# Unit-3

# **XML Naming scheme**

- In Android, XML (eXtensible Markup Language) is commonly used for defining layouts, resources, and configurations for Android applications.
- In Android, XML naming schemes are conventions used for naming XML resources and elements.
- When naming XML files in Android, it's important to follow a specific naming convention to
  ensure consistency and clarity in your project. Proper naming is essential to maintain
  consistency, readability, and organization within your Android project.

Here are some common XML naming schemes / naming conventions and guidelines for naming XML files in Android:

- 1. **Resource Naming Conventions:** In Android, XML files are used for various types of resources such as layouts, drawables, strings, colors, styles, dimensions, and more. Each resource type has its own naming conventions. These conventions help developers for easily identify the purpose and type of each resource. For example:
  - Layout files: Should be named in lowercase with underscores (e.g., activity\_main.xml).
  - Drawable resources: Should use lowercase letters and underscores (e.g., ic\_launcher.png).
  - String resources: Should be named in lowercase with underscores (e.g., app\_name).

# **MyApp**

- 2. **IDs in XML:** When assigning IDs to XML elements (e.g., views in a layout file), it's recommended to use lowercase letters and underscores to create a clear and descriptive name. For example, a Button with the ID would be named <a href="button\_submit">button\_submit</a>.
- 3. **Layout Files**: Layout XML files, which define the user interface of your app, are typically named in lowercase with underscores separating words. For example, if you have a layout for the main activity, you might name it <a href="main:activity\_main.xml">activity\_main.xml</a>.
- 4. **Resource Names Must Be Unique**: It's essential to ensure that resource names are unique within their respective resource type. Android uses these names to locate and reference resources.
- 5. **Consistency:** Consistency is key when following naming conventions. Ensure that you and your team adhere to the same conventions throughout the project to maintain readability and ease of maintenance.

- 6. **Descriptive Names:** Choose XML element names that are descriptive and reflect the purpose of the element. For instance, if you have a TextView that displays a user's name, use an ID like text\_view\_user\_name.
- Avoid Special Characters: Avoid using special characters, spaces, or reserved XML characters in XML resource names. Use alphanumeric characters and underscores for simplicity.
- 8. **CamelCase vs. Underscores:** While lowercase letters with underscores are commonly used in resource names, some developers also prefer camelCase for better readability. Choose a convention that works best for your team and stick to it.
- 9. **Folder Structure:** In addition to XML naming, Android also has specific folder structure conventions for organizing XML resource files. For example, layout files are typically placed in the "res/layout" folder.
- 10. **Comments:** Consider adding comments to your XML files to provide context and explanations for complex layouts or resource files, especially when working on a team.
- 11. **Use lowercase letters**: Use all lowercase letters for XML file names. This is the standard convention in Android development.

Example:

```
activity_main.xml
fragment_sample.xml
```

12. **Use underscores for spaces**: If you need to separate words in the file name, use underscores (\_) instead of spaces.

Example:

```
activity_main.xml
fragment_sample.xml
```

- 13. **Prefixes for specific types of XML files**: Prefixes can be added to the XML file names to indicate their purpose or type. Some common prefixes include:
  - o "activity\_" for activity layouts
  - o "fragment\_" for fragment layouts
  - o "item\_" for item layouts (e.g., in RecyclerView)
  - o "dialog\_" for dialog layouts
  - "menu\_" for menu XML
  - "layout\_" for generic layouts

Example:

```
activity_main.xml
fragment_details.xml
item_list.xml
dialog_custom.xml
menu_main.xml
layout_custom.xml
```

14. **Using qualifiers**: You can also use resource qualifiers to provide different versions of XML files based on device characteristics such as screen size, orientation, and more.

Example:

```
activity_main.xml (default layout)
activity_main_land.xml (landscape layout)
activity_main_sw600dp.xml (layout for devices with a smallest width of 600dp)
```

# XML syntax

XML (eXtensible Markup Language) is a widely used language for defining structured data and configuration files in Android development. XML files are often used to define layouts, resources, animations, menus, and other configurations in Android applications. Here's an overview of the basic syntax for creating XML files in Android:

#### 1. XML Declaration:

The XML declaration is optional but can be used to specify the XML version and encoding.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
```

#### 2. Root Element:

Every XML file must have a single root element that contains all other elements.

