

Customizing Your Notifications for iOS 12



Kaya Thomas @kthomas901

About Me



intuit®

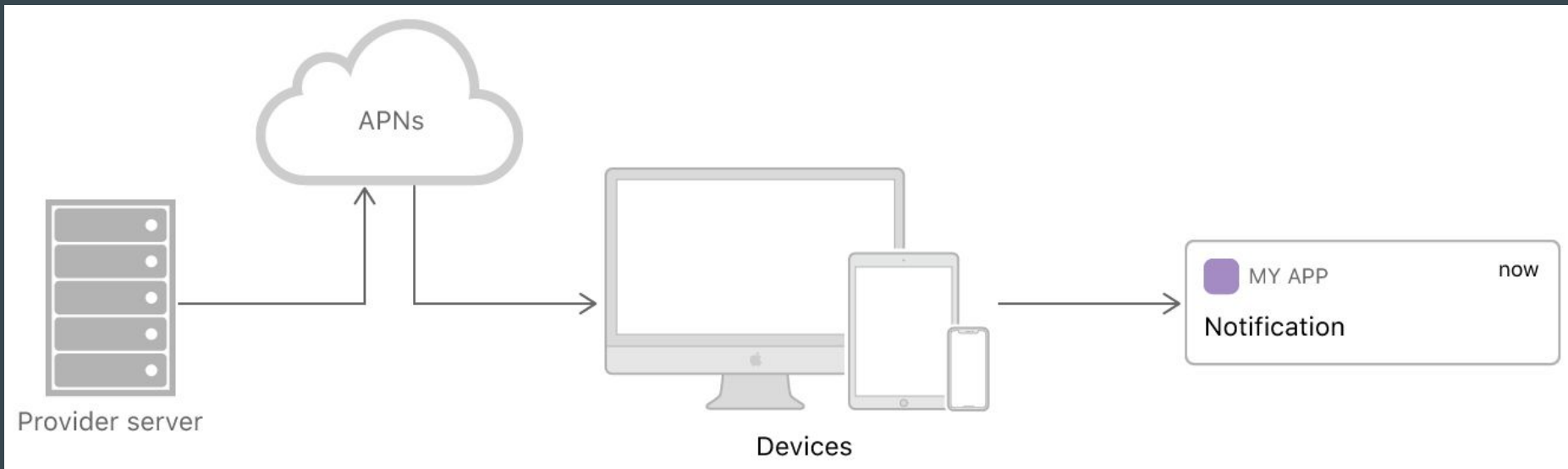
Agenda

- Notification Overview
- Demo App
- Authorization Options
- Grouped Notifications
- Dynamic Category Actions
- User Interaction in Notifications

Agenda

- *Notification Overview*
- Demo App
- Authorization Options
- Grouped Notifications
- Dynamic Category Actions
- User Interaction in Notifications

Remote Push Notifications



Local Notifications

Create & schedule notifications directly from the app.

```
let content = UNMutableNotificationContent()  
content.title = "Weekly Staff Meeting"  
content.body = "Every Tuesday at 2pm"
```

Local Notifications

Create & schedule notifications directly from the app.

```
// Configure the recurring date.  
var dateComponents = DateComponents()  
dateComponents.calendar = Calendar.current  
  
dateComponents.weekday = 3 // Tuesday  
dateComponents.hour = 14 // 14:00 hours
```

Local Notifications

Create & schedule notifications directly from the app.

```
// Create the trigger as a repeating event.  
let trigger = UNCalendarNotificationTrigger(  
    dateMatching: dateComponents, repeats: true)  
// Create the request  
let uuidString = UUID().uuidString  
let request = UNNotificationRequest(identifier: uuidString,  
    content: content, trigger: trigger)
```


Local Notifications

Create & schedule notifications directly from the app.

```
// Schedule the request with the system.  
let notificationCenter = UNUserNotificationCenter.current()  
notificationCenter.add(request) { (error) in  
    if error != nil {  
        // Handle any errors.  
    }  
}
```

