



Android history and basics of Kotlin

Android Lecture 1

2024

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About this course

Course page: <https://d3s.mff.cuni.cz/teaching/nprg056/>

Garant: Jan Kofroň

Lecturers: Lukáš Prokop, Simona Kurnavová

Schedule for semestral projects:

- *October 1 – December 1*: Forming project groups (1-3 students) and creating project specifications
- *December 1*: The project specification has to be accepted by a lecturer
- *February 28*: Final version of the project
- *April 15*: Issues identified by lecturers fixed

How to submit project specification:

Via email to Jan Kofroň (jan.kofron@d3s.mff.cuni.cz) with Lukáš Prokop (Lukas.Prokop@gendigital.com) and Simona Kurnavová (Simona.Kurnavova@gendigital.com) as cc. *Email should contain:*

- What is the purpose of the application
- Description of features and functionalities of the application
- Optionally: technical stack and other clarifying information.

How to hand over project:

Ideally using Github/Gitlab/Bitbucket repository link (please make sure it would be accessible to us).

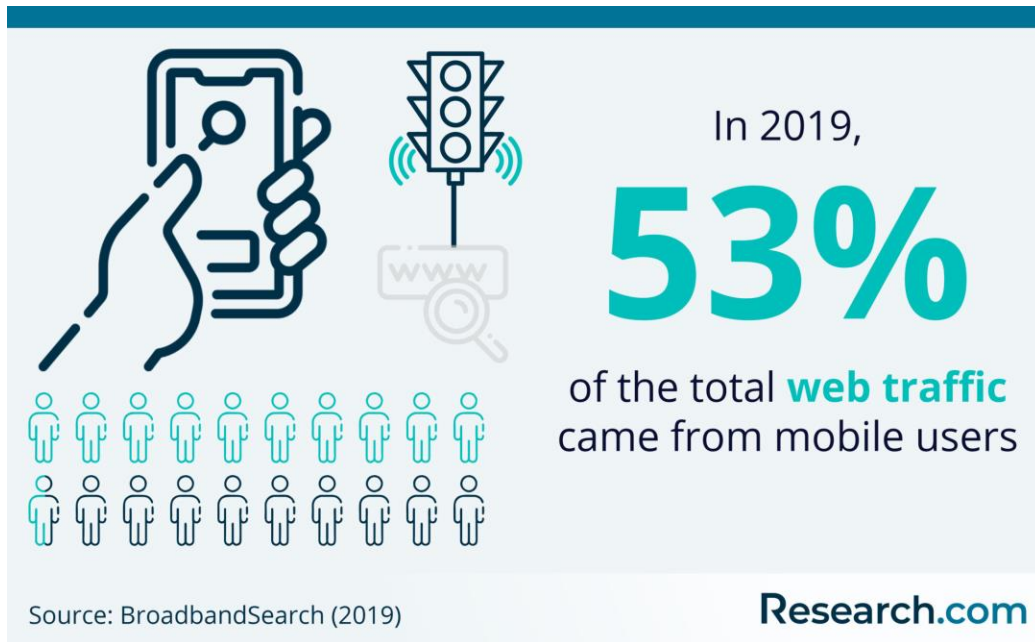
Agenda

- Mobile and Android history
- Android development
- Kotlin
- Q&A

Why mobile development

Why mobile development

- Ubiquitous
- Quick
- Convenient



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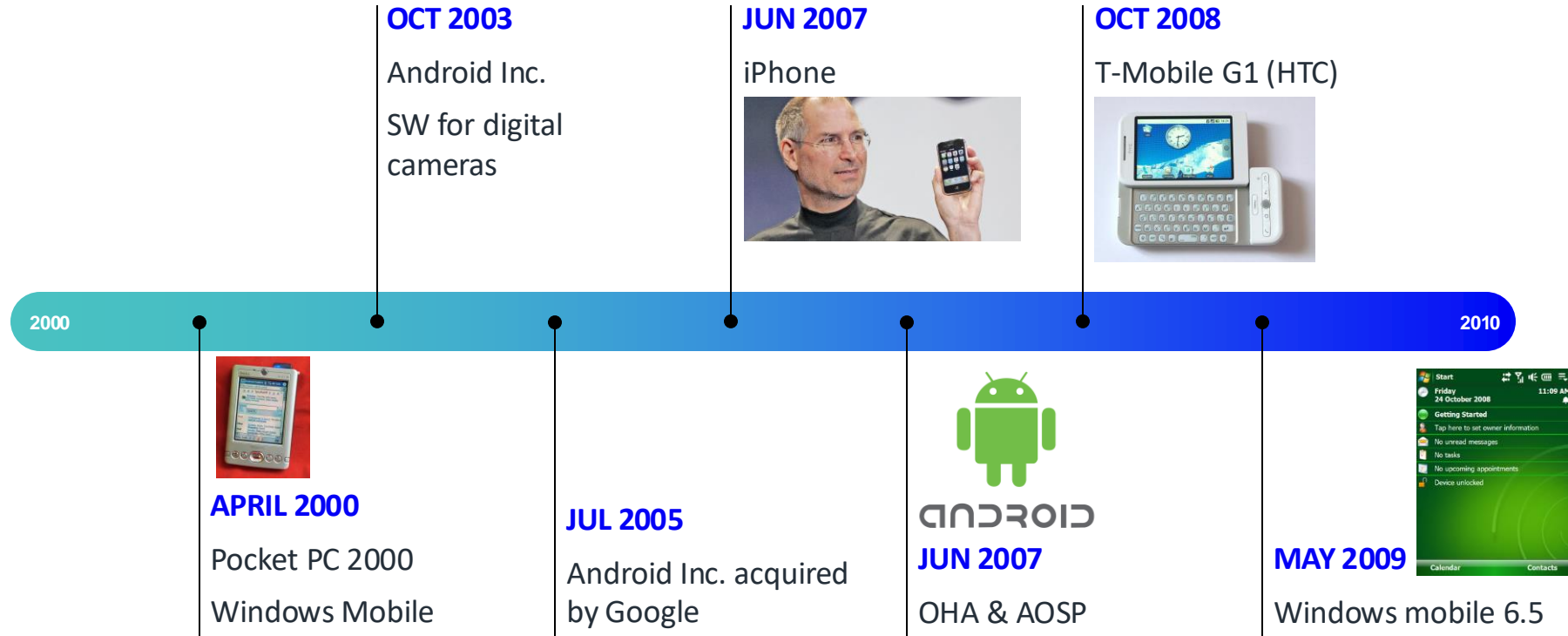
Mobile device specifics

