

Tutorial 01

Introduction to Android – 01

SEG3125 – Analysis and Design of User Interfaces – Summer 2018

Presented by: Mohammad Al-hammouri– TA

Class Plan

- Introduction to Android
- Android Studio
 - Installation Guide
 - Project Setup
 - Android Simulation Setup
 - Interface Setup
- Basic Concepts
- UI Guideliness



INTRODUCTION

What's Android

- The world's most popular mobile platform:
 - 86.8% market share.
- Powerful open development framework
 - Android Developer Tools offer a full Java IDE with advanced features for developing, debugging, and packaging Android apps
 - Not tied to any individual hardware manufacturers
- **Google Play:** Open marketplace to distribute your apps
 - One time *USD 25\$* developer registration fee

How does Android Work?

- Android runs on top of the Linux Kernel
- Android Applications are sandboxed within Virtual Machines
- Since *Kitkat* (4.4) the Runtime Environment for Android started using ART (Android RunTime), previously using Dalvik.
- Android Applications are based on **Activities**
 - *Activities* should represent “things” you can do, like a screen or another functionality (e.g.: Search)
 - *Applications* usually have multiple *Activities*

Android Version History

Older Releases – Pre UI Integration

Cupcake	Donut	Eclair	Froyo	Gingerbread	Honeycomb
v1.5 API LVL 3	v1.6 API LVL 4	v2.0 – 2.1 API LVL 5–7	v2.2 – 2.2.3 API LVL 8	v2.3 – 2.3.7 API LVL 9–10	v3.0 – 3.2.6 API LVL 11–13

Newer Releases – Unified User Interface

Ice Cream Sandwich	Jelly Bean	KitKat	Lollipop	Marshmallow	Nougat
v4.0 – 4.2 API LVL 14–15	v4.1 – 4.3.1 API LVL 16–18	v4.4 – 4.4.4 API LVL 19–20	v5.0 – 5.1.1 API LVL 21–22	v6.0 API LVL 23	v7.0 – 7.1.1 API LVL 24

Each version of Android introduces new features.
Changes can focus on architecture changes, new features,
optimizations or bug fixes.



Android Studio

INSTALLATION

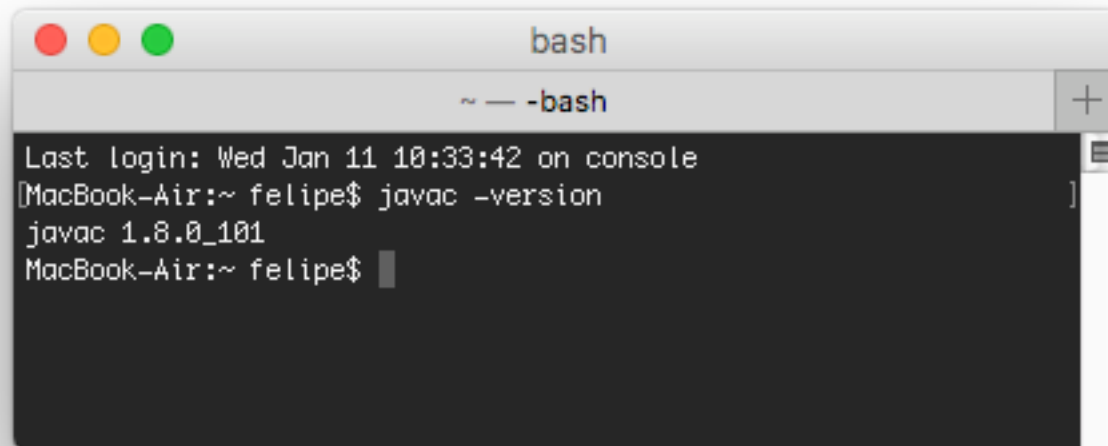
Installation

- Install [Oracle JDK 8](#)
 - Required for Android 5.0+
- Install [Android Studio](#)
 - Current Version: **2.2.3**
- *Optional* - Install an Alternate Emulator
 - [Genymotion](#)
 - [BlueStacks](#)

Java Development Kit (JDK)

1. Verify the current Java Installation:

- Type "***javac -version***" on a terminal/console window to check your current installation.
- If you have Java 7 or greater you are already set.
- Otherwise, Proceed and [Download](#) the JDK.



```
bash
~ — -bash
Last login: Wed Jan 11 10:33:42 on console
MacBook-Air:~ felipe$ javac -version
javac 1.8.0_101
MacBook-Air:~ felipe$
```

Java Development Kit (JDK)

2. Download and install the appropriate version of the JDK:
 - The Current available build of the JDK8 is **8u111**
 - Your system will likely require the **64-bit** option.
- If you have multiple installations and are sure you have the minimum requirements, you can also proceed.