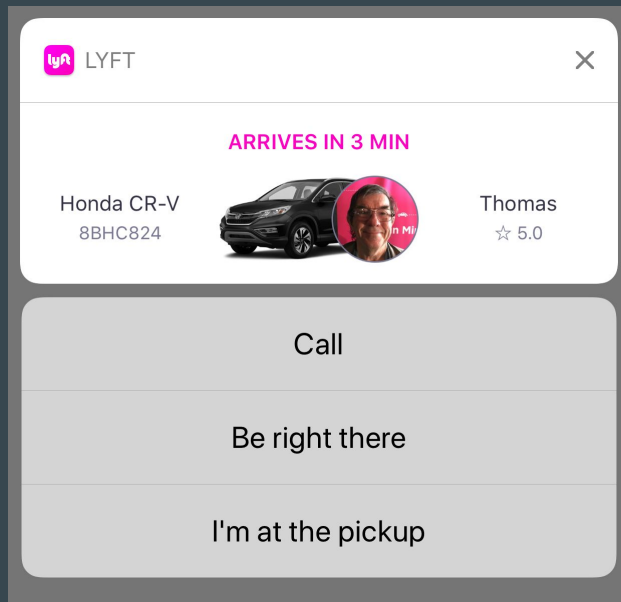
Notification Service Extension

A separate target from your main app that allows you to modify the content of an incoming notification. Useful if you want to:

- Decrypt any encrypted data within the payload.
- Download large attachments and store them temporarily on device.
- Modify or add anything to the notification content before it gets to device.

Notification Content Extension

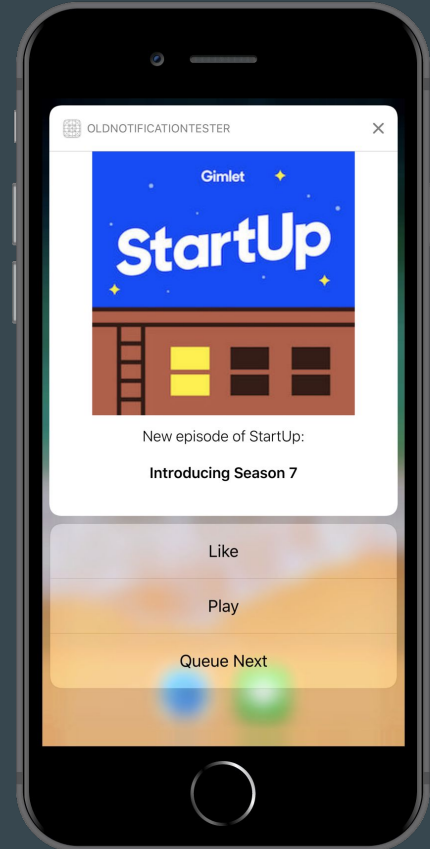
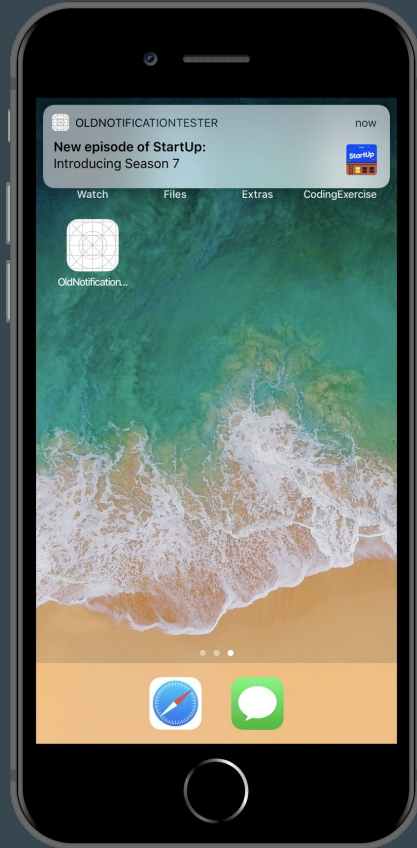
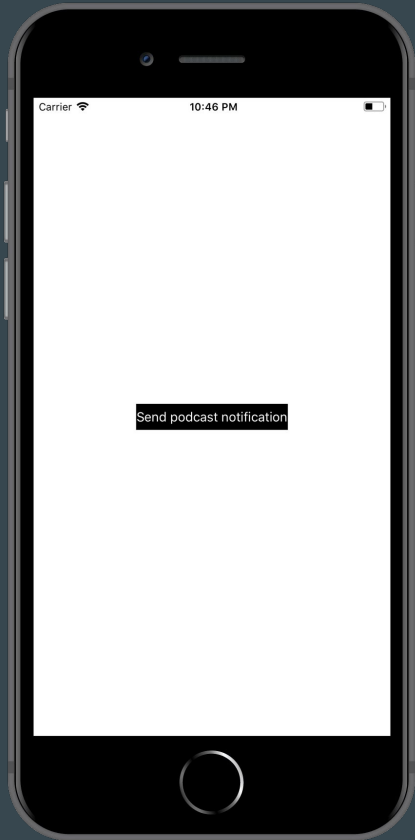
An app extension that manages a view controller where you can customize the look and content of your notifications.