- **Not enough computation power**
- **Changing state:**
 - Screen orientation
 - Foldables
- **Unstable network connection**
- **Small battery**
- **Small and variable display size**
- **Never ending interruptions**
 - Engaging notifications
 - Alarms

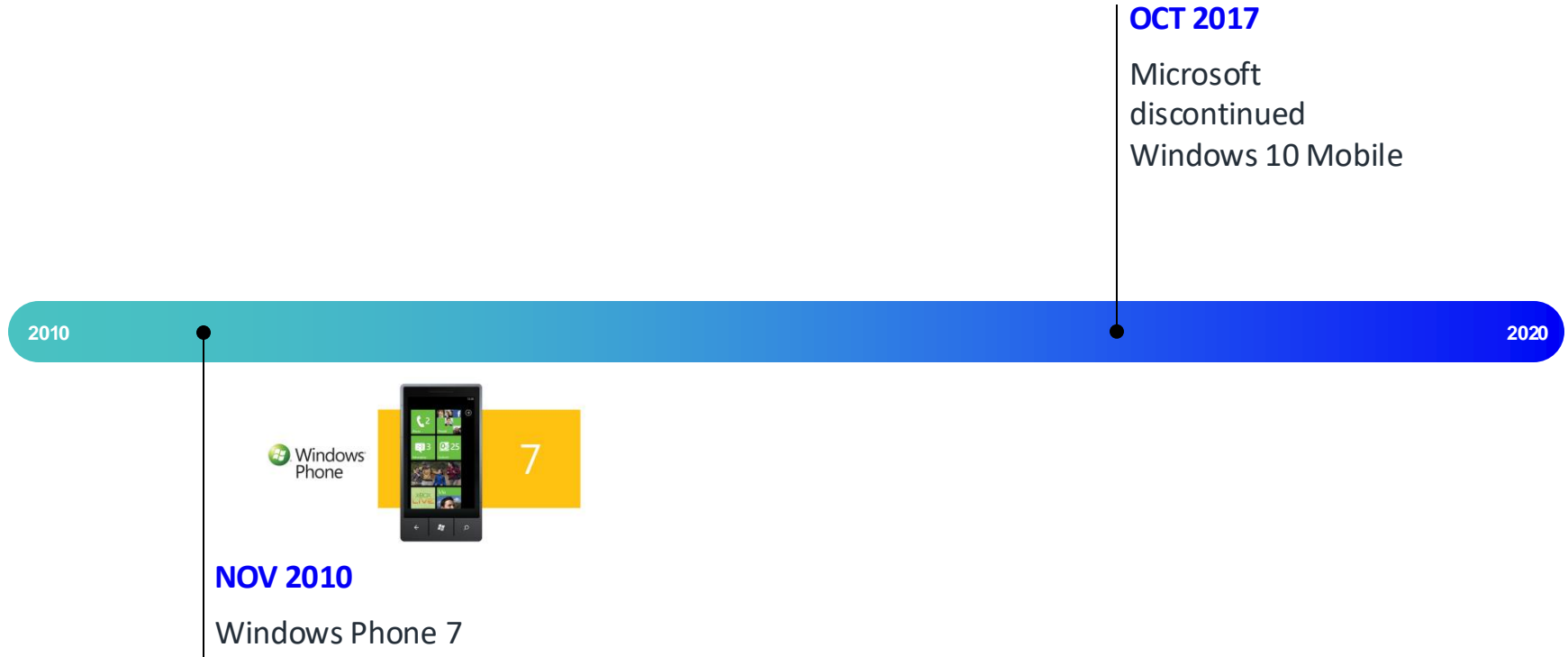


History

Timeline



Timeline



HTC G1





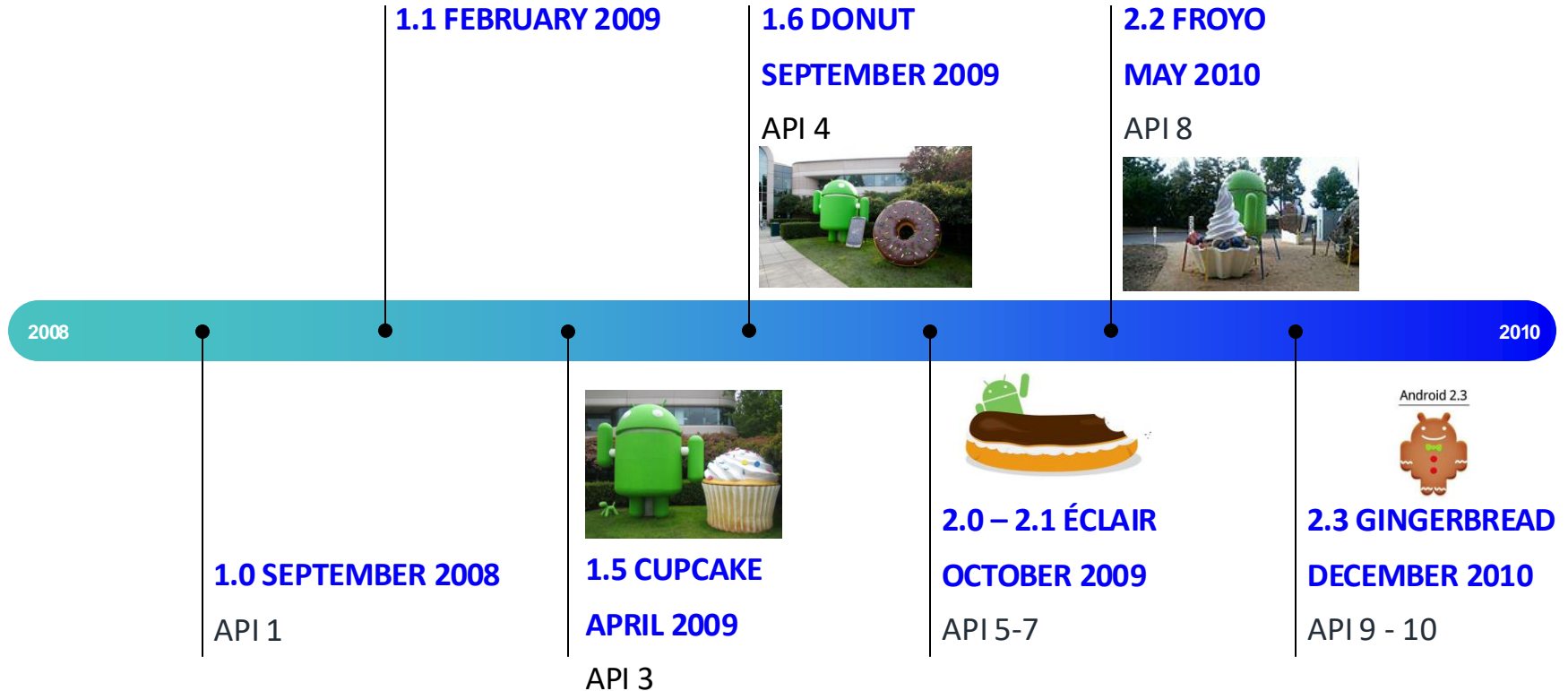


android

- **Linux-based OS**
 - No shell, no access to root (by default)
