

ANDROID USER INTERFACE ELEMENTS & LAYOUTS

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Lesson Plan

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Subject/Course | Mobile App Development |
| Lesson Title | Android U.I. Elements & Layouts |

| Lesson Objectives |
|-------------------------------------|
| Introduction of Material Design |
| Type's of Layouts |
| UI Widget's with Properties & Menus |

Introduction of Material Design

- **Material Design Components (MDC Android)** help developers create apps with a **modern, clean, and consistent look**.
- Developed by **Google**, it ensures apps are **visually appealing, smoothly animated, and easy to use**.
- Used widely to give Android apps a **polished and professional appearance**.
- Provides **ready-made UI elements** (buttons, cards, toolbars, etc.) for faster and uniform design.

Material Design Principles include:

- **Colors and Theming** (Choosing the right colors and styles for your app)
- **Typography** (Selecting appropriate fonts)
- **Material Design Components** (Using pre-built elements like buttons, cards, etc.)
- **Shaping Material Design Components** (Customizing the look of these components to match your app's design)

1. Colors and Theming

COLORS IN MATERIAL DESIGN

1 Primary Color

The main color used most frequently in the app.

- Appears on important buttons (Save, Submit), navigation bars, and ripple effects
- Defines the app's overall look and feel

2 Secondary Color

Used for less prominent elements.

- Commonly applied to Floating Action Buttons (FABs), sliders, toggle buttons, and progress bars
- Adds a highlight effect without distraction

3 Light & Dark Variants

Light variant: Used for FABs, borders, and backgrounds

Dark variant: Used in status bars and navigation bars

- ① The status bar is set for dark variant of primary color
- ② The elements of edit text are set for primary color
- ③ The background color for Contained button is set for primary color
- ④ The switch button is set for primary color and the background of the switch is set for light variant of primary color
- ⑤ In tab opened button the icon is set for primary color, and the background is set for light variant of primary color
- ⑥ The background color of the Floating action button is set for light variant of primary color.

2. Typography (Choosing the Right Font)

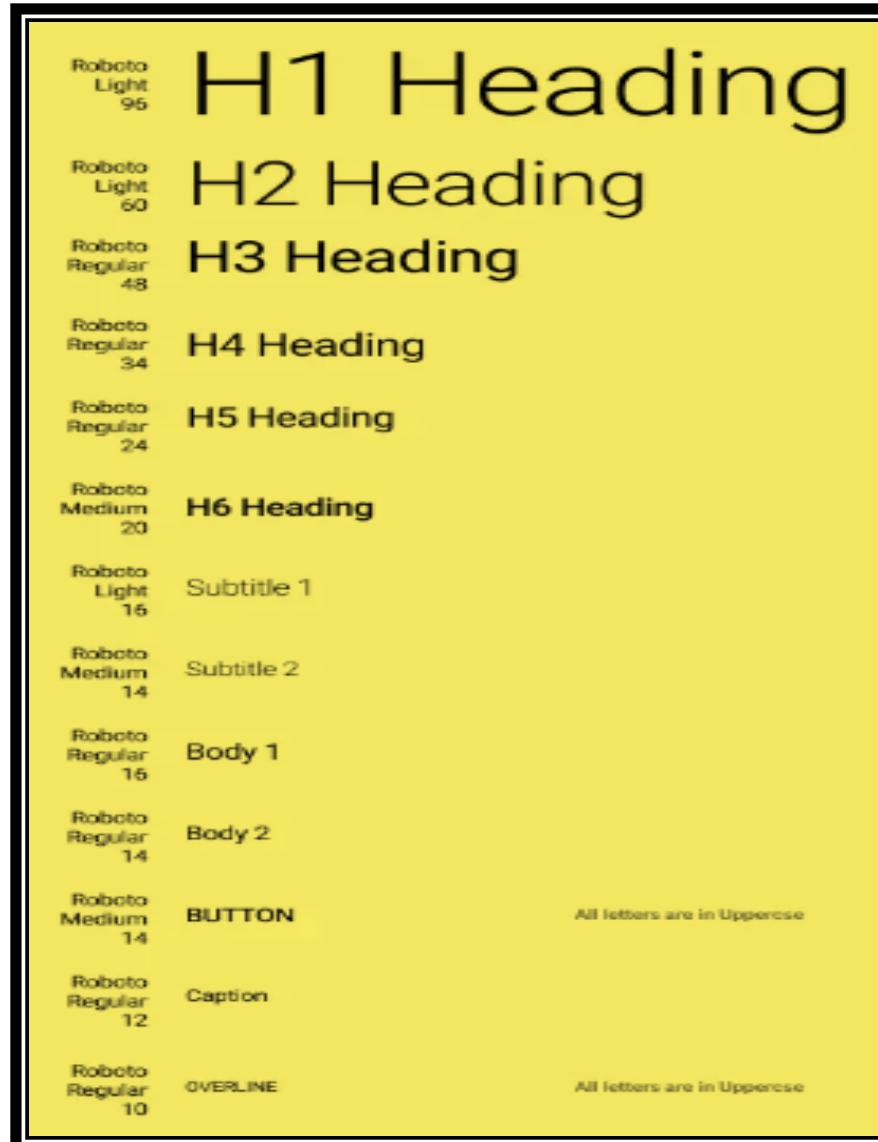
- **Typography** plays a key role in defining the **look, feel, and readability** of an Android app.
- In Android, the **Roboto font** is the default and most popular choice — it's **modern, versatile, and highly legible**.
- Developers may also select other fonts to **enhance brand identity** or **create a unique visual style**.

