**Xcode 9: With Top New Features For iOS Developers**

**What is Xcode?**

Xcode is an **IDE (Integrated Development Environment)** developed by Apple for iOS and MacOS and is used by developers to write and develop apps and other programs for various Apple devices viz. **iP*hone, iPad, iPod, Apple watch and MacOS, tvOS*** devices etc.

It consummates a package of tools for the software development like editors, compilers, Built-in user Interface etc. which are highly specialized for writing the codes for apps development. It supports various coding languages like *Java, C, C++, Objective-C++, Swift, Applescript, Python etc.* that are used in different interfaces including Cocoa, Carbon and various other interfaces.

Xcode was first released in 2003, and currently, the latest **Beta Version of Xcode 9** has been released.

**Xcode 9:** The developers wait is over with the release of the latest version of Xcode i.e. Xcode 9, and it’s Beta Version is now available for them. Xcode 9 has been incorporated with a number of spell bound novel features for benefitting the developers. It has provided an improved array of tools for developing efficient and effective apps for iOS (iPhones, iPads, iPods), WatchOS, tvOS.

The new version has **SDKs** and **Swift 4** to create eminent apps.

**Novel Features of Xcode 9:**

1. **Editor and Refactoring Tool:** Now have a complete and amazing experience with this novel *Source Code Editor* and *Refactoring* feature. It has unified all the editing prospects at a single place and thus, now there is no need to remember those long commands for modifying the coding variables. Whether it will still take a long time to dispense the advanced tools but it has provided many **built-in refactoring and transforming tools** in the Xcode like global renaming, adding code snippets, extracting methods and variables etc. that can be easily accessed.

It helps in adding the missing protocol requirement, wrap string in NSLocalized String macro, transform extract to local variable etc.

1. **Simulation and Testing:** Operate **multiple simulators** parallelly with Xcode 9’s new Simulator app. This app has been upgraded with a novel appearance, quick launch times and is fully resizable. It thus provides an enhanced tool for automated testing of the apps. Now, the Xcode Server is also simpler to set up on all of the Macs.
2. **GitHub and Source Control Navigator:** Store, share, navigate your repository in an easy and integrated manner with Xcode 9 new Source Control Navigator tool integrated with GitHub. You can create and merge branches, edit and rename the files, drag files between groups, can delete the groups and move the files in the file system using the **Source Navigator** and it also help you in finding the details of branching, changes in the files.

**GitHub** offers features such as clone reports, use tags, manage your branches, add a star to your repository etc. along with many other features assimilated in it.

1. **Wireless Debugging:** Feel the comfort with this magnificent feature developed by Apple. The Wireless Debugging feature has prevented the need for a USB cable to connect your devices. Now, one can wirelessly test and debug the **iOS and tvOS apps** over the network just by clicking on ***“Connect Via Network”*** checkbox. This wireless development is also compatible with many other apps like QuickTime player etc.
2. **Quick Search:** The Xcode 9 provides you with a **50 times faster** search. The novel version of Xcode understands the codes automatically with its newly in-built indexing search engine and thus, the results are extremely faster. This new built-in system substantially lowers the elevated tasks that synchronize the compiler, linker and other tools.
3. **Main Thread Checker Tool:** The Main Thread Checker tool of Xcode 9 provides a method of **detecting** the invalid usage of **APIs (Application Program Interface)** like AppKit, UIKit, and WebKit on background threads. These work for *Swift* and *C* *languages*. It detects the method calls that are not made on the **Main Thread**. The updating of UI on a thread other than the main thread is a usual mistake resulting in missed UI updates, visual defects, crashes, and data corruptions. The Main Thread Checker **detects** the uses of UIKit on a background thread, **not solve them**.