Android SDK

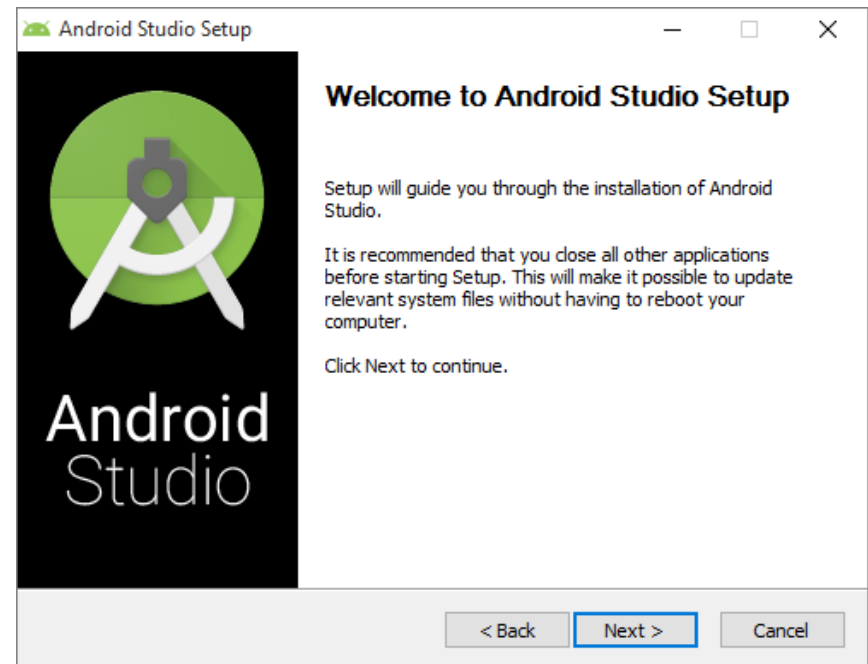
- The Android SDK provides access to the API libraries and developer tools necessary to build, test, and debug apps for Android.
- <http://developer.android.com/sdk/index.html>
- Available Tools
 - **Android Studio (IntelliJ IDEA)**
 - Command-Line Tools (Debug/Emulation)

Android SDK

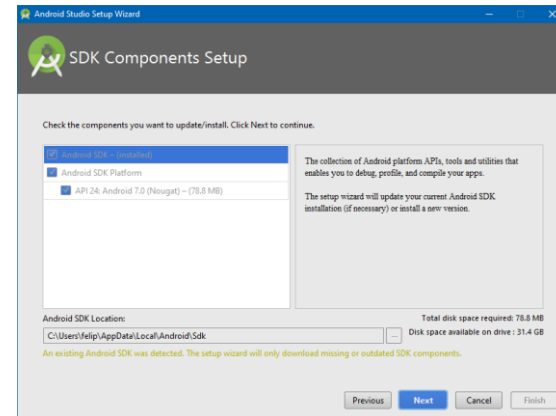
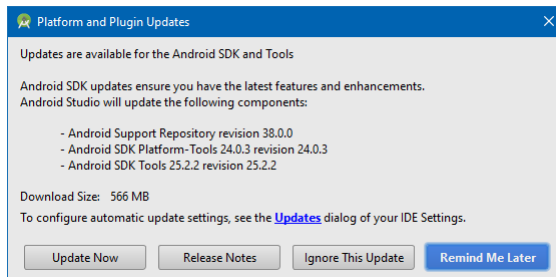
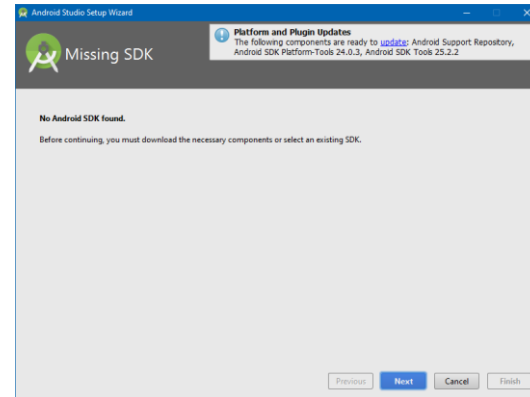
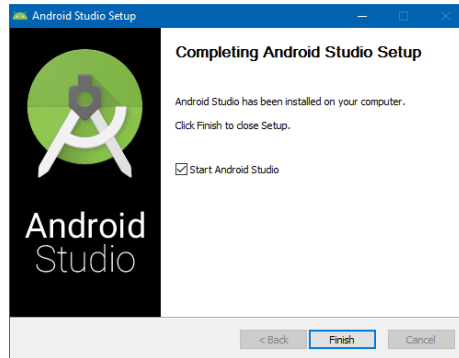
- Installing the Android SDK:
 - **Windows:** Follow Setup Wizard Instructions.
 - **Mac OS X:** Drag into Application Folder.
 - **Linux:** Download the .zip and follow instructions.
 - *Note: Using the OpenJDK may cause the installation to fail, use the linux variant of the Oracle JDK.*
 - *Additional Instructions Available [here](#).*
- *Make sure your system has at least 3GB of free storage!*
 - Android System Images will require additional space.