 - GNU C library (glibc) replaced by Bionic
- **Open source**
 - <https://source.android.com>
 - Just the OS (Google play store and services are proprietary)



android



android





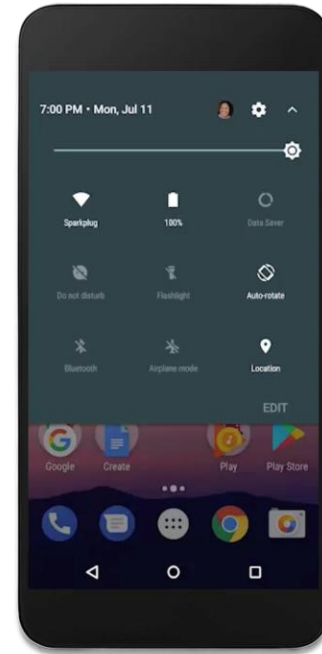
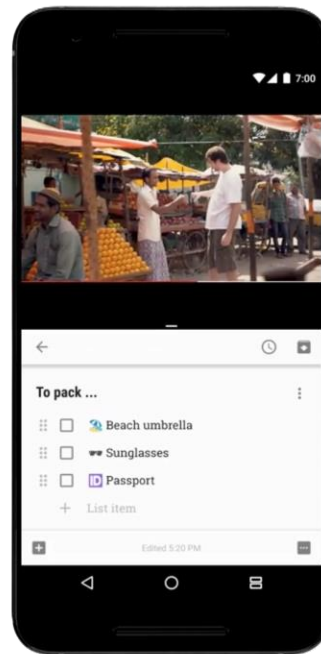
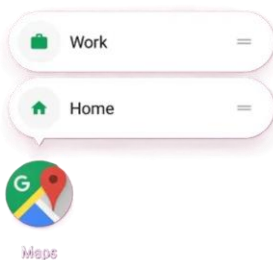
Android Nougat (API 24, 25)

August 2016 (Android 7.0, API 24)

- Multi window
- Quick setting tiles
- Vulkan API

October 2016 (Android 7.1, API 25)