```
<root_element>
    <!-- Other elements and content -->
</root_element>
```

#### 3. Elements:

Elements are the building blocks of XML and can contain other elements, text, or attributes.

```
<element_name attribute1="value1" attribute2="value2">
    <!-- Content or nested elements -->
</element_name>
```

# 4. Attributes:

Elements can have attributes to provide additional information about the element.

```
<element_name attribute="value">
    <!-- Content or nested elements -->
</element_name>
```

# 5. Self-closing Elements:

Elements without content can be self-closed using a forward slash at the end.

```
<self_closing_element attribute="value" />
```

#### 6. Comments:

Comments can be added using <!-- comment text -->.

```
<!-- This is a comment -->
```

# 7. Special Characters:

Certain characters like <, >, &, '', and '' must be escaped using predefined entities.

```
< for <
    &gt; for >
    &amp; for &
    &apos; for '
    &quot; for "
```

#### 8. CDATA Section:

CDATA (Character Data) sections can be used to include blocks of text that should not be parsed as XML.

```
<![CDATA[This is CDATA content]]>
```

# 9. Namespace Declarations:

XML namespaces allow you to avoid element name conflicts in XML documents.

```
<prefix:element xmlns:prefix="namespaceURI">
    <!-- Content -->
</prefix:element>
```

# **XML Referencing**

In Android, XML referencing involves using XML to define resources and references that are later utilized within the Android application. This is a fundamental concept, especially when dealing with layouts, resources, and other components in Android development. Here's how XML referencing works in Android:

# 1. Defining Resources in XML:

Resources in Android, such as strings, colors, dimensions, and styles, are usually defined in XML files under the res/ directory.

```
<!-- res/values/strings.xml -->
<resources>
    <string name="app_name">MyApp</string>
</resources>
```

# 2. Referencing Resources in XML:

You can reference these resources from other XML files using the <code>@</code> symbol followed by the resource type and name.

```
<!-- res/layout/activity_main.xml -->
<RelativeLayout xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
    xmlns:tools="http://schemas.android.com/tools"
    android:layout_width="match_parent"
    android:layout_height="match_parent"
    tools:context=".MainActivity">

    </re>

<TextView
    android:id="@+id/textView"
    android:layout_width="wrap_content"
    android:layout_height="wrap_content"
    android:text="@string/app_name" />
</RelativeLayout>
```

In this example, @string/app\_name references the string resource defined in strings.xml.

# 3. Referencing IDs in XML:

IDs for UI components (like buttons, text views, etc.) can be assigned in XML using the android:id attribute. These IDs can then be referenced in Java/Kotlin code.

```
<Button
    android:id="@+id/myButton"
    android:layout_width="wrap_content"
    android:layout_height="wrap_content"
    android:text="Click me" />
```

# 4. Referencing Dimensions in XML:

Dimensions (e.g., width, height) can be defined in XML and referenced in other XML files.

# 5. Referencing Colors in XML:

Colors can also be defined in XML and referenced in other XML files.

# **XML constants**

In Android, XML constants refer to values that are defined in XML files and remain constant throughout the execution of the application. These constants are typically used for various purposes, such as defining colors, dimensions, strings, styles, and other resource values. Using XML constants promotes maintainability, consistency, and reusability in the application. Here are some common types of XML constants in Android:

# 1. String Constants:

# 2. Color Constants:

# 3. Dimension Constants:

# 4. Style Constants:

# 5. Integer and Boolean Constants:

# 6. Array Constants:

#### 7. Drawable Constants:

You can define drawable resources, which can be images or shapes, in XML.