Font Selection and Usage in Android

- **Roboto** meets the design needs of most apps with multiple **weight variants**:
 - Light
 - Regular
 - Medium
 - Bold
- For additional customization, developers can choose fonts from **Google Fonts**, which offer:
 - A **wide variety** of modern, web-safe fonts
 - **Consistent styling** across devices
 - **Complete variants** for flexibility in design

Guidelines for Font Selection

- Choose fonts that are **clear, professional, and readable** on all screen sizes.
- Maintain **consistency** — limit your app to **one or two font families**.
- Ensure fonts include **multiple weights** for hierarchy (titles, subtitles, body text, buttons).
- Test fonts for **contrast** and **legibility** in both **Light and Dark modes**.
- Match typography with your **app's theme and personality** (formal, playful, minimal, etc.).



UI & UX

❖ User Interface (UI)

- It is defined in an XML File.
- Visual design of the app.
- Layouts: LinearLayout, ConstraintLayout, etc.
- Widgets: Button, TextView, EditText.
- Colors, Fonts, Icons, Themes.
- Animation & Transitions.

❖ User Experience (UX)

- How the app feels to the user.
- Easy navigation & logical flow.
- Responsiveness & feedback.
- Accessibility & Consistency.
- Improves user satisfaction.

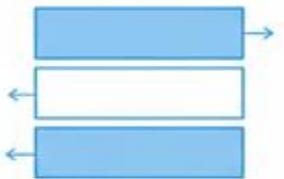
❖ Relationship Between UI & UX

UI = LOOKS , UX = FEEL
GOOD UI + GOOD UX = SUCCESSFUL APP

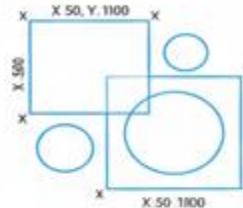
LAYOUTS

- Layouts define how UI elements are arranged on the screen.
- They control position, size & alignment of components.

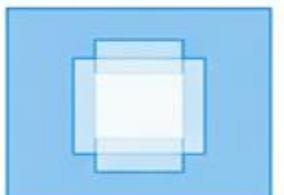
TYPES OF LAYOUTS



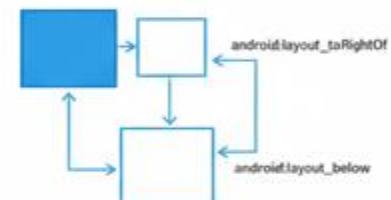
LINEAR LAYOUT



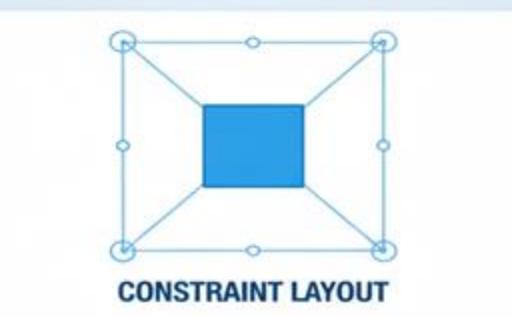
ABSOLUTE LAYOUT



FRAME LAYOUT



RELATIVE LAYOUT



CONSTRAINT LAYOUT

1.Linear Layout

- Arrange views in a single direction
 - Vertical : single column of views
 - Horizontal : single row of views
- It Supports weight attribute to control relative size of views.
- It is best for simple layouts with few elements.
- Avoid excessive nesting to prevent performance issues.

EXAMPLE:

```
<LinearLayout  
    xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"  
        android:layout_width="match_parent"  
        android:layout_height="match_parent"  
        android:orientation="horizontal"  
        android:padding="16dp"  
        android:background="@android:color/white">
```

<View

```
    android:layout_width="0dp"  
    android:layout_height="match_parent"  
    android:layout_weight="1"  
    android:background="#A5D6A7"/>
```