- App shortcuts



Source



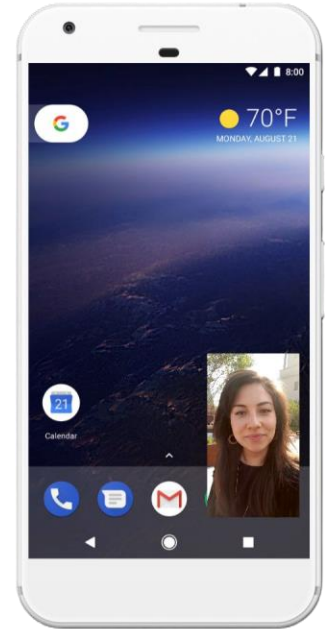
Android Oreo (API 26, 27)

August 2017 (Android 8.0, API 26)

- Picture in Picture
- Notification channels
- Custom fonts
- Autosize text view
- Multi display
- Project treble
 - Sony, Nokia, OnePlus

October 2017 (Android 8.1, API 27)

- Neural Network API
- Video thumbnail extractor
- Wallpapers color API
- Cryptography update
 - Conscript over Bouncy castle



Source



Android Pie (API 28)

August 2018 (Android 9.0)

- Display cutout supports
- Notification – messaging
- Multicamera support
- Image decoder (HEIF, HDR)
- Gesture navigation
- Animation
 - GIF, WebP animated images
 - HDR VP9, HEIF and Media APIs



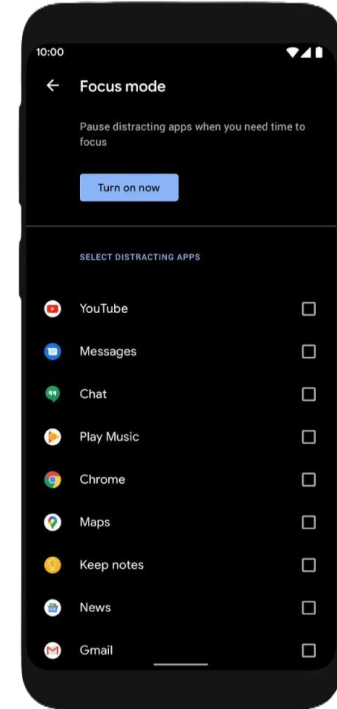
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Android 10 (API 29)

September 2019

- Gesture navigation (new version)
- Smart replies
- Dark theme
- Foldables



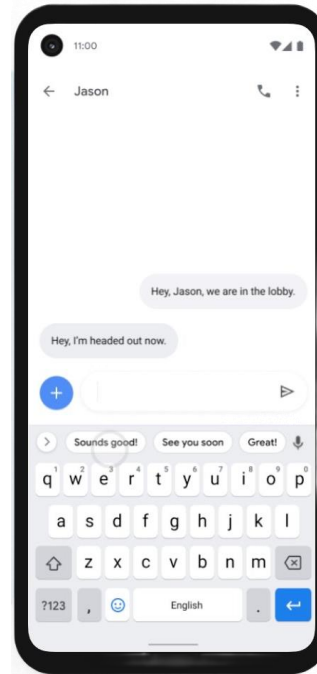
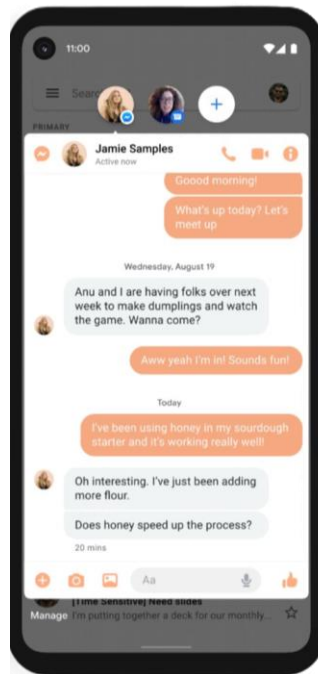
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Android 11 (API 30)

September 2020

- Chat bubbles
- Smart replies
- Notification history
- One time permission
- Permission auto-reset
- 5G detection API



Source



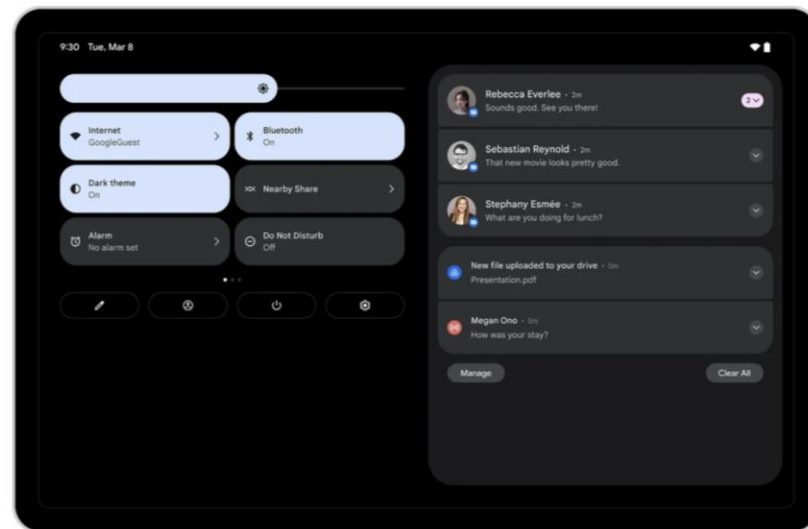
Android 12 (API 31, 32)

October 2021 (Android 12.0, API 31)

- Material You – design refresh
- Splash screen API
- Extending screenshot beyond screen
- Bluetooth permissions
 - Scan for nearby device don't need location

March 2022 (Android 12L, API 32)

