

# MULTI-WINDOW AND YOUR APP

ANDROID 7.0 AND CHROME OS



# FORMS OF MULTI-WINDOW

- Split-screen
- Picture-in-picture: mostly for Android TV
- Freeform
- Chrome OS: freeform kinda sorta but not

# GETTING YOUR APP IN MULTI-WINDOW

- Generally, do nothing unusual
- Your app winds up in windows... whether you like it or not
- Older `targetSdkVersion` may give a warning Toast to the user

# GETTING YOUR APP OUT OF MULTI-WINDOW

## THE THEORY

- Use `android:resizeableActivity="false"` on `<activity>`
- Older `targetSdkVersion` and `android:screenOrientation`

# GETTING YOUR APP OUT OF MULTI-WINDOW

## THE REALITY

- Root activity of the task determines the window behavior
- Exported activities attempting to break out of multi-window need to ensure they run in a task other than default
- Changes in task behavior may impact other things (BACK behavior, overview screen entries)

# ABOUT THE SIZING

- User can change the size of the window (e.g., drag split bar in split-screen)
- Your window might be as small as 220dp in either direction
- Bonus: if you can handle this, you can handle small-screened devices
- Can specify a minimum size, but then your UI is cropped

# AND NOW, A WORD FROM ARS TECHNICA

## WITH REGARDS TO ANDROID 7.0 MULTI-WINDOW

*[Sometimes], you'll find that apps don't actually refresh themselves unless the app has focus—tap away from your messaging app to work in Word or browse in Chrome, for example, and you may stop seeing new messages until you tab back over to your messaging app.*

# LIFECYCLE METHODS

## PAUSE FOR A MOMENT AND THINK ABOUT `onPause()`

- Paused = visible but not receiving user input
- Stopped = no longer visible
- Outside of multi-window, being only paused is unusual
- With multi-window, being only paused is very common
- Are you doing the right thing when you are paused?



# CONFIGURATION CHANGES

- By default, activity may be destroyed and recreated due to multi-window
  - User enters multi-window with your activity visible
  - User resizes your window (possibly)
  - User exits multi-window with your activity focused
  - Changes occur if size deemed large enough delta, may vary by orientation
- If fast enough for orientation change, probably fast enough here
- `android:configChanges` now "out of the doghouse"

# ANOTHER WORD FROM ARS TECHNICA

*Sometimes you'll want to open two instances of the same app side-by-side... Whether or not you can do this depends on the app. Chrome seems to be the only app that really supports being opened twice: just enter split screen mode, press Chrome's menu button, and pick "Move to other window." Chrome then takes over both sides of the screen.*

# ANOTHER WORD FROM ARS TECHNICA

(CONTINUED, BECAUSE THEY ARE WORDY)

*For other apps, the general rule seems to be "if it makes more than one thumbnail in Recent Apps, you open it twice in split screen." Just pick one thumbnail, trigger split screen, and then pick the other. This feels more like a trick than an intended feature though.*

# LAUNCHING ANOTHER WINDOW

- Add `FLAG_ACTIVITY_LAUNCH_ADJACENT`, along with appropriate task flags, to `Intent`
- Ignored if device is not in multi-window mode
- "This flag is only used in split-screen multi-window mode" (???)

# DETECTING MULTI-WINDOW

WHAT PROBABLY WORKS:  
**`onMultiWindowModeChanged()`**

- Override on your `Activity` or `Fragment`
- Do something useful (e.g., enable/disable "launch adjacent" action bar item)

# DETECTING MULTI-WINDOW

THEN, THERE IS `isInMultiWindowMode()`

- User exits multi-window mode; your activity may be destroyed and recreated
- In `onCreate()`, `isInMultiWindowMode()` returns `true` (???) for a while (?!?) after which it returns `false`, even if you never left the main application thread (?!?!?)
- IOW, a race condition ... but one that is "working as intended"

# DRAGGIN' AND DROPPIN'

- `startDrag()`, `OnDragListener`, and `kin`
- Ill-used, but around since API Level 11
- Works across activities, if both are visible
- Cross-app behavior
  - Opt-in to initiate a drag event that can be dropped in another app's window
  - Cannot avoid cross-app drop events, must detect "local state" and ignore if missing