<View

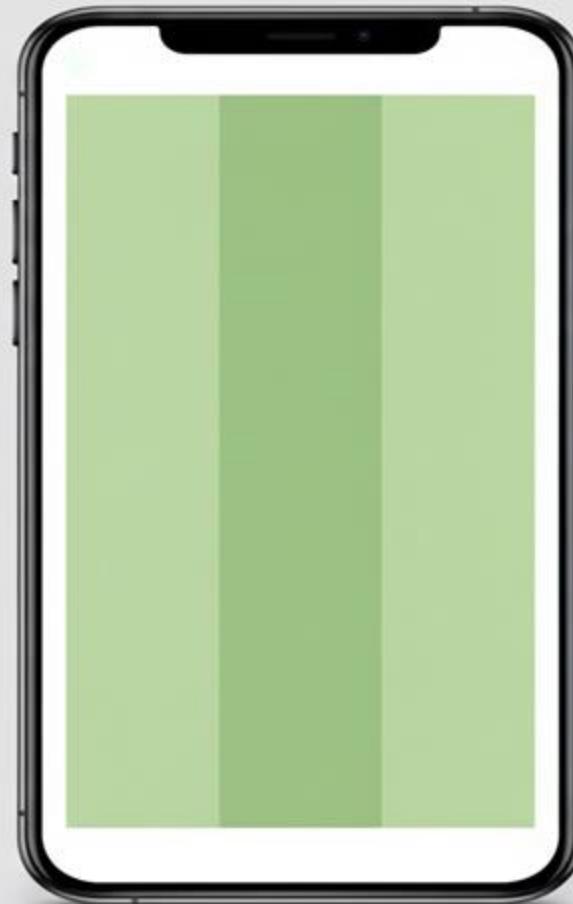
```
    android:layout_width="0dp"  
    android:layout_height="match_parent"  
    android:layout_weight="1"  
    android:background="#81C784"/>
```

<View

```
    android:layout_width="0dp"  
    android:layout_height="match_parent"  
    android:layout_weight="1"  
    android:background="#A5D6A7"/>
```

</LinearLayout>

OUTPUT:



LINEAR LAYOUT

2. ABSOLUTE LAYOUT

- Positions views using **exact X and Y coordinates** on the screen.
- Provides full control over where each view appears.
- Not recommended for different screen sizes (poor responsiveness.)
- Best for simple , fixed layouts with few elements.

- **EXAMPLE:**

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<AbsoluteLayout
    xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/a
    pk/res/android"
    android:layout_width="match_parent"
    android:layout_height="match_parent">
    <View android:layout_width="100dp"
        android:layout_height="80dp"
        android:layout_x="20dp"
        android:layout_y="30dp"
        android:background="#FF5722" />
```