- Optimized for large screens and foldables



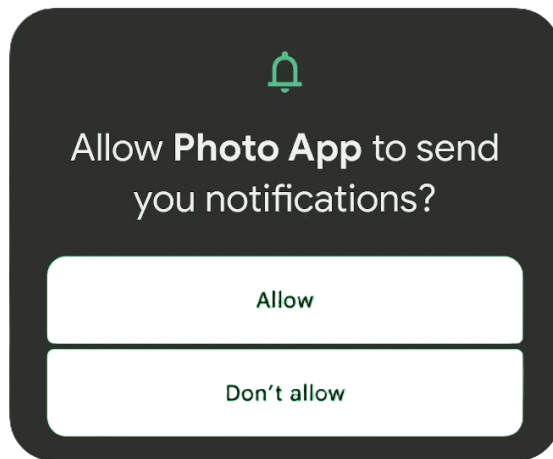
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Android 13 (API 33)

August 2022

- Notification permission
- Nearby wifi devices permission



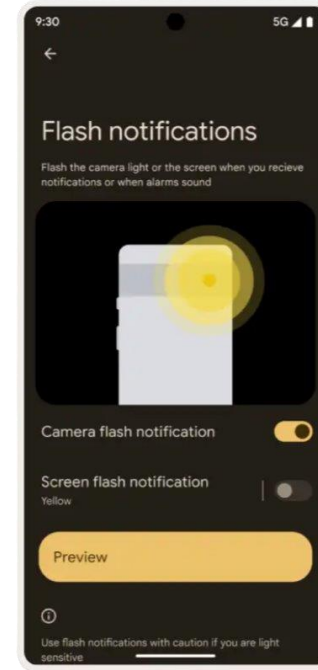
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Android 14 (API 34)

October 2023

- Exact alarm permission denied by default
- Partial access to photos and videos
- Change to non-dismissable notifications
- Security changes
- Accessibility improvements
 - Flash notifications
 - Better readability with font scaling



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Android 15 (API 35)

October 2024 (in beta) [docs](#)

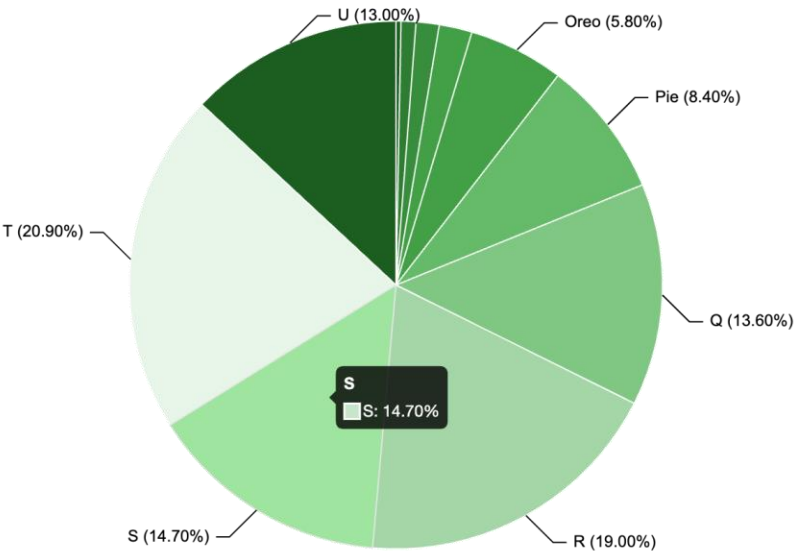
- Private space
- Screen recording detection
- Improvements to Picture-in-picture



[Source](#)

Android version distribution

May 1, 2024:



API Distribution		
Platform Version	API	Distribution
Android 4.4 (KitKat)	19	0.3%
Android 5 (Lollipop)	21	0.1%
Android 5.1 (Lollipop)	22	0.8%
Android 6 (Marshmallow)	23	1.4%
Android 7 (Nougat)	24	1.0%
Android 7.1 (Nougat)	25	1.0%
Android 8 (Oreo)	26	1.5%
Android 8.1 (Oreo)	27	4.3%
Android 9 (Pie)	28	8.4%
Android 10 (Q)	29	13.6%
Android 11 (R)	30	19.0%
Android 12 (S)	31	14.7%
Android 13 (T)	33	20.9%
Android 14 (U)	34	13.0%

[source1](#), [source2](#), [source3](#)

android

- **Android – Phones and tablets**
- **WearOS - Smartwatch**
 - Extended notification center
 - Sporttester
- **Chrome OS**
- **Android Auto**
 - Mirror optimized UI to built-in infotainment
- **Android automotive**
 - Standalone OS in cars
- **Android Things (deprecated January 2022)**
 - IoT
- **Google glass**
 - Glass explorer program (retired 2015)
 - Glass for enterprise (retired 2023)