# LEGACY MULTI-WINDOW

## THREE FLAVORS

- No code changes required (e.g., Jide's Remix OS)
- Manifest changes required (e.g., Samsung, LG)
- Proprietary SDK and custom code required (e.g., SONY)



# LEGACY MULTI-WINDOW

LG

```
<meta-data  
  android:name="com.lge.support.SPLIT_WINDOW"  
  android:value="true" />
```

# LEGACY MULTI-WINDOW

## SAMSUNG

```
<uses-library
  android:name="com.sec.android.app.multiwindow"
  android:required="false" />
<meta-data
  android:name="com.sec.android.support.multiwindow"
  android:value="true" />
<category
  android:name="android.intent.category.MULTIWINDOW_LAUNCHER" />
```

# HEY, WHAT ABOUT FREEFORM?

*Manufacturers of larger devices can choose to enable freeform mode, in which the user can freely resize each activity. If the manufacturer enables this feature, the device offers freeform mode in addition to split-screen mode.*

# HEY, WHAT ABOUT FREEFORM?

PAY NO ATTENTION TO THAT MULTI-WINDOW MODE  
BEHIND THE CURTAIN

- Docs say that you should test on freeform
- Official Testing Approaches
  - 0 additional windows: test normally
  - 1 additional window: test in split-screen mode
  - N additional windows: `~\_(\ツ)\_/~`

# ANDROID ON CHROME OS

## WHAT WE WERE TOLD ORIGINALLY

- Developer builds would support this on three devices in June
- Rollout to ordinary users in the fall of 2016 for a long list of devices (but still a subset of total Chrome OS devices)

# ANDROID ON CHROME OS

## WHAT WE ARE BEING TOLD NOW

- June: Developer builds available for the ASUS Chromebook Flip
- July: Developer builds for the Acer Chromebook R11/C738T and the 2015 edition of the Chromebook Pixel
- Rollout to ordinary users "later in 2016/2017"

# CHROME OS AND YOUR APP

- By default, most apps will ship to Chrome OS devices that support touchscreens
  - Unclear what percentage of Chrome OS market has touchscreens
  - Other app features might still block availability on these Chromebooks
- By default, most apps will *not* ship to Chrome OS devices that lack touchscreens

