

tvOS vs iOS

About tvOS

tvOS is the operating system used in Apple TV.

Presented for the first time in 2015 with tvOS version 9.0, based on iOS 9. Prior to tvOS, the Apple TV had an operating system called Apple TV Software, which reached version 7.9. Its validity was from 2007 to 2014 with version 7.0 although versions were released until 2022 with final 7.9

It is the only device that has its own TVML language and is one of the options we have to develop apps for Apple TV.

About tvOS (technologies)

TVML y TVMLKit

It attwes allowed you to create a client server application, using TVML and Javascript, storing it on a server and rendering the interface with TVMLKit. You can combine SwiftUI or UIKit.

Deprecated in tvOS18

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TVUIKit y UIKit

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SwiftUI

It allows you to create apps as we know them for iOS. With some limitations and some additions. But in this case using SwiftUI for the interface.

That we don't have tvOS vs iOS

- Almacenamiento en el dispositivo.
- Webkit /Safari Services
- PassKit (Apple Pay and Wallet)
- PDFKit
- Playground Support
- ARkit

That we don't have tvOS vs iOS

- Core Motion
- Speech
- IOBluetooth
- WidgetKit
- Contacts
- HealthKit

What do we have tvOS vs iOS?

- TVMLKit Deprecated in tvOS18
- TVUIKit
- TVServices
- DeviceDiscoveryUI

To take into account developing for tvOS

- Focus management
- Applcon y TopSelf
- Specific Xibs (iOS ones cannot be used)
- Text input.
- TabBar

App Icon y Top Shelf

The icon of a tvOS app is different from an iOS app. They have several layers, specifically 3, Back, Middle and Front. It is for the parallax effect it has when obtaining the focus.

The Top Shelf is the image that is shown in the background when the app icon has the focus. Creating an extension of the app can be made dynamic and that highlights the contents of the app. It is one of the functionalities provided by TVUIKit.

Siri Remote

In tvOS the user interaction with the app is through the. If we want to capture those gestures to customize actions, we can make use of UITapGestureRecognizer and with the allowedPressTypes property indicate which gestures we are interested in.

Focus management

The system manages the focus for us but it does it with adjacent elements in the direction we make in the gesture in the control. It's not always what we want / need. To have a more personalized management, the system provides us with some tools.

- adjustImageWhenAncestorFocused. Allows UllmageView to respond when an ancestor becomes focused. It allows us to apply a parallax effect to a UllmageView when its superview gets the focus
- focusedFrameGuide. It allows us to access the frame of a UllmageView when it has
 the focus.
- restoresFocusAfterTransition. UIViewController property, which allows us to decide
 if we want the focus to be restored to the element where it was after a transition.
- canBecomeFocused. Property of UIView. By default false, overwriting this property we can change that.

- UIFocusGuide. An object that exposes nonview areas as focusable. It represents an invisible, focusable region that can redirect focus movement to other views.
- UlFocusEnvironment. A protocol with a set of methods that define the focus behavior for a branch of the view hierarchy. Conformed by UlViewController, UlView, UlWindow and UlPresentationController

- setNeedsFocusUpdate. Submits a request to the focus engine for a focus update in this environment.
- updateFocusIfNeeded. Tells the focus engine to force a focus update immediately.
- didUpdateFocus(in:with:). Called immediately after the system updates the focus to a new view.

- UITableView, UICollectionView
 - 1. **rememberLastFocusedIndexPath.** A Boolean value that indicates whether the table view automatically returns the focus to the cell at the last focused index path
 - 2. **collectionView(_:canFocusItemAt:).** Asks the delegate whether the item at the specified index path can be focused.
 - 3. indexPathForPreferredFocusedView(in:). Asks the delegate for the table view's index path for the preferred focused view
 - 4. Important if **restoresFocusAfterTransition** on the controller is enabled **rememberLastFocusedIndexPath** can be ignored after a transition.

Delegate function **indexPathForPreferredFocusedView** won't be called the collectionView or tableview to be in **preferredFocusEnvironments**.



Links of interest

TV Markup Language (TVML)
Implementing a hybrid TV app with TVMLKit

Planning your tvOS app

TVUIKit

Creating immersive experiences using a full-screen layout Mastering the Living Room With tvOS

TVServices

DeviceDiscoveryUI

Public Apple Frameworks



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