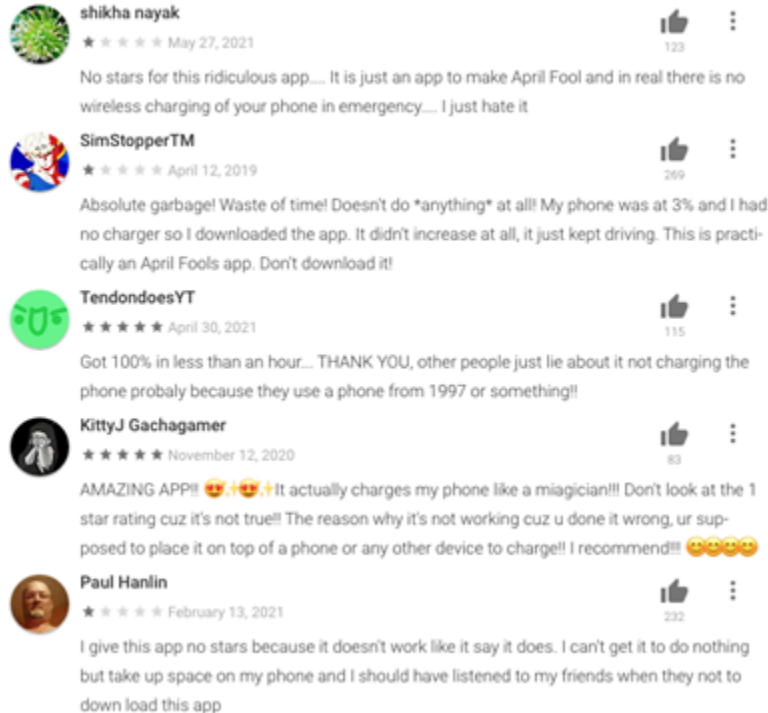
Android Ecosystem



- **Distribution:**
 - Primary Google play store
 - Alternative stores: Samsung Galaxy store, Amazon store, ...
 - Direct downloads
- **Different monetization models**
 - Free
 - Paid
 - In-App products (subscriptions and one-time)
- Android users not willing to pay for apps -> Ads
- Available in most countries

Android: Cons

- **Fragmentation**
 - OS adoption
 - Sizes
 - Performance differences
 - CPUs
- Low end devices
- Low quality apps
 - Wireless charger simulator



The screenshot displays a vertical list of user reviews for an app. Each review entry includes a circular profile picture, the user's name, a star rating (represented by filled stars), the date of the review, the number of likes (represented by a thumbs-up icon and a count), and the review text. The reviews are as follows:

- shikha nayak**: 1 star rating, May 27, 2021, 123 likes. Review: "No stars for this ridiculous app.... It is just an app to make April Fool and in real there is no wireless charging of your phone in emergency.... I just hate it".
- SimStopperTM**: 1 star rating, April 12, 2019, 269 likes. Review: "Absolute garbage! Waste of time! Doesn't do *anything* at all! My phone was at 3% and I had no charger so I downloaded the app. It didn't increase at all, it just kept driving. This is practically an April Fools app. Don't download it!".
- TendondoesYT**: 5 star rating, April 30, 2021, 115 likes. Review: "Got 100% in less than an hour... THANK YOU, other people just lie about it not charging the phone probaly because they use a phone from 1997 or something!!".
- KittyJ Gachagamer**: 5 star rating, November 12, 2020, 83 likes. Review: "AMAZING APP!! 🥳🥳🥳🥳 It actually charges my phone like a miagician!!! Don't look at the 1 star rating cuz it's not true!! The reason why it's not working cuz u done it wrong, ur supposed to place it on top of a phone or any other device to charge!! I recommend!!! 🥳🥳🥳🥳".
- Paul Hanlin**: 1 star rating, February 13, 2021, 232 likes. Review: "I give this app no stars because it doesn't work like it say it does. I can't get it to do nothing but take up space on my phone and I should have listened to my friends when they not to down load this app".

Android: Pros

- **Open source**
- **Many users**
- **Many apps**
- **Customisation (Keyboard, Launcher)**
- **Developer one-time fee \$25 (Apple \$99 Annual)**
 - Alpha, beta channels, stage rollout
 - Basic crash reporting
 - Pre-launch reports
 - Android Vitals
- Dev tools available on all major platforms (Linux, Windows, MacOS, ChromeOS)
- Huge open source community
 - OkHttp, Retrofit, Ktor, Dagger, Hilt, Koin, Flipper, RxJava
- Reference Pixel devices

Android: Security

- **Root user not available by default**
 - Rooting to get extra functionality, often breaks warranty
- **Permissions**
 - < API-23 – All permissions granted during installation
 - >= API-23 – Runtime permissions, user have to approve “dangerous” permissions
 - TargetSDK changes the behaviour
- **Bouncer**
 - Service which scans Google play store for malicious apps

Mobile Development

Options (iOS, Android)



- App-like mobile web
- Multiplatform frameworks: Flutter (Google), Xamarin (Microsoft), React native (Facebook)
- WebView based frameworks
- Kotlin Multiplatform
- Native:
 - IOS:
 - *Swift*: The primary language for iOS development, announced by Apple in 2014.
 - *Objective-C*: Supported, but gradually being replaced by Swift.
 - *C/C++*: Mainly games and libraries.
 - Android:
 - *Kotlin*: The primary language for Android development, support announced on GoogleIO in 2017.
 - *Java*: Supported, not recommended anymore (i.e. Compose not working with Java)
 - *C/C++*: Mainly games and libraries.