# WHAT'S DIFFERENT ON CHROME OS

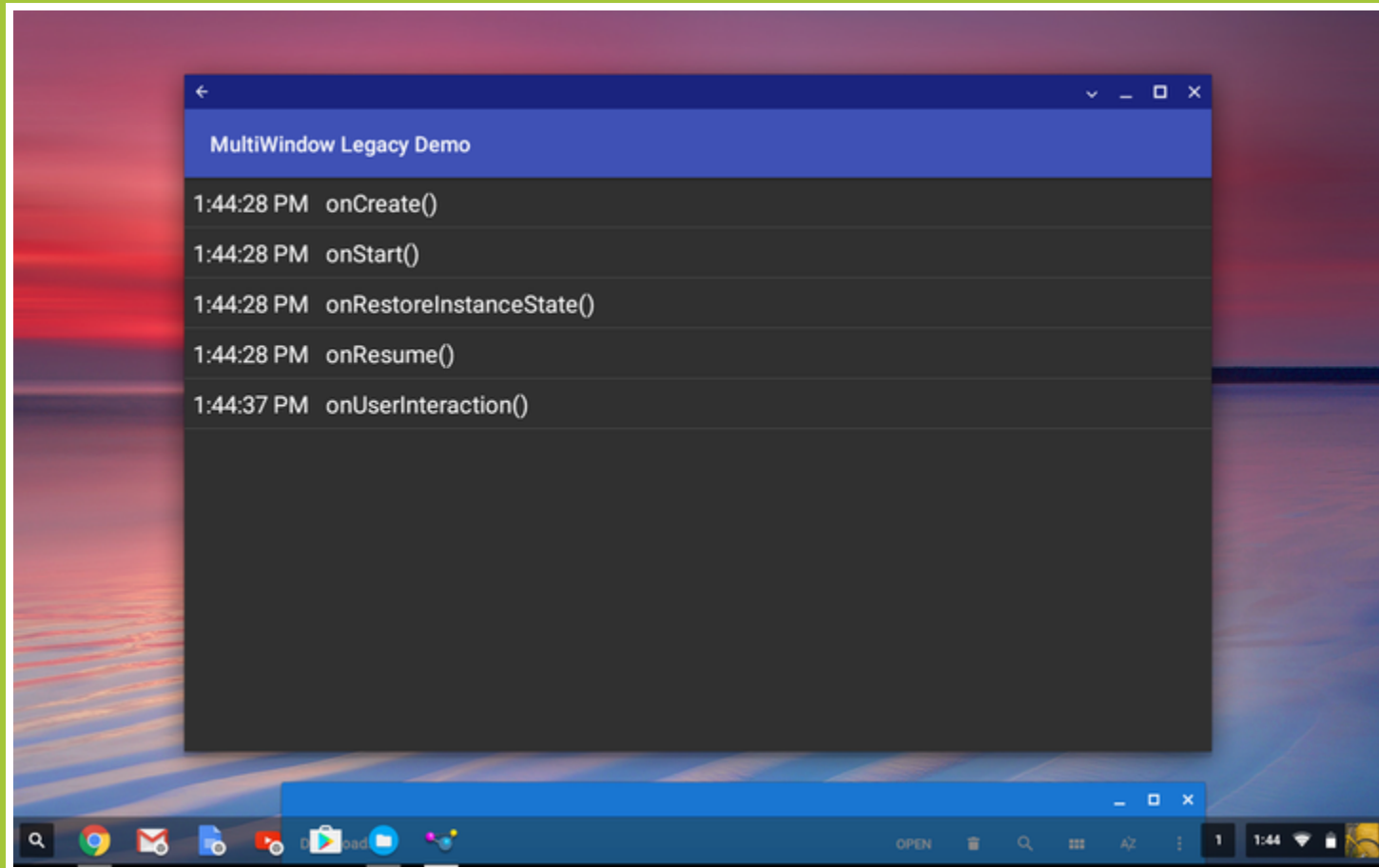
## WINDOWS

- Landscape
- Portrait
- Full-screen
- Future: N freeform?