Agenda

- Notification Overview
- *Demo App*
- Authorization Options
- Grouped Notifications
- Dynamic Category Actions
- User Interaction in Notifications

Demo App



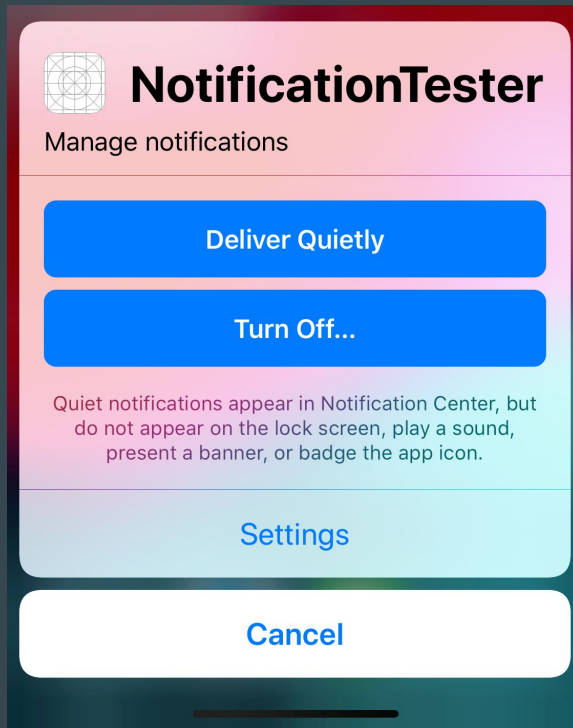
So what's new in iOS 12?

Agenda

- Notification Overview
- Demo App
- ***Authorization Options***
- Grouped Notifications
- Dynamic Category Actions
- User Interaction in Notifications

Deliver Quietly

New feature allows user to change notification settings directly from the lock screen or Notification Center to reduce noise.



Provisional Authorization

If you don't mind your app's notifications being sent quietly, you do not need to ask for permission to send notifications.

Provisional Authorization

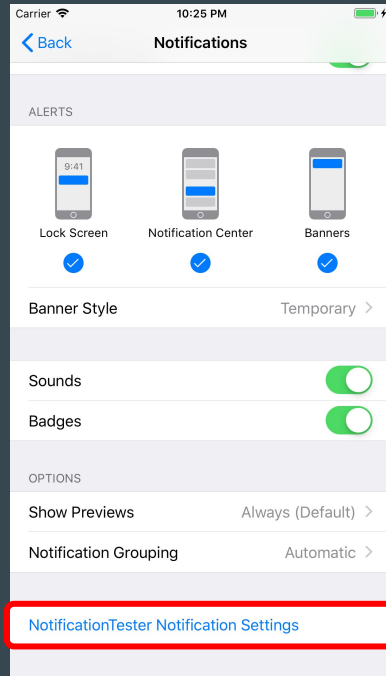
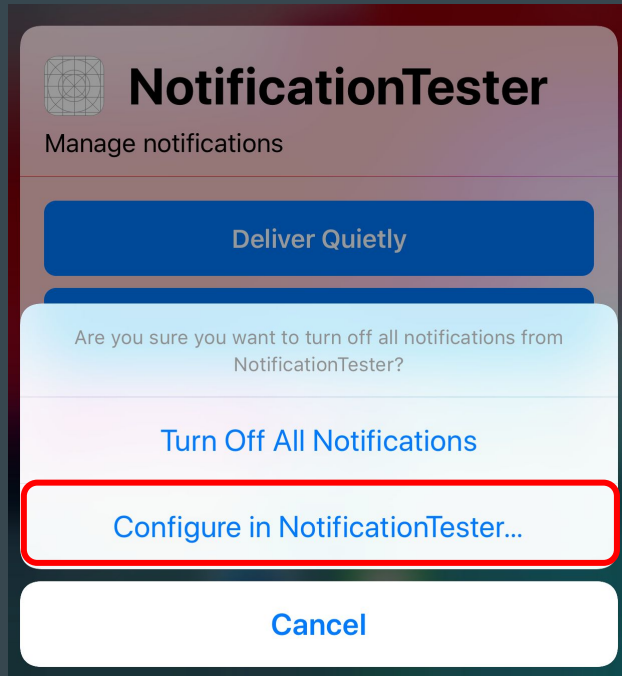
```
func application(_ application: UIApplication, didFinishLaunchingWithOptions
launchOptions: [UIApplication.LaunchOptionsKey: Any]?) -> Bool {

    UNUserNotificationCenter.current().requestAuthorization(options: [.alert,
.badge, .sound, .provisional]) { ... }

    return true
}
```