Android Development

Development tools



- **Android Studio** (editor, emulators, logcat debugging and support tools)
- **SDK**
 - ADB
 - Lint
 - Emulator
 - aapt, aidl, dx, (Jack & Jill – Java 8, now deprecated)
 - D8
 - Proguard/R8
- **NDK** (C/C++ development)
 - Cross compile
 - Native libraries

```
Terminal
>> adb devices
List of devices attached
emulator-5554    device
1234567890ABCDEF device

>> adb install app.apk
Performing Streamed Install
Success

>> adb uninstall com.example.app
Success

>> adb push path_to_local_file /sdcard/destination_file
[100%] /sdcard/destination_file

>> adb logcat
----- beginning of main
09-30 10:00:00.123 1234 5678 D MyApp: This is a debug message.
09-30 10:00:00.456 1234 5678 I MyApp: This is an info message.
09-30 10:00:00.789 1234 5678 W MyApp: This is a warning message.
09-30 10:00:01.012 1234 5678 E MyApp: This is an error message.
09-30 10:00:01.234 1234 5678 F MyApp: This is a fatal message.
09-30 10:00:02.345 1234 5678 I ActivityManager: Starting activity: com.example.app/.MainActivity
```



- Robust build system
- Dependency management
- Compilation, packaging, testing
- Build scripts languages:
 - Kotlin DSL
 - Groovy

```
app/build.gradle.kts

plugins {
    id("com.android.application") // Android application plugin
}

android {
    compileSdk = 34 // Compile SDK version

    defaultConfig {
        applicationId = "com.example.myapplication" // App package name
        minSdk = 21 // Minimum SDK version
        targetSdk = 34 // Target SDK version
        versionCode = 1 // App version code
        versionName = "1.0" // App version name
        testInstrumentationRunner = "androidx.test.runner.AndroidJUnitRunner" // Test runner
    }

    buildTypes {
        getByName("release") {
            isMinifyEnabled = false // Disable code shrinking
            proguardFiles(
                getDefaultProguardFile("proguard-android-optimize.txt"),
                "proguard-rules.pro" // ProGuard rules
            )
        }
    }
}

dependencies {
    implementation("androidx.core:core-ktx:1.10.1") // AndroidX core with Kotlin extensions
    implementation("androidx.appcompat:appcompat:1.6.1") // AppCompat for backward compatibility
    implementation("com.google.android.material:material:1.9.0") // Material Design components
    implementation("androidx.constraintlayout:constraintlayout:2.1.4") // ConstraintLayout for UI

    testImplementation("junit:junit:4.13.2") // JUnit for unit testing
    androidTestImplementation("androidx.test.ext:junit:1.1.5") // Android JUnit extension
    androidTestImplementation("androidx.test.espresso:espresso-core:3.5.1") // Espresso for UI testing
}
```

Kotlin

Ketchup



Island



Kotlin

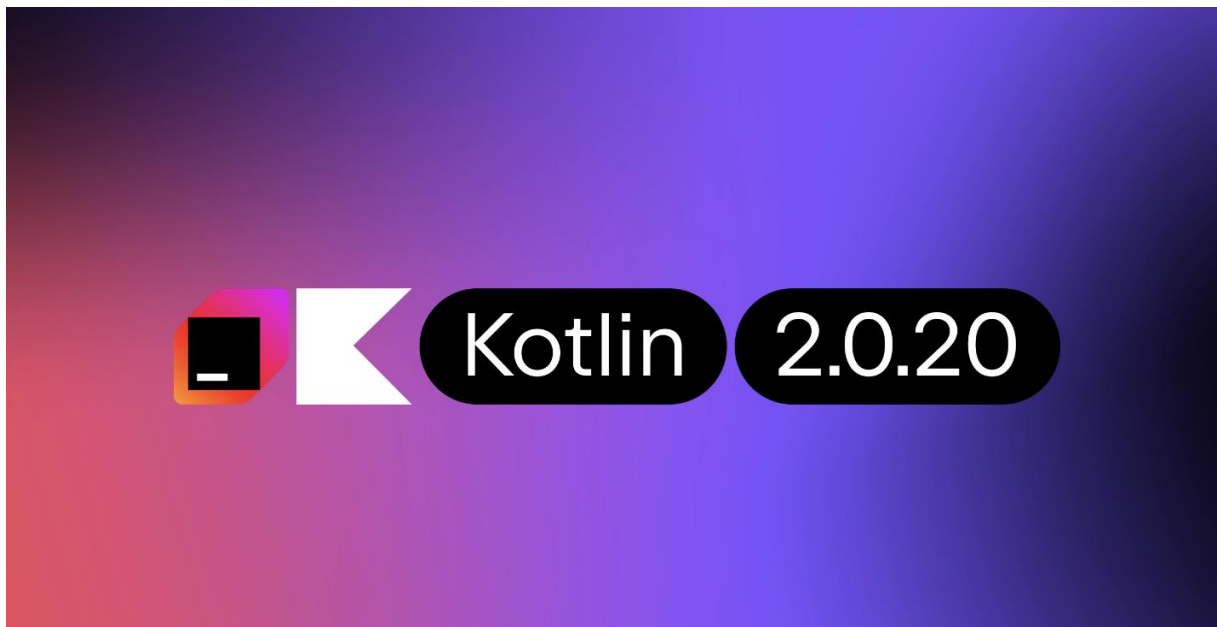


- Documentation
- Open source (Apache 2.0 license)
- First released in 2016
- Developed by JetBrains
- Tools support: IntelliJ, Android Studio, standalone compiler, ...
- Interoperable with Java (legacy code)
- Coroutines for asynchronous programming - lightweight concurrency framework
- Garbage collection
- Concise, null-safety, typesafe, type inference, immutability (List vs. MutableList)
- Kotlin playground



Kotlin assets

Kotlin current version



[Source](#)