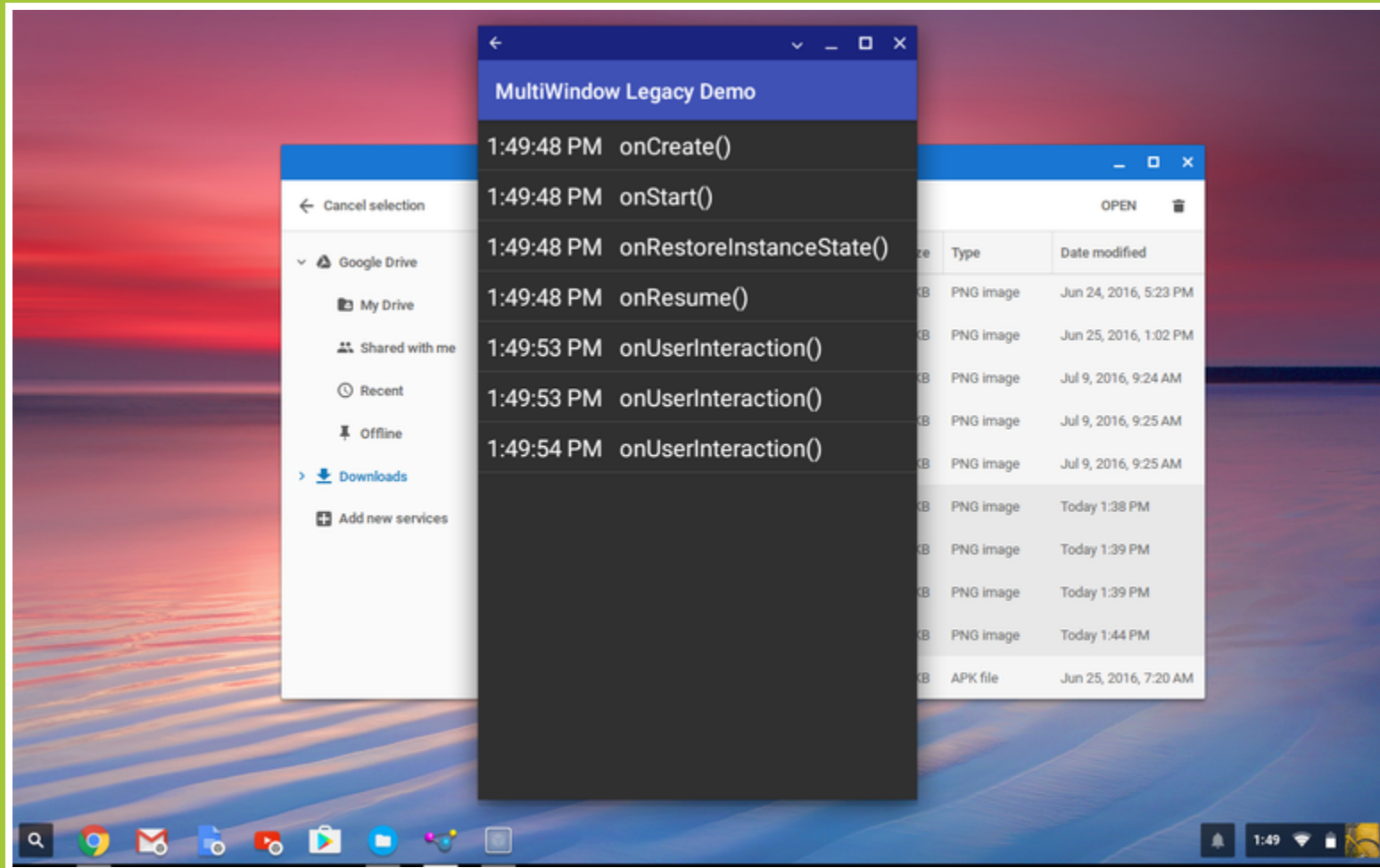
# WHAT'S DIFFERENT ON CHROME OS

## LANDSCAPE



# WHAT'S DIFFERENT ON CHROME OS

## PORTRAIT



# WHAT'S DIFFERENT ON CHROME OS

## STUFF CHROME OS DOESN'T LIKE

- `android.software.input_methods`: for implementing your own IME
- `android.software.app_widget`: for apps whose primary purpose is to publish an app widget
- `android.software.live_wallpaper`: for apps whose primary purpose is to publish some live wallpaper
- `android.software.home_screen`: for home screen replacement apps

# WHAT'S DIFFERENT ON CHROME OS

## NOT ALWAYS A TOUCHSCREEN

- Many Chromebooks, all Chromeboxes/Chromebits lack touchscreens
- Need to say that touchscreen is not required in the manifest to be distributed to such devices
- To do *that*, need to adequately test your app with keyboard/mouse combination
- Do not assume a trackpad!