```
<View android:layout_width="120dp"
    android:layout_height="100dp"
    android:layout_x="80dp"
    android:layout_y="100dp"
    android:background="#2196F3" />
    <TextView
        android:layout_width="wrap_content"
        android:layout_height="wrap_content"
        android:layout_x="150dp"
        android:layout_y="50dp"
        android:text="Absolute Text"
        android:textColor="#FFFFFF"
        android:textSize="18sp"
        android:background="#4CAF50"
        android:padding="8dp"/>
    </AbsoluteLayout>
```

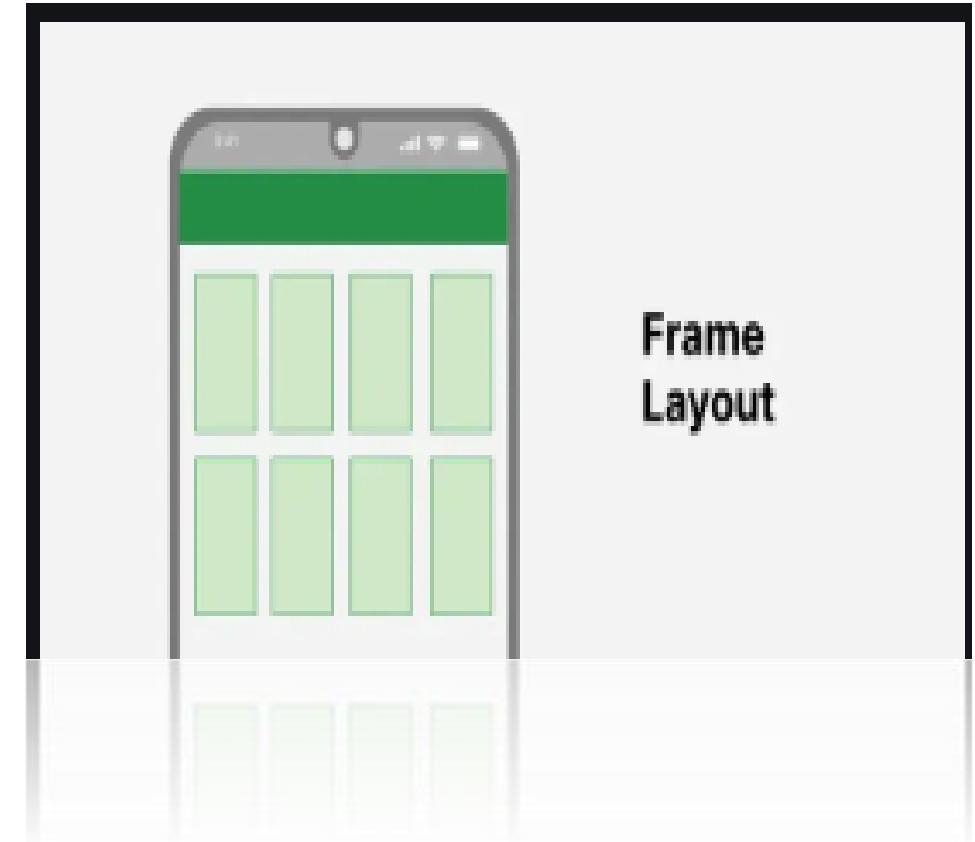
OUTPUT:



ABSOLUTE LAYOUT

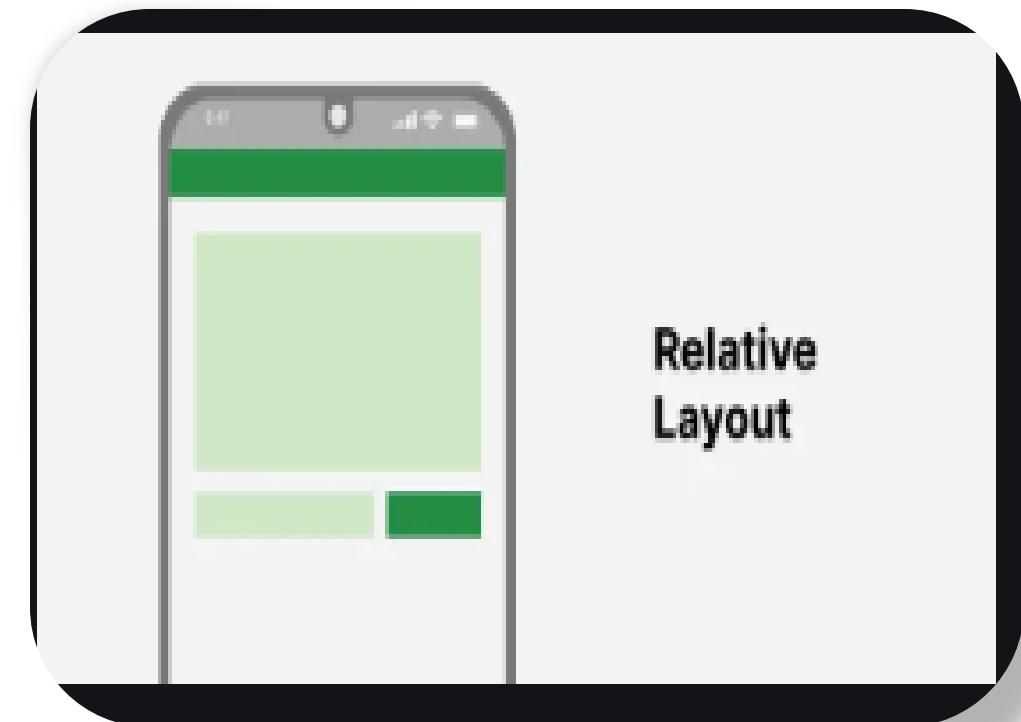
3. FRAME LAYOUT

- A simple layout designed to hold **one child view**.
- Multiple views can be **stacked on top of each other**.
- Commonly used for **overlays, fragments, and image views**.
- Ideal for **simple UI components** where layering is required.



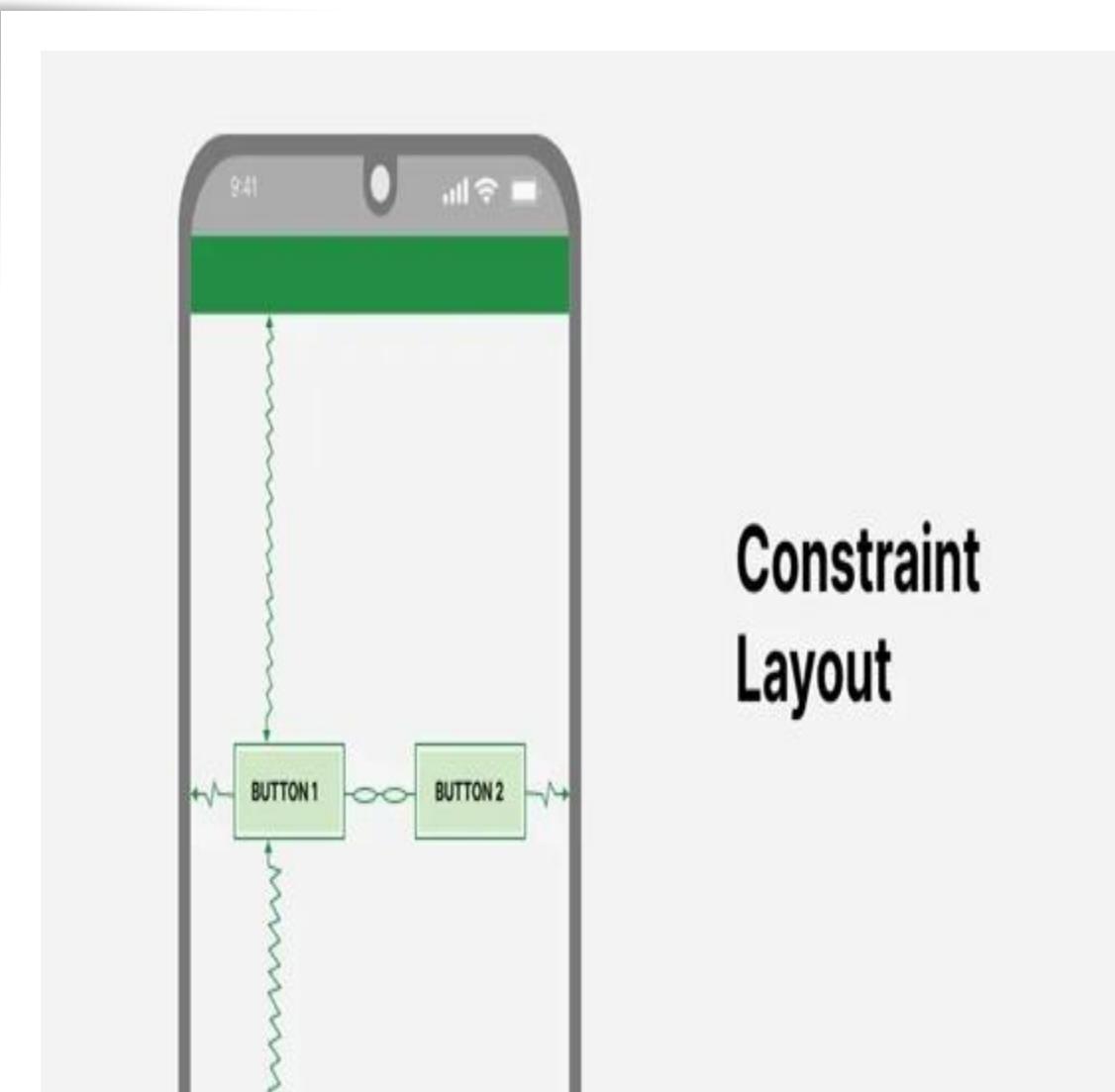