```
<!-- res/drawable/ic_launcher.xml -->
<layer-list xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android">
        <item android:drawable="@drawable/ic_launcher_foreground" />
        </layer-list>
```

These XML constants can then be referenced in various parts of your Android application, such as in layouts, styles, and other XML files. For example, you might reference a string constant in a layout file like this:

```
<TextView
    android:id="@+id/welcome_text"
    android:layout_width="wrap_content"
    android:layout_height="wrap_content"
    android:text="@string/welcome_message" />
```

By using XML constants, you can centralize and manage your application's resources efficiently, making it easier to update and maintain your app.

# **XML Styles**

In Android, styles in XML are used to define a set of appearance and behavior attributes that can be applied to various UI elements, providing a consistent look and feel throughout the application. Styles help maintain a standardized design and reduce redundancy by allowing you to define a set of properties and reuse them across multiple UI components. Here's how you can define and use styles in XML for Android:

# 1. Defining a Style in XML:

Styles are typically defined in the res/values/styles.xml resource file or a separate XML file under res/values.

# 2. Applying a Style to a UI Element:

You can apply a style to a UI element in a layout XML file using the style attribute.

```
<!-- res/layout/activity_main.xml -->
<TextView
    android:id="@+id/textView"
    android:layout_width="wrap_content"
    android:layout_height="wrap_content"
    style="@style/MyTextStyle"
    android:text="Hello World!" />
```

# 3. Inheriting Styles:

Styles can inherit from other styles using the parent attribute.

# 4. Using Inherited Styles:

You can apply inherited styles to UI elements.

```
<Button
   android:id="@+id/myButton"
   android:layout_width="wrap_content"
   android:layout_height="wrap_content"
   style="@style/MyButtonStyle"
   android:text="Click me" />
```

# 5. Using Style Attributes:

Styles can define various attributes like colors, dimensions, text appearance, etc.

```
<style name="MyButtonStyle">
        <item name="android:textColor">@color/my_button_text_color</item>
        <item name="android:layout_width">@dimen/my_button_width</item>
        <!-- ... -->
</style>
```

In summary, styles in Android XML allow you to define a set of attributes once and apply them to multiple UI elements, promoting consistency and maintainability in your app's design. Styles can be applied to various UI components, making it easier to manage the appearance and behavior of your application.

# **XML Colors**

In Android, colors can be defined in XML resource files and referenced throughout your application. This approach allows for consistency in color usage and makes it easy to manage and update colors across your app. Here's how you can define and use colors in XML for Android:

# 1. Defining Colors in XML:

Colors are typically defined in the res/values/colors.xml resource file or a separate XML file under res/values.

# 2. Referencing Colors in XML Layouts:

You can reference the colors defined in your XML resource file using the <code>@color/your\_color\_name</code> syntax in your layout XML files.

```
<Button
   android:id="@+id/myButton"
   android:layout_width="wrap_content"
   android:layout_height="wrap_content"
   android:background="@color/colorPrimary"
   android:text="Click me" />
```

# 3. Referencing Colors in Java/Kotlin Code:

To use colors in your Java/Kotlin code, you can use the ContextCompat utility class to retrieve the color resource.