# WHAT'S DIFFERENT ON CHROME OS

## OTHER FIDDLY BITS

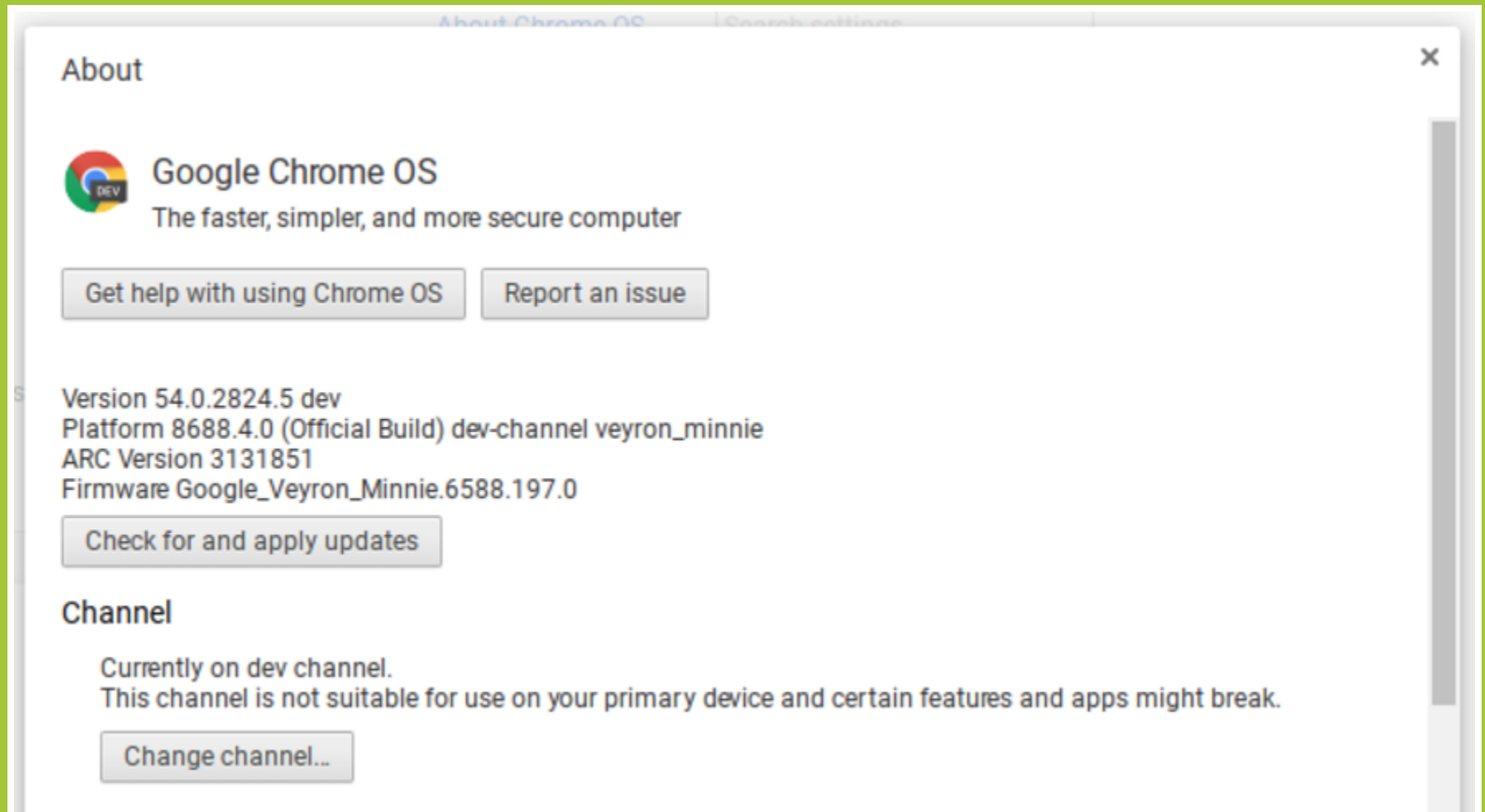
- Notifications: basics work, but get converted into Chrome OS-style notifications
- Theme . Translucent: still gets a window
- External displays: owned by Chrome OS, no Presentation