4. RELATIVE LAYOUT

- It Arranges **child views relative to each other or the parent.**
- It Views can be positioned **above, below, to the left, or right** of other views.
- It Useful for **flexible and dynamic UI designs.**
- It Allows **precise control over view placement** without nesting multiple layouts.



5.CONSTRAINT LAYOUT

- It is Flexible layout for Android UI design.
- Positions views using **constraints**, not nested layouts.
- It Reduces **view hierarchy**, improving performance.
- It Supports **complex and responsive designs**.
- It is most **recommended layout** for modern applications.



DYNAMIC IMPLEMENTATION OF LAYOUT

- UI created or modified **programmatically at runtime**.
- Flexible; can change based on user input, data, or events.
- Requires more code and logic to implement.
- Can be slightly heavier if many views are added dynamically.
- Dynamic content like lists, forms, or user-driven UI.

EXAMPLE:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<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"
    android:padding="16dp"
    android:background="@android:color/white"
    tools:context=".MainActivity">

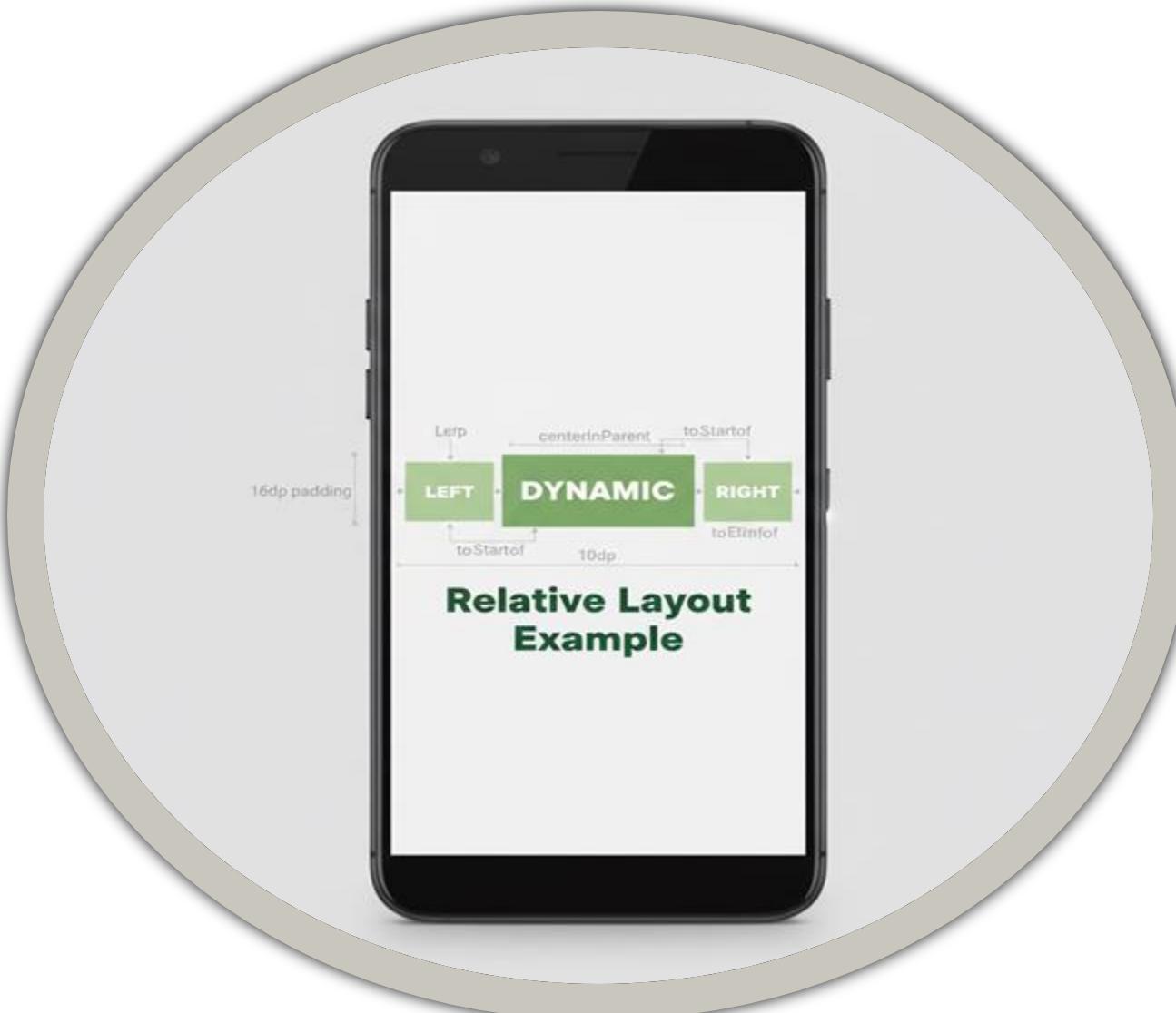
    <TextView android:id="@+id/tv_dynamic_center"
        android:layout_width="120dp"
        android:layout_height="80dp"
        android:layout_centerInParent="true"
        android:background="#66BB6A"
        android:text="DYNAMIC"
        android:textColor="#FFFFFF"
        android:textSize="18sp" android:textStyle="bold"
        android:gravity="center" />
```

```
<TextView android:id="@+id/tv_left"
    android:layout_width="80dp" android:layout_height="80dp"
    android:layout_toStartOf="@id/tv_dynamic_center"
    android:layout_centerVertical="true"
    android:layout_marginEnd="10dp"
    android:background="#9CCC65" android:text="LEFT"