Kotlin Basics

- **Values and variables**
 - Statically typed
 - If no type is specified, Kotlin infers the type from the initial assignment.
- **Classes**
 - Primary constructors are directly declared in the class header (optional init block)
- **Objects** (Singleton class)
- **Functions:**
 - *Single-expression functions:* functions that omit the return keyword and braces. Body is specified after "=" symbol.
 - Function return type must be specified (unless returns Unit or it is a single-expression function)

```
Kotlin basics

var age = 25 // Mutable variable
age = 26     // Can be reassigned

val name = "Alice" // Immutable variable
// name = "Bob"    // Error: Val cannot be reassigned

class Person(val name: String, var age: Int) {
    fun introduce() {
        println("My name is $name and I am $age years old.")
    }
}

val person = Person("Bob", 30)
person.introduce() // Output: My name is Bob and I am 30 years old.

object Singleton {
    fun showMessage(): String = "This is a singleton object."
}

println(Singleton.showMessage()) // Output: This is a singleton object.
```

Data classes

- Used mainly for data modeling
- Methods generated by compiler:
 - Equals() / hashCode()
 - toString()
 - Copy()
- Data objects (since Kotlin 1.9)

```
Data Classes

data class Person(
    val name: String,
    val surname: String,
    val street: String,
    val buldingNumber: Int
)

val bruceWayne = Person(
    name = "Bruce",
    surname = "Wayne",
    street = "Wayne Manor",
    buldingNumber = 1
)

val robin = bruceWayne.copy(name = "Robin")
```

Named, default parameters, String interpolation

- **Default parameters:** replace method overloading
- **String interpolation:**
 - For variables: `$variableName`
 - For expressions: `${expression}`



Parameters

```
fun greetUser(name: String, age: Int = 30) {  
    println("Name: $name, Age: $age") // String interpolation  
}  
  
fun main() {  
    greetUser(name = "Bob")           // Output: Name: Bob, Age: 30  
    greetUser(name = "Charlie", age = 25) // Output: Name: Charlie, Age: 25  
}
```

When expression

```
When expression

val x = 15
val y = 10

when { // As statement
    x > y -> println("x is greater than y")
    x == y -> println("x is equal to y")
    else -> println("x is less than y")
}

val day = 3

val dayName = when (day) { // As expression
    1 -> "Monday"
    2 -> "Tuesday"
    3 -> "Wednesday"
    4 -> "Thursday"
    5 -> "Friday"
    else -> "Weekend"
}
```

Operator overloading

- Arithmetic operators (+, -, *, /, ...)
- "in" operator (contains)
- Indexed access operator
- Equality/Inequality operator (equals)
- Comparison operators (compareTo)

```
Operator overloading

data class ComplexNumber(
    val real: Double,
    val imaginary: Double
) {
    operator fun plus(increment: ComplexNumber): ComplexNumber {
        return ComplexNumber(real + increment.real, imaginary + increment.imaginary)
    }
}
```

Extension functions

- Adds methods or variables to any class
- Doesn't have access to internal state of the class
- Powerful, but easy to misuse



Extension Functions

```
fun Int.isEven() = this % 2 == 0
fun Int.isOdd() = this % 2 == 1

val Int.absoluteValue: Int
    get() = if (this < 0) -this else this
```

Smartcast

- Automatically casts a variable to a specific type after checking its type with conditions

Smart Cast

```
fun smartCastDemo(x: Any) {  
    when (x) {  
        is Int -> println("Integer value abs(x): ${x.absoluteValue}")  
        is String -> println("String x.toLowerCase: ${x.toLowerCase(Locale.getDefault())}")  
        else -> println("x is not Integer or String")  
    }  
}
```

Lambda expressions

- Function can be passed as argument or returned from other function



Lambda expressions

```
fun <T, R> transform(item: T, transformation: (T) -> R): R {  
    return transformation(item)  
}
```

```
fun <T, R> T.transform(transformation: (T) -> R): R {  
    return transformation(this)  
}
```

```
val number = 1  
number.transform { it.toString() }  
transform(number) { it.toString() }
```


Companion object

- Object associated with class
- Accessed via class name
- Methods/properties do not belong to instance
- Similar to static in java
- Can implement/extend another interface/class
- Top level declaration vs. Companion object: [article](#)

```
Companion object

class User(val name: String) {
    companion object {
        fun createGuest() = User("Guest")
    }
}

fun main() {
    val guest = User.createGuest()
    println(guest.name) // Output: Guest
}
```

Null safety

- Null safety enforced at compile time
 - It's part of type system

```
Null safety

// Safe access operator
val length: Int? = nullableString?.length

// Elvis operator
val result: String = nullableString ?: "Default Value"

// Doesn't print anything if nullableString is null.
nullableString?.let { print("Hey, $it") }

// Throws NullPointerException if nullableString is null. Do not use!
nullableString!!?.let { print("Hey, $it") }
```

Kotlin Multiplatform (KMP)



- **Documentation:** <https://kotlinlang.org/docs/multiplatform.html>
- JetBrains
- Announced in 2017
- Allows to write shared business logic in Kotlin and use it across multiple platforms
- Built on Kotlin/Native
- Primary used for iOS and Android mobile development
- Kotlin Multiplatform Gradle plugin
- Multiplatform libraries
- More information in 2023 lesson about KMP: [slides](#)
- Example of KMP project from mdevcamp workshop (contains both version: 2 separate apps, and KMP variant): [repository](#)

Thank you

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