App Notification Settings

Users can turn off all notifications for your app directly from a notification, but you can also provide a deep link to your custom notification settings view.



App Notification Settings

```
func application(_ application: UIApplication, didFinishLaunchingWithOptions
launchOptions: [UIApplication.LaunchOptionsKey: Any]?) -> Bool {

    UNUserNotificationCenter.current().requestAuthorization(options: [.alert,
.badge, .sound, .providesAppNotificationSettings]) { ... }

    return true
}
```

App Notification Settings

```
func userNotificationCenter(_ center: UNUserNotificationCenter, openSettingsFor
notification: UNNotification?) {
    // check userInfo dictionary from notification

    // create deep link for notification settings page

    // send link to deep link handler to route user to correct view
}
```

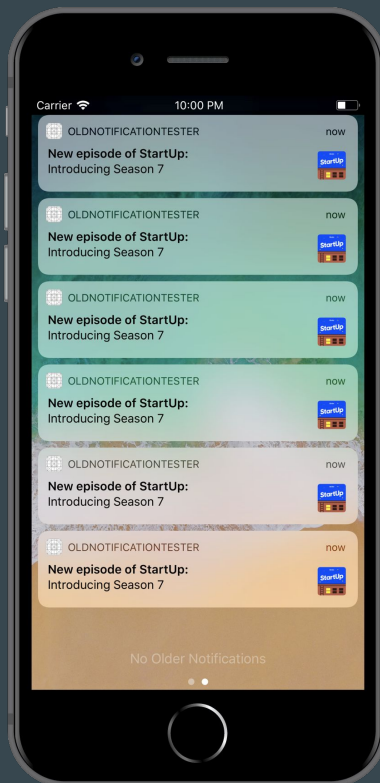
Agenda

- Notification Overview
- Authorization Options
- ***Grouped Notifications***
- Dynamic Category Actions
- User Interaction in Notifications

Grouped Notifications

Notifications will now be stacked in groups determined by the developer or defaulted to one group for the entire app.

iOS 11



iOS 12



@kthomas901

Thread Identifier

In order to customize the grouping of notifications for your app you need to set the thread identifier in the payload or on the local notification.

```
@objc func sendPodcastNotification(for podcastName: String) {  
    let content = UNMutableNotificationContent()  
    content.body = "Introducing Season 7"  
    content.title = "New episode of \(podcastName):"  
    content.threadIdentifier = podcastName.lowercased()  
    content.categoryIdentifier = NotificationCategoryType.podcast.rawValue  
  
    sendNotification(with: content)  
}
```

