Vir-Pong: Development for Android

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1 Setting up the Development Environment

In order to develop for Android, you will need the Android SDK, the PhoneGap software, and some editor. These pieces are relatively easy to set up, but because all systems are different, some personal configuration may be required. All of the software mentioned below can be found, with current links, at the PhoneGap Android page.

1.1 Android SDK

The Android SDK comes with an Android Emulator as well as Android libraries. To download the SDK, first check to make sure your operating system fulfills all of the system requirements. A list of of system requirements is available at The System Requirements Page.

Next, go to this website to download the SDK starter package: Android SDK Downloads. The instructions for installation are found here: Installation Guide. (Note: do not put a space in the folder name.) After that, you must add necessary components to the SDK. The instructions for that portion are found here: Android SDK Components. On your first run, you will be required to create an Android Virtual Device (AVD) that is simply a mock phone.

1.2 PhoneGap

The PhoneGap download is primarily a collection of tools that provide functionality for the HTML5 and JavaScript interface in a native application environment. That is, the PhoneGap jar, js, and xml files all serve to support the use of HTML5 and JavaScript coding as implementing the core functionality of the application.

1.3 Editing Environment

In theory, any development can be done from a text editor so long as you have access to the Android SDK and Java. It is highly recommended, however, that you use Eclipse (downloaded here). You then may want to install the ADT plugin for Android Development (instructions here).