# TESTING ON CHROME OS

## BASIC SETUP

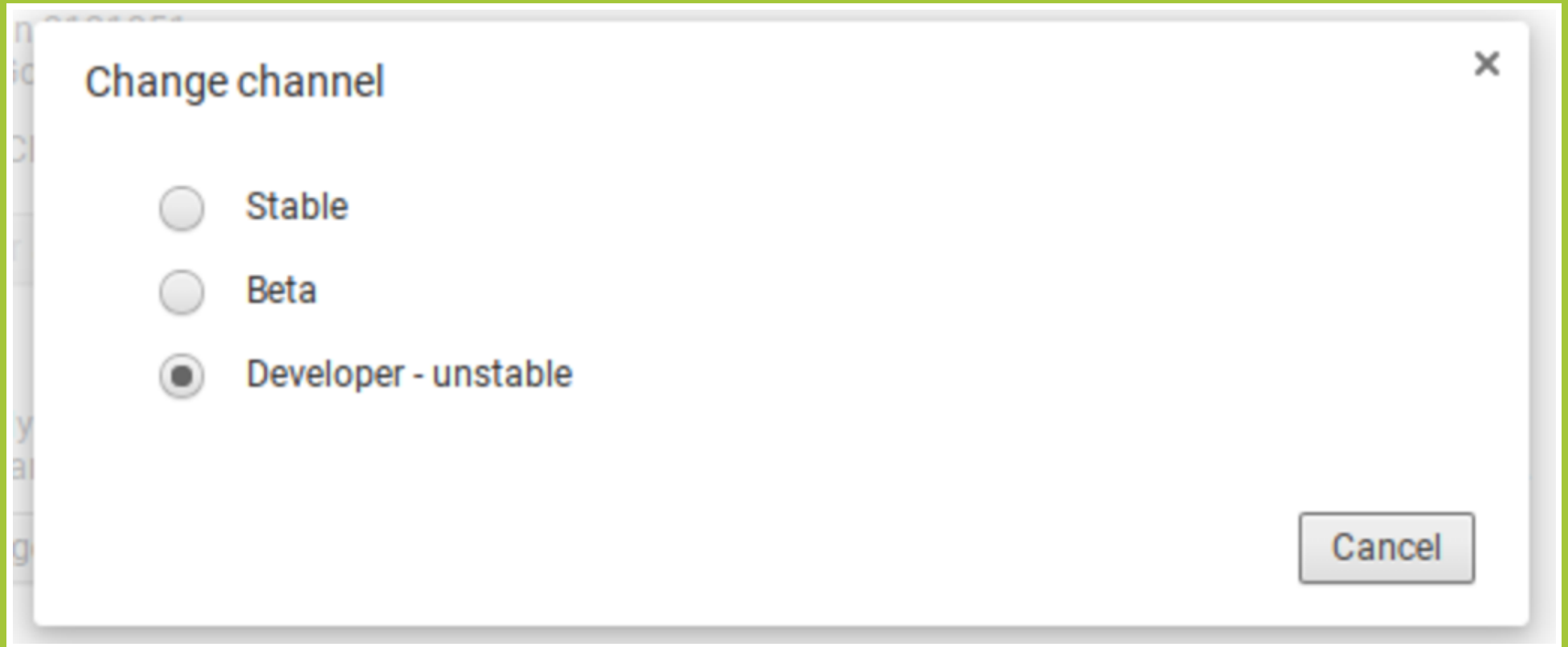
- Get a test device
- Switch device to the "dev channel" via Settings > About Chrome OS
- Check the Settings checkbox to enable Android apps
- Agree to Play terms of service and sign in
- Prepare for newer firmware updates to possibly wipe out your Android environment

# TESTING ON CHROME OS CHANNELS



# TESTING ON CHROME OS

## CHANGING THE CHANNEL





# TESTING ON CHROME OS

I CAN HAZ DROID?

## Android apps



Enable Android apps on your Chromebook. [Learn more](#)

Manage your Android apps in [Settings](#).

# TESTING ON CHROME OS

## ENABLING SIDE-LOADING

- Move your device into "developer mode" (details vary by device)
- Prepare to press Ctrl-D on every reboot (or wait 30 seconds)
- Enable "unknown sources" in Android's Settings app

# TESTING ON CHROME OS

## adb

- Seriously nasty set of instructions, affecting Chrome OS device and your development machine
- End result: use `adb connect [IP]:22` to connect to Chrome OS device, run apps from Android Studio

# WHAT YOU SHOULD WORRY ABOUT NOW

## ANDROID 7.0 MULTI-WINDOW

- Does your app fit within a small window?
- Does your opt-out strategy really work?
- Are you handling `onPause ( )` properly?
- Do you need to optimize configuration changes?

# WHAT YOU SHOULD WORRY ABOUT NOW

## ANDROID ON CHROME OS

- Grab a developer device, do some light testing
- Nothing much more, unless Chrome OS support is strategic
- A "run-and-jump" for niche with uncertain delivery schedule makes little sense otherwise
- Consider hacky opt-out (e.g., require `android.software.app_widget`) if seeing problems or wish to avoid lots of testing work

# QUESTIONS?