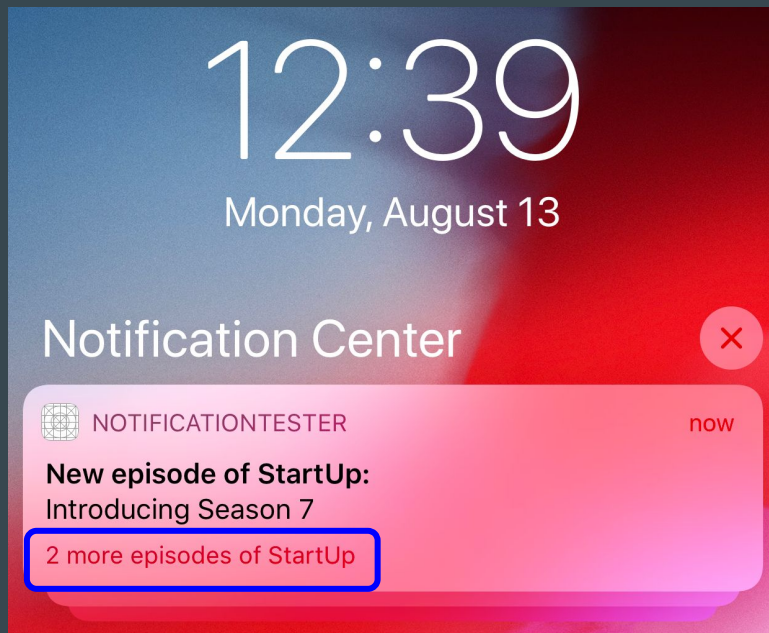

Thread Identifier

Example payload with thread identifier:

```
{
  "aps" : {
    "alert" : {
      "title" : "New Episode of Startup",
      "body" : "Introducing Season 7",
    },
    "thread-id": "startup",
    "badge" : 5
  }
}
```

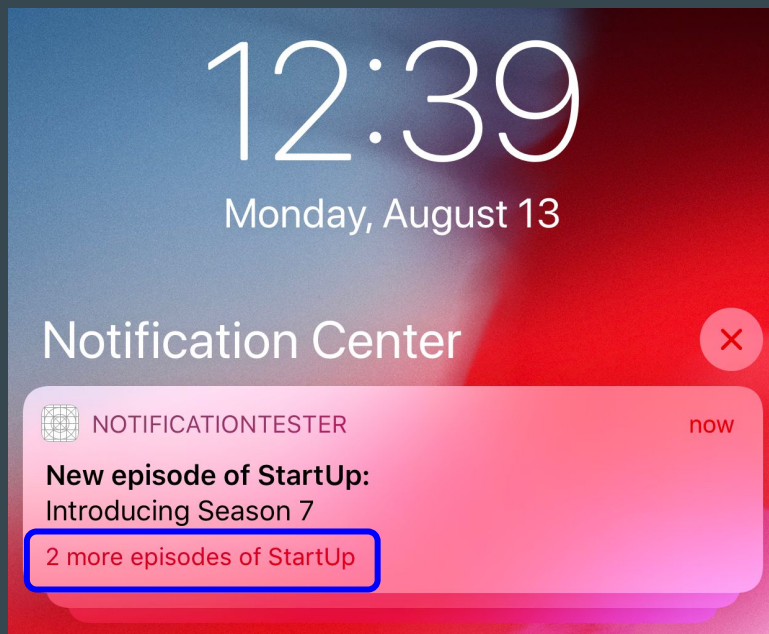
Group Notification Summary

Grouped notifications also have a summary which defaults to "**more notifications**". You can customize the summary text when you register your notification categories.



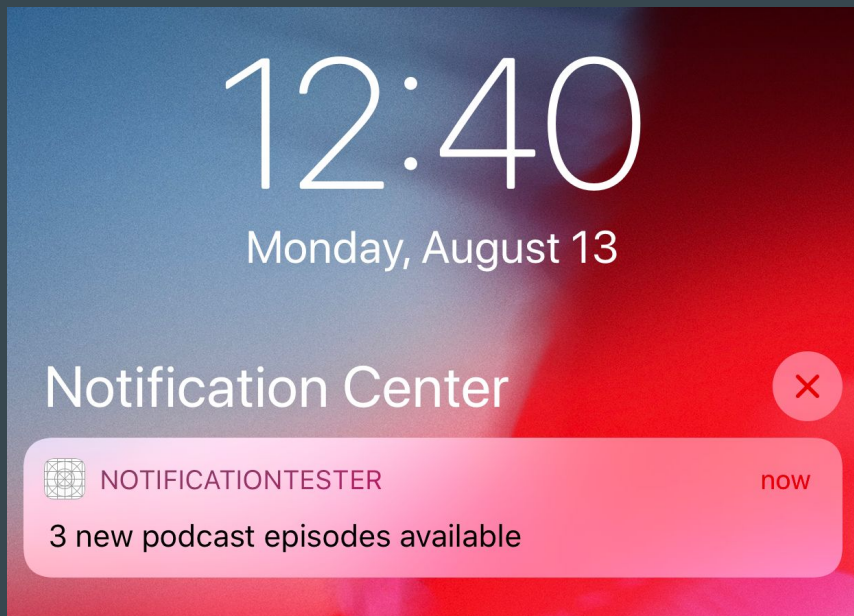
Summary Format for Group Notifications

```
let summaryFormat = "%u more episodes of %@"
```