    android:textColor="#FFFFFF" android:textSize="16sp"
    android:textStyle="bold" android:gravity="center" />

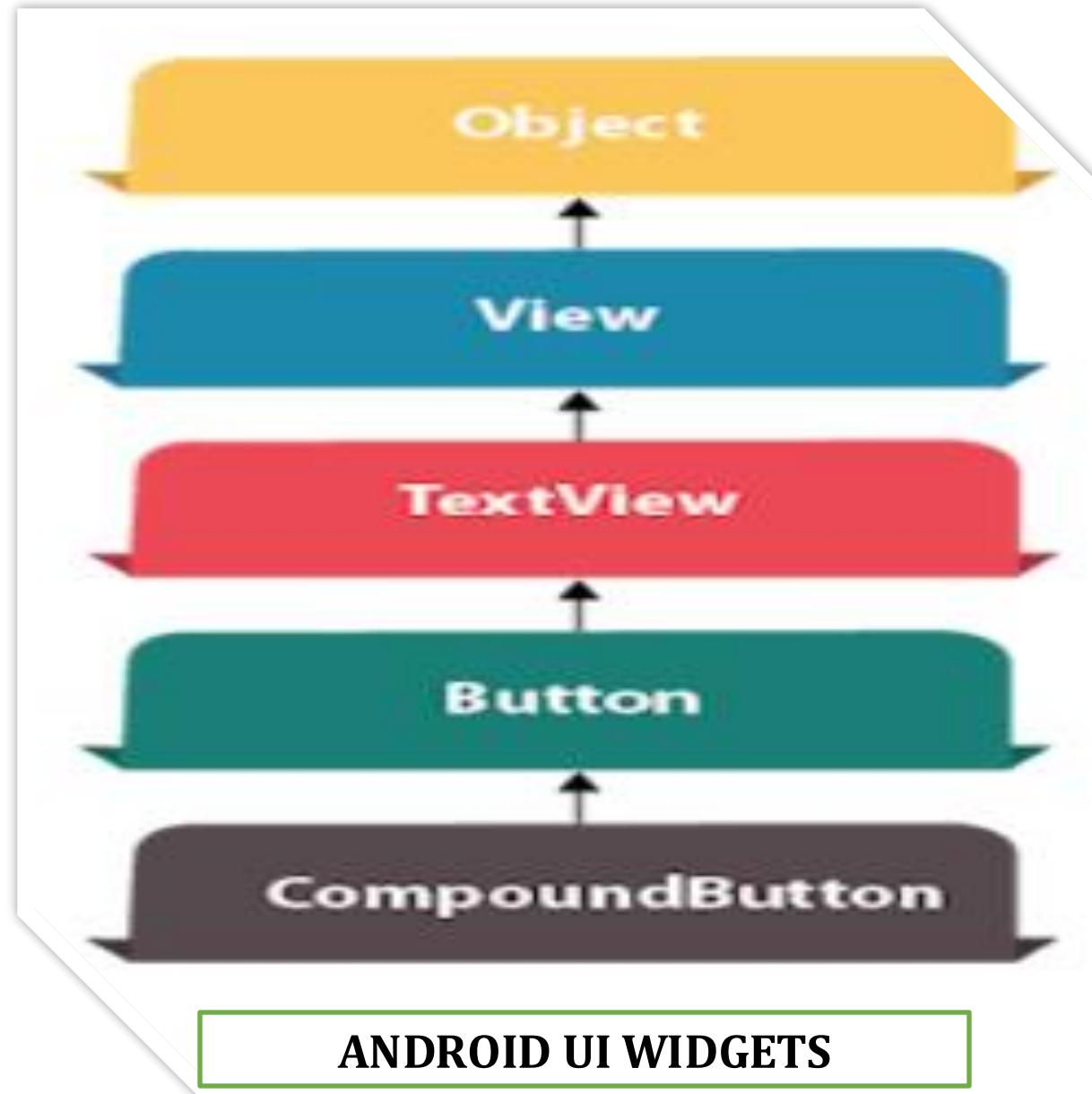
    <TextView android:id="@+id/tv_right"
        android:layout_width="80dp" android:layout_height="80dp"
        android:layout_toEndOf="@id/tv_dynamic_center"
        android:layout_centerVertical="true"
        android:layout_marginStart="10dp"
        android:background="#9CCC65" android:text="RIGHT"
        android:textColor="#FFFFFF" android:textSize="16sp"
        android:textStyle="bold" android:gravity="center" />

    <TextView android:layout_width="wrap_content"
        android:layout_height="wrap_content"
        android:layout_below="@id/tv_dynamic_center"
        android:layout_centerHorizontal="true"
        android:layout_marginTop="60dp" android:text="Relative Layout
Example" android:textColor="#388E3C" android:textSize="22sp"
        android:textStyle="bold" />
</RelativeLayout>
```

