINGS permission.  This is not available unless the phone is rooted.   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | [share](http://stackoverflow.com/a/12209096)|[improve this answer](http://stackoverflow.com/posts/12209096/edit) | [edited Aug 31 '12 at 6:35](http://stackoverflow.com/posts/12209096/revisions)  [Anuj Balan](http://stackoverflow.com/users/818557/anuj-balan) **2,362**52049 | answered Aug 31 '12 at 4:53  [ics.user](http://stackoverflow.com/users/1637740/ics-user) **29**1 | |
|  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | | Thanks, will check it out and let you know. –  [Elad Nava](http://stackoverflow.com/users/1123355/elad-nava" \o "1419 reputation) Sep 8 '12 at 12:07 | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **1** |  | | That's only the first problem. Then you will get this: 01-17 22:29:40.983: E/Tethering(2632): Tried to Tether an unknown iface :usb0, ignoring On my HTC Sensation, it was actually rndis0 instead of usb0!? –  [3c71](http://stackoverflow.com/users/807452/3c71) Jan 17 '13 at 15:30 |   add comment |

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| up vote2down vote | since this is one of the most popular pages in the Google results for this topic I'd like to contribute my code which is checking the available interfaces. It does work on a Gingerbread phone I have, but not my Galaxy S3.  // DETECT INTERFACE NAME  Log.i("UsbTethering","Detecting tetherable usb interface.");  String[] available = null;  ConnectivityManager connMgr = (ConnectivityManager)connectivityServiceObject;  Method[] wmMethods = connMgr.getClass().getDeclaredMethods();  for(Method getMethod: wmMethods)  {  if(getMethod.getName().equals("getTetherableUsbRegexs"))  {  try  {  available = (String[]) getMethod.invoke(connMgr);  break;  }  catch (Exception e)  {  e.printStackTrace();  }  }  }  // DETECT INTERFACE NAME  if(available.length > 0)  {  for(String interfaceName : available)  {  Log.i("UsbTethering", "Detected " + String.valueOf(available.length) + " tetherable usb interfaces.");  Log.i("UsbTethering", "Trying to " + desiredString + " UsbTethering on interface " + interfaceName + "...");  Integer returnCode = (Integer)method.invoke(connectivityServiceObject, interfaceName);  if(returnCode == 0)  {  Log.i("UsbTethering", "UsbTethering " + desiredString + "d.");  return true;  }  else  {  Log.w("UsbTethering", "Failed to " + desiredString + "Usb Tethering. ReturnCode of method " + method.getName() + ": " + String.valueOf(returnCode));  }  }  }   |  |  | | --- | --- | | [share](http://stackoverflow.com/a/14689834)|[improve this answer](http://stackoverflow.com/posts/14689834/edit) | answered Feb 4 '13 at 15:23  [Jens](http://stackoverflow.com/users/2032925/jens) **28**6 | |
|  | add comment |
| up vote1down vote | On Samsumg Galaxy Tab 2 10.1 the interface isn't called "usb0" but "rndis0". Maybe that's the same for Galaxy SII |