Summary Format for Hidden Previews

```
let hiddenPreviewsPlaceholder = "%u new podcast episodes available"
```



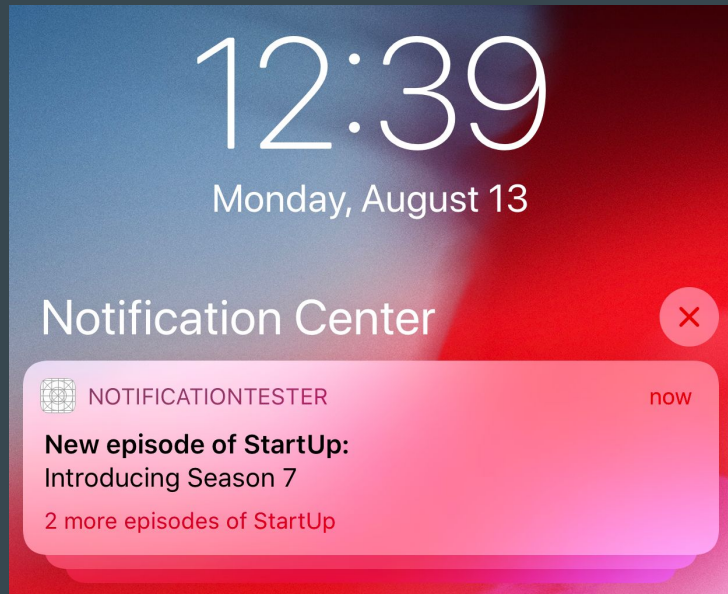
Implementing Summary Format

```
let hiddenPreviewsPlaceholder = "%u new podcast episodes available"
let summaryFormat = "%u more episodes of %@"
let podcastCategory = UNNotificationCategory(identifier: "podcast", actions: [], intentIdentifiers:
[], hiddenPreviewsBodyPlaceholder: hiddenPreviewsPlaceholder, categorySummaryFormat: summaryFormat,
options: [])

UNUserNotificationCenter.current().setNotificationCategories([podcastCategory])
```

Using Summary Argument

```
@objc func sendPodcastNotification(for podcastName: String) {  
    let content = UNMutableNotificationContent()  
    content.body = "Introducing Season 7"  
    content.title = "New episode of \ \(podcastName):"  
    content.threadIdentifier = podcastName.lowercased()  
    content.summaryArgument = podcastName  
    content.categoryIdentifier = "podcast"  
  
    sendNotification(with: content)  
}
```