OUTPUT:



UI WIDGETS WITH PROPERTIES



UI Widgets & Properties in Android

| UI Widget | Purpose | Key Properties |
|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| TextView | Displays text | text, textSize, textColor, gravity, fontFamily |
| EditText | User input | hint, inputType, textColor, maxLength |
| Button | Triggers actions | text, background, onClick, enabled |
| ImageView | Displays images | src, scaleType, contentDescription |
| CheckBox | Select/deselect options | checked, text, onCheckedChangeListener |
| RadioButton | Single choice selection | checked, text, onClick |
| Switch | Toggle ON/OFF | checked, textOn, textOff, onCheckedChangeListener |
| Spinner | Dropdown selection | entries, onItemSelectedListener, prompt |
| ProgressBar | Shows loading/progress | max, progress, indeterminate, visibility |
| SeekBar | Sliding selection | max, progress, onSeekBarChangeListener |

Android Events & Methods

- Events are actions triggered by **user interactions** or **system changes** in an app.
- Methods are **functions that handle these events**, like clicks, touches, or text changes.
- Common events include **Click, Touch, Long Click, Key, Focus, Text Change, Item Selection, and Lifecycle events**.
- Handling events properly ensures a **responsive and interactive Android app UI**.

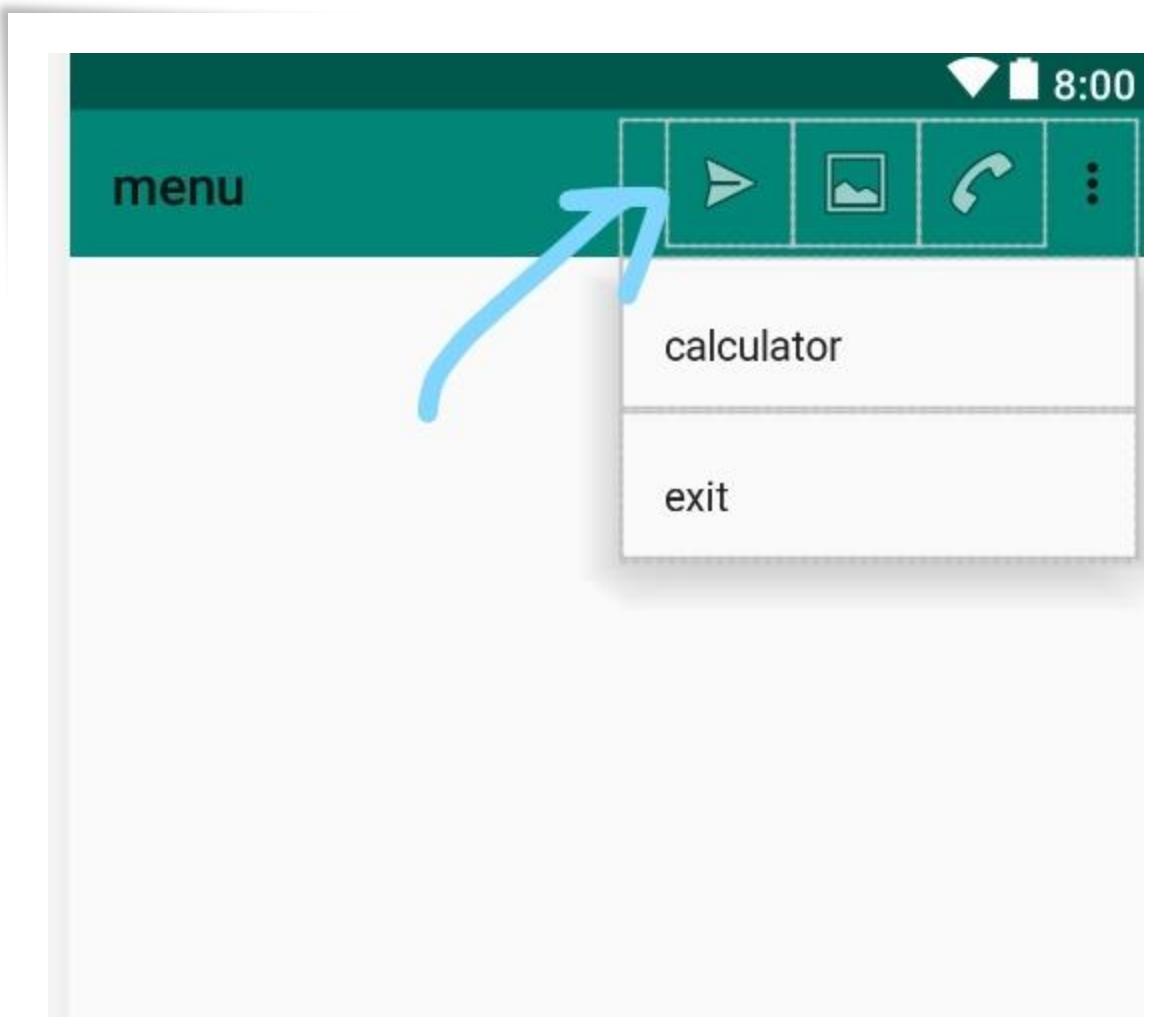
| Event Type | Description | Key Methods |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Click Events | Triggered when a user taps a view (e.g., Button) | <code>setOnClickListener()</code> |
| Touch Events | Triggered on touch interactions | <code>onTouch()</code> , <code>MotionEvent (ACTION_DOWN, ACTION_UP)</code> |
| Long Click Events | Triggered on long press | <code>setOnLongClickListener()</code> |
| Key Events | Triggered when hardware keys are pressed | <code>onKeyDown()</code> , <code>onKeyUp()</code> |
| Focus Events | Triggered when a view gains or loses focus | <code>onFocusChange()</code> , <code>setOnFocusChangeListener()</code> |
| Text Change Events | Triggered when text in EditText changes | <code>addTextChangedListener()</code> |
| Item Selection Events | Triggered for ListView, Spinner, or RecyclerView item selection | <code>setOnItemSelectedListener()</code> , <code>setOnItemClickListener()</code> |
| Lifecycle Events | Triggered during Activity/Fragment lifecycle changes | <code>onCreate()</code> , <code>onStart()</code> , <code>onResume()</code> , <code>onPause()</code> , <code>onStop()</code> , <code>onDestroy()</code> |

Dialog Boxes in Android

- Dialog boxes are **small windows** that prompt the user to make decisions or enter information without leaving the current activity.
- Used for **alerts, confirmations, inputs, or choices**.
- **Common Types:**
- **AlertDialog:** Shows alerts with buttons (OK, Cancel).
- **ProgressDialog:** Displays progress while a task is running. (*Deprecated in newer APIs*)
- **Custom Dialog:** Fully customizable layout for specific needs.
- **Key Methods :** show(), dismiss(), setMessage(), setTitle()

Menus: Option and Context

- Android Option Menus are the primary menus of android. They can be used for settings, search, delete item etc.
- To inflating the menu by calling the inflate() method of MenuInflater class.
- To perform event handling on menu items, you need to override onOptionsItemSelected() method of Activity class.



Android Context Menu

- Android context menu appears when user press long click on the element.
- It is also known as floating menu.
- It affects the selected content while doing action on it.
- It doesn't support item shortcuts and icons.

