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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 106down vote | I'll just share my code in case someone wants something like this: enter image description here   * **layout/menu/menu\_actionbar.xml** * <?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?> * <menu xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"> * ... * <item android:id="@+id/menu\_hotlist" * android:actionLayout="@layout/action\_bar\_notifitcation\_icon" * android:showAsAction="always" * android:icon="@drawable/ic\_bell" * android:title="@string/hotlist" /> * ...   </menu>   * **layout/action\_bar\_notifitcation\_icon.xml**   Note **style** and **android:clickable** properties. these make the layout the size of a button and make the background gray when touched.  <?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>  <RelativeLayout xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"  android:layout\_width="wrap\_content"  android:layout\_height="fill\_parent"  android:orientation="vertical"  android:gravity="center"  android:layout\_gravity="center"  android:clickable="true"  style="@android:style/Widget.ActionButton">  <ImageView  android:id="@+id/hotlist\_bell"  android:src="@drawable/ic\_bell"  android:layout\_width="wrap\_content"  android:layout\_height="wrap\_content"  android:gravity="center"  android:layout\_margin="0dp"  android:contentDescription="bell"  />  <TextView xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"  android:id="@+id/hotlist\_hot"  android:layout\_width="wrap\_content"  android:minWidth="17sp"  android:textSize="12sp"  android:textColor="#ffffffff"  android:layout\_height="wrap\_content"  android:gravity="center"  android:text="@null"  android:layout\_alignTop="@id/hotlist\_bell"  android:layout\_alignRight="@id/hotlist\_bell"  android:layout\_marginRight="0dp"  android:layout\_marginTop="3dp"  android:paddingBottom="1dp"  android:paddingRight="4dp"  android:paddingLeft="4dp"  android:background="@drawable/rounded\_square"/>  </RelativeLayout>   * **drawable-xhdpi/ic\_bell.png**   A 64x64 pixel image with 10 pixel wide paddings from all sides. You are supposed to have 8 pixel wide paddings, but I find most default items being slightly smaller than that. Of course, you'll want to use different sizes for different densities.   * **drawable/rounded\_square.xml**   Here, #ff222222 (color #222222 with alpha #ff (fully visible)) is the background color of my Action Bar.  <?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>  <shape  xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"  android:shape="rectangle">  <corners android:radius="2dp" />  <solid android:color="#ffff0000" />  <stroke android:color="#ff222222" android:width="2dp"/>  </shape>   * **com/ubergeek42/WeechatAndroid/WeechatActivity.java**   Here we make it clickable and updatable! I created an abstract listener that provides Toast creation on onLongClick, the code was taken from from [the sources of ActionBarSherlock](https://github.com/JakeWharton/ActionBarSherlock/blob/master/actionbarsherlock/src/com/actionbarsherlock/internal/view/menu/ActionMenuItemView.java#L249-L278).  private int hot\_number = 0;  private TextView ui\_hot = null;  @Override public boolean onCreateOptionsMenu(final Menu menu) {  MenuInflater menuInflater = getSupportMenuInflater();  menuInflater.inflate(R.menu.menu\_actionbar, menu);  final View menu\_hotlist = menu.findItem(R.id.menu\_hotlist).getActionView();  ui\_hot = (TextView) menu\_hotlist.findViewById(R.id.hotlist\_hot);  updateHotCount(hot\_number);  new MyMenuItemStuffListener(menu\_hotlist, "Show hot message") {  @Override  public void onClick(View v) {  onHotlistSelected();  }  };  return super.onCreateOptionsMenu(menu);  }  // call the updating code on the main thread,  // so we can call this asynchronously  public void updateHotCount(final int new\_hot\_number) {  hot\_number = new\_hot\_number;  if (ui\_hot == null) return;  runOnUiThread(new Runnable() {  @Override  public void run() {  if (new\_hot\_number == 0)  ui\_hot.setVisibility(View.INVISIBLE);  else {  ui\_hot.setVisibility(View.VISIBLE);  ui\_hot.setText(Integer.toString(new\_hot\_number));  }  }  });  }  static abstract class MyMenuItemStuffListener implements View.OnClickListener, View.OnLongClickListener {  private String hint;  private View view;  MyMenuItemStuffListener(View view, String hint) {  this.view = view;  this.hint = hint;  view.setOnClickListener(this);  view.setOnLongClickListener(this);  }  @Override abstract public void onClick(View v);  @Override public boolean onLongClick(View v) {  final int[] screenPos = new int[2];  final Rect displayFrame = new Rect();  view.getLocationOnScreen(screenPos);  