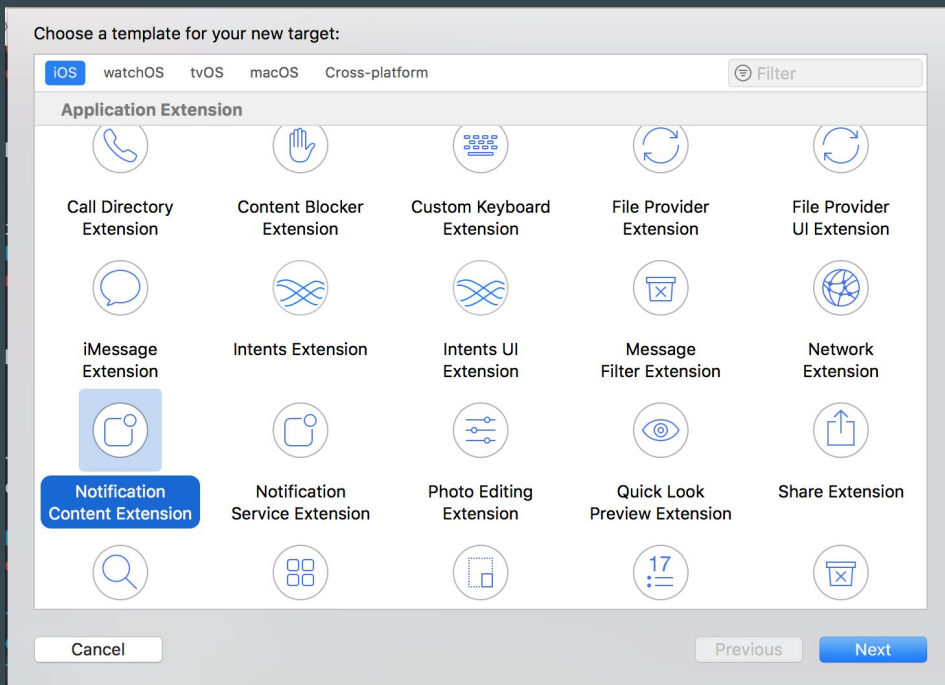


Agenda

- Notification Overview
- Authorization Options
- Grouped Notifications
- *Dynamic Category Actions*
- User Interaction in Notifications

Add Notification Content Extension to Your App

Xcode menu bar: File > New > Target



Add Notification Content to Your App

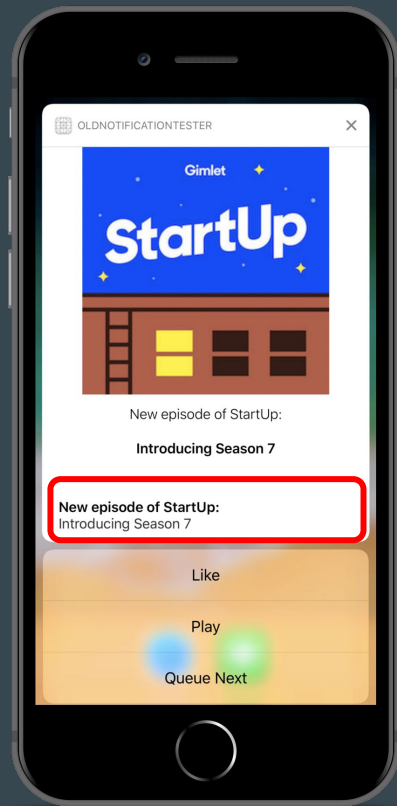
Edit the plist file to include the notification categories you want to customize.

▼ NSExtension	⌵ ╕ Ⓜ	Dictionary	(3 items)
▼ NSExtensionAttributes		Dictionary	(4 items)
UNNotificationExtensionUserInteractionEnabled		Boolean	YES
UNNotificationExtensionDefaultContentHidden		Boolean	YES
UNNotificationExtensionCategory		String	podcast
UNNotificationExtensionInitialContentSizeRatio		Number	1
NSExtensionMainStoryboard		String	MainInterface
NSExtensionPointIdentifier		String	com.apple.usernotifications.content-extension

Hidden Default Content

If you don't set default content to hidden, you'll get the following behavior:

▼ NSExtension	Dictionary
▼ NSExtensionAttributes	Dictionary
UNNotificationExtensionUserInteractionEnabled	Boolean
UNNotificationExtensionDefaultContentHidden	Boolean
UNNotificationExtensionCategory	String
UNNotificationExtensionInitialContentSizeRatio	Number
NSExtensionMainStoryboard	String
NSExtensionPointIdentifier	String



Registering Notification Categories

▼ NSExtension	Dictionary
▼ NSExtensionAttributes	Dictionary
UNNotificationExtensionUserInteractionEnabled	Boolean
UNNotificationExtensionDefaultContentHidden	Boolean
UNNotificationExtensionCategory	String
UNNotificationExtensionInitialContentSizeRatio	Number

```
let hiddenPreviewsPlaceholder = "%u new podcast episodes available"
```

```
let summaryFormat = "%u more episodes of %@"
```

```
let playAction = UNNotificationAction(identifier: "play-action", title: "Play", options: [])
```