```
int primaryColor = ContextCompat.getColor(context, R.color.colorPrimary);
```

# 4. Using Colors in Styles:

Colors can also be used in styles to define the color of text, background, etc.

By defining colors in XML resource files, you centralize your color definitions and make it easier to manage and update them across your application. Using color references throughout your app ensures a consistent color scheme and promotes maintainability in your Android project.

# **View Group Class**

In Android, ViewGroup is a subclass of the View class that acts as a container for other views (UI components or widgets). It is used to organize and manage the layout and positioning of its child views. A ViewGroup can contain other ViewGroup instances or UI components like buttons, text fields, images, etc.

Here are some important ViewGroup classes and their roles in Android:

# 1. LinearLayout:

LinearLayout is a view group that arranges its children either horizontally or vertically in a single direction. You can specify this orientation using the android:orientation attribute (either "horizontal" or "vertical").

# 2. RelativeLayout:

RelativeLayout is a view group that arranges its children relative to each other or to the parent. It allows you to position views relative to the parent or other views.

#### 3. FrameLayout:

FrameLayout is a simple view group that stacks its children on top of each other. The views are placed in a stack and only the topmost view is visible.

# 4. ConstraintLayout:

ConstraintLayout is a flexible and powerful layout that allows you to create complex layouts with a flat view hierarchy. It's useful for creating responsive and adaptive layouts.

#### 5. GridLayout:

GridLayout is a layout that arranges its children in a grid, similar to a table. It allows you to specify the number of rows and columns and arrange the views accordingly.

#### 6. TableLayout:

TableLayout is a view group that arranges its children into rows and columns, much like an HTML table. It's useful for creating layouts that resemble tables.

# 7. LinearLayoutCompat, RelativeLayoutCompat, etc.:

These are compatibility versions of the original LinearLayout, RelativeLayout, etc., which provide features and behaviors consistent across different Android versions.

#### 8. ScrollView and HorizontalScrollView:

These are specialized view groups that allow you to create scrolling views. ScrollView allows vertical scrolling, while HorizontalScrollView allows horizontal scrolling.

These ViewGroup classes are used extensively to create complex and flexible layouts in Android applications. By nesting different types of ViewGroup instances and UI components within them, you can achieve the desired structure and design for your app's user interface.

# **Example:**

Sure, let's create a custom ViewGroup class that extends LinearLayout and adds a few child views to it. In this example, we'll create a custom ViewGroup called CustomViewGroup and add some TextView children to it.

# 1. Custom ViewGroup Class:

```
import android.content.Context;
import android.util.AttributeSet;
import android.view.ViewGroup;
import android.widget.LinearLayout;
import android.widget.TextView;
public class CustomViewGroup extends LinearLayout {
    public CustomViewGroup(Context context) {
        super(context);
        init();
   }
    public CustomViewGroup(Context context, AttributeSet attrs) {
        super(context, attrs);
        init();
   }
    private void init() {
        setOrientation(LinearLayout.VERTICAL);
        // Create and add TextViews as children
        for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
            TextView textView = new TextView(getContext());
            textView.setText("TextView " + (i + 1));
            addView(textView);
        }
    }
}
```

# 2. Usage in an Activity:

```
import android.os.Bundle;
import android.support.v7.app.AppCompatActivity;
import android.widget.LinearLayout;

public class MainActivity extends AppCompatActivity {

    @Override
    protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.activity_main);

    // Get a reference to the LinearLayout where the custom ViewGroup will be added
```

```
LinearLayout linearLayout = findViewById(R.id.container);

// Create an instance of the custom ViewGroup
CustomViewGroup customViewGroup = new CustomViewGroup(this);

// Add the custom ViewGroup to the LinearLayout
linearLayout.addView(customViewGroup);
}
```

# 3. Layout XML (activity\_main.xml):

```
<LinearLayout xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
    xmlns:tools="http://schemas.android.com/tools"
    android:id="@+id/container"
    android:layout_width="match_parent"
    android:layout_height="match_parent"
    android:padding="16dp"
    android:orientation="vertical"
    tools:context=".MainActivity">
</LinearLayout>
```

In this example, we create a custom <code>ViewGroup</code> called <code>CustomViewGroup</code> that extends <code>LinearLayout</code>. Inside the <code>init()</code> method, we set the orientation to vertical and add five <code>TextView</code> children to the <code>CustomViewGroup</code>. We then use this custom <code>ViewGroup</code> in an <code>Activity</code> by adding it to a <code>LinearLayout</code>. The <code>TextViews</code> will be displayed vertically within the <code>custom ViewGroup</code>.

# **View Class**

In Android, the View class is a fundamental building block for creating the user interface (UI) of an Android application. All UI components or widgets, such as buttons, text fields, images, etc., inherit from the View class. The View class represents a rectangular area on the screen where it can be drawn, handle events, and perform other UI-related functions.

Here are some key aspects and functionalities associated with the View class in Android:

# 1. Rendering and Drawing:

The View class is responsible for rendering itself on the screen. It provides methods like onDraw() where you can define how the view should be drawn.

# 2. Event Handling:

Views can respond to various user interactions and events, such as clicks, touches, and gestures. Event handling is typically achieved by implementing event listener interfaces (e.g., OnClickListener), OnTouchListener) and setting up appropriate event listeners.

#### 3. Layout Parameters:

Views have associated layout parameters that define how they should be arranged within their parent view group. Common layout parameters include width, height, margin, and gravity.

# 4. Accessibility:

The View class includes features to support accessibility, allowing developers to make their applications accessible to users with disabilities.

#### 5. View States:

Views can have different states based on user interactions (e.g., pressed, selected, focused), and you can define different appearances for these states.

#### 6. Animations:

Views can be animated using the Android animation framework, allowing for smooth transitions and visual effects.

#### 7. View IDs:

Each View can have a unique identifier (ID) associated with it, which is useful for referencing and finding views in the application code.

# 8. Inflating Views from XML:

Views can be defined in XML layout files and inflated into corresponding View objects in the application code.

The View class is a fundamental part of the Android UI framework and is extended by various subclasses, each representing a specific type of UI component. For example, Button, TextView, ImageView, and many other UI components extend the View class, allowing for a wide range of interactive and visually appealing user interfaces in Android applications.

# Example 1:

Sure, let's create a simple example using the View class to draw a custom shape on the screen. In this example, we'll create a custom View that draws a circle on the screen.

#### 1. Create a Custom View Class:

```
import android.content.Context;
import android.graphics.Canvas;
import android.graphics.Color;
import android.graphics.Paint;
import android.util.AttributeSet;
import android.view.View;
public class CustomCircleView extends View {
   private Paint paint;
    public CustomCircleView(Context context) {
        super(context);
        init();
   }
    public CustomCircleView(Context context, AttributeSet attrs) {
        super(context, attrs);
        init();
   }
    private void init() {
        paint = new Paint();
        paint.setColor(Color.BLUE);
        paint.setStyle(Paint.Style.FILL);
   }
```

```
@Override
protected void onDraw(Canvas canvas) {
    super.onDraw(canvas);

    int width = getWidth();
    int height = getHeight();

    int radius = Math.min(width, height) / 2;

    // Draw a circle in the center of the view
    canvas.drawCircle(width / 2, height / 2, radius, paint);
}
```

# 2. Usage in an Activity:

```
import android.os.Bundle;
import android.support.v7.app.AppCompatActivity;
import android.widget.LinearLayout;
public class MainActivity extends AppCompatActivity {
   @Override
    protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.activity_main);
        // Get a reference to the LinearLayout where the custom view will be
added
        LinearLayout linearLayout = findViewById(R.id.container);
        // Create an instance of the custom view
        CustomCircleView customCircleView = new CustomCircleView(this);
        // Add the custom view to the LinearLayout
        linearLayout.addView(customCircleView);
    }
}
```

# 3. Layout XML (activity\_main.xml):

```
<LinearLayout xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
    xmlns:tools="http://schemas.android.com/tools"
    android:id="@+id/container"
    android:layout_width="match_parent"
    android:layout_height="match_parent"
    android:padding="16dp"
    android:orientation="vertical"
    tools:context=".MainActivity">
</LinearLayout>
```

In this example, we create a custom <code>View</code> called <code>CustomCircleView</code> that draws a blue circle in the center of the view. We then use this custom <code>View</code> in an <code>Activity</code> by adding it to a <code>LinearLayout</code>. The circle will be displayed in the center of the screen.

# **Example 2:**

Sure, let's explore the View class with a simple example of creating a custom View that draws a colored rectangle on the screen.

#### 1. Create a Custom View Class:

```
import android.content.Context;
import android.graphics.Canvas;
import android.graphics.Color;
import android.graphics.Paint;
import android.util.AttributeSet;
import android.view.View;
public class CustomRectangleView extends View {
   private Paint paint;
   private int rectangleColor;
    public CustomRectangleView(Context context) {
        super(context);
        init();
   }
    public CustomRectangleView(Context context, AttributeSet attrs) {
        super(context, attrs);
        init();
   }
   private void init() {
        paint = new Paint();
        rectangleColor = Color.BLUE;
   }
   @Override
    protected void onDraw(Canvas canvas) {
        super.onDraw(canvas);
        int width = getWidth();
        int height = getHeight();
        // Draw a colored rectangle
        paint.setColor(rectangleColor);
        canvas.drawRect(0, 0, width, height, paint);
   }
    public void setRectangleColor(int color) {
        rectangleColor = color;
        invalidate(); // Redraw the view
   }
}
```

# 2. Usage in an Activity:

```
import android.graphics.Color;
import android.os.Bundle;
import android.support.v7.app.AppCompatActivity;
```

```
import android.widget.LinearLayout;
public class MainActivity extends AppCompatActivity {
   @Override
    protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.activity_main);
        // Get a reference to the LinearLayout where the custom view will be
added
        LinearLayout linearLayout = findViewById(R.id.container);
        // Create an instance of the custom view
        CustomRectangleView customRectangleView = new CustomRectangleView(this);
        // Set the rectangle color (for demonstration, we'll use red)
        customRectangleView.setRectangleColor(Color.RED);
        // Add the custom view to the LinearLayout
        linearLayout.addView(customRectangleView);
    }
}
```

### 3. Layout XML (activity\_main.xml):

```
<LinearLayout xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
    xmlns:tools="http://schemas.android.com/tools"
    android:id="@+id/container"
    android:layout_width="match_parent"
    android:layout_height="match_parent"
    android:padding="16dp"
    android:orientation="vertical"
    tools:context=".MainActivity">
</LinearLayout>
```

In this example, we create a custom <code>View</code> called <code>CustomRectangleView</code> that draws a rectangle with a specified color. We then use this custom <code>View</code> in an <code>Activity</code> by adding it to a <code>LinearLayout</code>. The rectangle's color can be changed by calling the <code>setRectangleColor</code> method on the <code>CustomRectangleView</code> instance.

# **Error elimination using XML Editor**

To help you eliminate errors using the XML editor in Android Studio or any other XML editor, here are some common XML-related issues and how to address them:

# 1. Syntax Errors:

- **Issue:** XML tags are not properly closed or nested incorrectly, causing syntax errors.
- **Solution:** Ensure all XML tags are properly opened and closed. Check for any mismatched or improperly nested tags.

### 2. Unknown Namespace or Attributes:

• **Issue:** Using an unknown namespace or attribute in your XML.

• **Solution:** Verify that you're using the correct namespace for the attributes and elements. Import or declare the necessary namespaces if required.

### 3. Incorrect XML Structure:

- **Issue:** The XML structure is not following the correct layout or hierarchy for the specific XML type (e.g., layout file, drawable, etc.).
- Solution: Refer to the appropriate XML structure guidelines for the specific XML type you're working on (e.g., Android layout files, styles, etc.). Check the Android documentation for the correct XML structure.

# 4. Missing Required Attributes:

- **Issue:** Forgetting to include required attributes for a particular XML element.
- **Solution:** Ensure that you include all the required attributes for each XML element. Refer to the documentation or relevant resources to identify the necessary attributes.

# 5. **Inconsistent Naming or Typo:**

- **Issue:** Misspelling or inconsistent naming of XML elements or attributes.
- **Solution:** Double-check the names of XML elements and attributes to ensure they are spelled correctly and used consistently throughout the XML file.

# 6. Invalid Characters or Encodings:

- Issue: Using invalid characters or incorrect encodings in the XML file.
- **Solution:** Make sure you're using valid characters and proper encoding (e.g., UTF-8). Check for special characters that may need to be escaped.

# 7. Missing Required Elements:

- **Issue:** Omitting elements that are required for the specific XML type (e.g., missing root element in a layout file).
- **Solution:** Ensure that you include all required elements, such as the root element, in the XML file.

# 8. Improper Resource References:

- **Issue:** Incorrectly referencing resources (e.g., drawable, string) in the XML file.
- Solution: Check that you're referencing resources correctly using the @ symbol followed by the appropriate resource type and name (e.g., @drawable/image\_name).
   @string/string\_name).