view.getWindowVisibleDisplayFrame(displayFrame);  final Context context = view.getContext();  final int width = view.getWidth();  final int height = view.getHeight();  final int midy = screenPos[1] + height / 2;  final int screenWidth = context.getResources().getDisplayMetrics().widthPixels;  Toast cheatSheet = Toast.makeText(context, hint, Toast.LENGTH\_SHORT);  if (midy < displayFrame.height()) {  cheatSheet.setGravity(Gravity.TOP | Gravity.RIGHT,  screenWidth - screenPos[0] - width / 2, height);  } else {  cheatSheet.setGravity(Gravity.BOTTOM | Gravity.CENTER\_HORIZONTAL, 0, height);  }  cheatSheet.show();  return true;  }  }   |  |  | | --- | --- | | [share](https://stackoverflow.com/a/25453979/8017516)[edit](https://stackoverflow.com/posts/25453979/edit) | answered Aug 22 '14 at 19:08  [[https://www.gravatar.com/avatar/8b53ee2b64a8868fcb13e6a143435807?s=32&d=identicon&r=PG&f=1](https://stackoverflow.com/users/1449683/squirrel)](https://stackoverflow.com/users/1449683/squirrel)  [squirrel](https://stackoverflow.com/users/1449683/squirrel)  **2,062**11621 | |
|  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | 12 |  | | Very useful and descriptive. Thanks! That's what I really needed. Just to add some topics which might be useful. You've to put app:actionLayout="@layout/action\_bar\_notifitcation\_icon" instead of android:actionLayout="@layout/action\_bar\_notifitcation\_icon" if you've to use MenuItemCompat.getActionView instead of menu.findItem(R.id.menu\_hotlist).getActionView(); for compatibility issues. MenuItem.getActionView isn't compatible with API level < 11. – [Reaz Murshed](https://stackoverflow.com/users/3145960/reaz-murshed" \o "6,253 reputation) [Jul 4 '15 at 7:16](https://stackoverflow.com/questions/17696486/actionbar-notification-count-icon-badge-like-google-has#comment50436480_25453979) | | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | | **Note style and android:clickable properties. these make the layout the size of a button and make the background selected colored when touched.** Very useful! – [David](https://stackoverflow.com/users/1038702/david) [Dec 8 '15 at 16:31](https://stackoverflow.com/questions/17696486/actionbar-notification-count-icon-badge-like-google-has#comment56068886_25453979) | | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | | very good explanation – [Manikanta](https://stackoverflow.com/users/3728438/manikanta" \o "1,424 reputation) [Dec 31 '15 at 8:10](https://stackoverflow.com/questions/17696486/actionbar-notification-count-icon-badge-like-google-has#comment56828168_25453979) | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1 |  | | it works like a charm. tnx bro. but in my case, i use default toolbar and i should use "app:actionLayout="@layout/action\_bar\_notifitcation\_icon" instead or i always get null. tnx again – [Smartiz](https://stackoverflow.com/users/1607191/smartiz" \o "2,125 reputation)[Feb 20 '16 at 5:00](https://stackoverflow.com/questions/17696486/actionbar-notification-count-icon-badge-like-google-has#comment58728861_25453979) | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1 |  | | As a tip, Android has a drawable to notification. So, instead of creating a custom shape, you can set the background of the TextView to @android:drawable/ic\_notification\_overlay". – [androidevil](https://stackoverflow.com/users/1771682/androidevil" \o "3,400 reputation) [Jul 8 '16 at 17:56](https://stackoverflow.com/questions/17696486/actionbar-notification-count-icon-badge-like-google-has#comment63964752_25453979) | | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | | For Appcompat - public boolean onCreateOptionsMenu(Menu menu) { MenuInflater menuInflater = getMenuInflater(); menuInflater.inflate(R.menu.menu\_actionbar, menu);MenuItem item = menu.findItem(R.id.menu\_hotlist);MenuItemCompat.setActionVie‌​w(item, R.layout.action\_bar\_notifitcation\_icon);final View menu\_hotlist = MenuItemCompat.getActionView(item);ui\_hot = (TextView) menu\_hotlist.findViewById(R.id.hotlist\_hot);updateHotCount(h‌​ot\_number);new MyMenuItemStuffListener(menu\_hotlist, "Show hot message") {@Override public void onClick(View v) { /\*dosomething\*/ }};return super.onCreateOptionsMenu(menu);} – [Ravi](https://stackoverflow.com/users/869240/ravi) [May 4 at 14:54](https://stackoverflow.com/questions/17696486/actionbar-notification-count-icon-badge-like-google-has#comment74612973_25453979) | | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | | Native: android:actionLayout; AppCompat: app:actionLayout in your menu item. – [Benoit Duffez](https://stackoverflow.com/users/334493/benoit-duffez)[Jun 26 at 13:28](https://stackoverflow.com/questions/17696486/actionbar-notification-count-icon-badge-like-google-has#comment76502458_25453979) | |