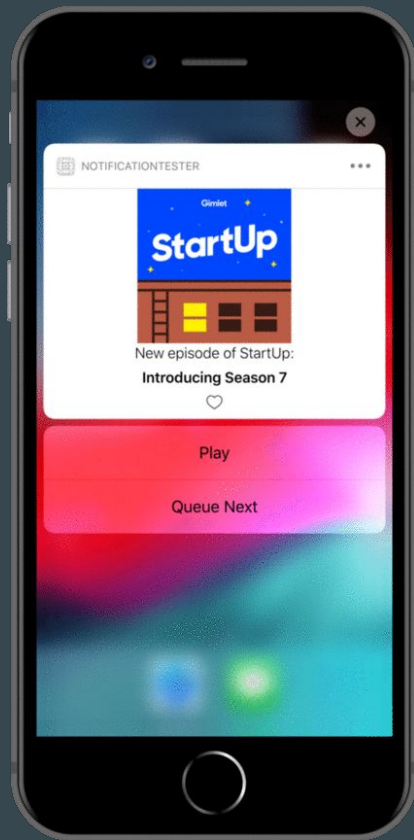
```
let queueAction = UNNotificationAction(identifier: "queue-action", title: "Queue Next", options: [])
```

```
let podcastCategory = UNNotificationCategory(identifier: "podcast", actions: [playAction, queueAction], intentIdentifiers: [], hiddenPreviewsBodyPlaceholder: hiddenPreviewsPlaceholder, categorySummaryFormat: summaryFormat, options: [])
```

```
UNUserNotificationCenter.current().setNotificationCategories([podcastCategory])
```

Handling Category Action Responses

Handling each case for all four actions allows us to cycle between them. For a production app, you might want to forward the actions or store the user response in the keychain or user defaults.



Handling Category Action Responses

Notification quick actions are now dynamic, you can update your list of actions in response to user selecting an action.

```
func didReceive(_ response: UNNotificationResponse, completionHandler completion:
    (UNNotificationContentExtensionResponseOption) -> Void) {
    guard let currentActions = extensionContext?.notificationActions else { return }

    if response.actionIdentifier == "play-action" {
        let pauseAction = UNNotificationAction(identifier: "pause-action", title: "Pause", options: [])
        let otherAction = currentActions[1]
        let newActions = [pauseAction, otherAction]
        extensionContext?.notificationActions = newActions
    }

    completion(.doNotDismiss)
}
```

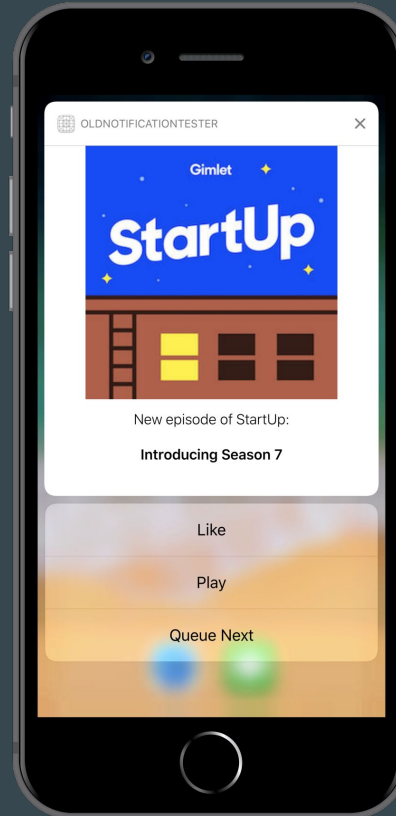
Agenda

- Notification Overview
- Authorization Options
- Grouped Notifications
- Dynamic Category Actions
- ***User Interaction in Notifications***

User Interaction in a Notification

In iOS 12 Apple is allowing developers to handle user interaction within a notification. There are endless possibilities!

iOS 11



iOS 12



User Interaction in a Notification

This simple example handles the visuals of the user interaction. The view is set up in the content extension's storyboard.

```
override func viewDidLoad() {  
    super.viewDidLoad()  
  
    likeButton.addTarget(self, action: #selector(likeButtonTapped(sender:)), for: .touchUpInside)  
}  
  
@objc func likeButtonTapped(sender: UIButton) {  
    likeButton.isSelected = !sender.isSelected  
}
```


Summary

Authorization Options

- Determine whether or not provisional authorization is appropriate for your app.
- Add the app notification settings option and implement the callback if you have a custom notification settings view.

Summary

Grouped Notifications

- If you want customized grouping, add thread identifier to your payload or local notification content.
- When registering your notification categories add a category summary and hidden previews placeholder.

Summary

Dynamic Actions & User Interaction Using the Notification Content Extension

- If you want either of these features for your notification, add the notification content extension to your app.
- Handle action responses directly in the `didReceive` method.
- Handle any UI element interactions with target selectors or IB actions.

Thank you!

Demo app:

<https://github.com/kmt901/Notifications-iOS12>

@kthomas901

kayathomas.info