Notes on Installation Process

- Install Android Studio
 - *Installation is straightforward. Just keep pressing next/accept*
 - *If multiple students attempt to download and install AS at the same time their downloads might become unbearably slow. Install prior to the lab if possible.*
- Select your UI
- Update the tools
 - Install Additional SDKs



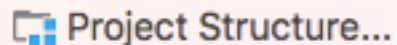
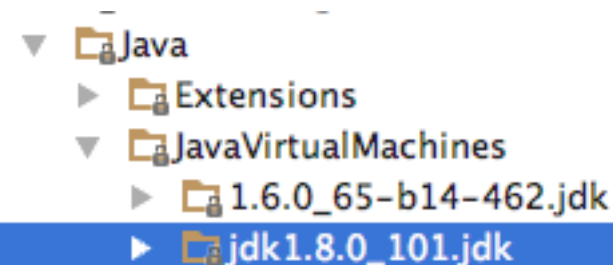
Installation - Screenshots



Android SDK: Multiple JDKs

In certain scenarios where multiple versions of the JDK are installed in the same system, Android Studio might select an older version of the JDK during setup. To fix this issue:

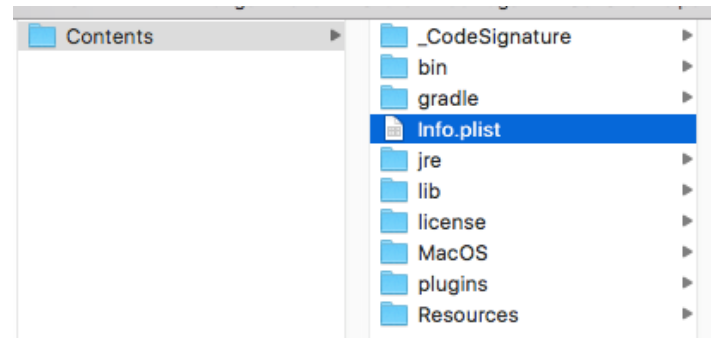
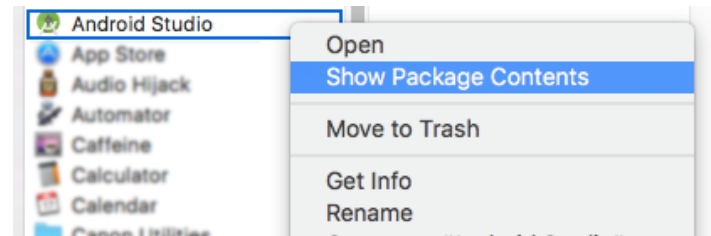
1. Go to: *File >> Project Structure >> SDK Location*, and switch the version of the JDK used.
2. Select either (a) a *jdk1.8* variant or (b) the option "Use Embedded JDK" if available.
3. Restart Android Studio.

A button with a small icon of a folder and the text "Project Structure...".

Multiple JDKs – MAC OS X

If you have a **Mac OS X** computer and updating the JDK in your project configurations does not fix existing issues (warnings or other JDK related compilation issues):

1. Close Android Studio and go to the folder where you installed it (Applications Folder)
2. Right-click on the app icon and Select "Show Package Contents"
3. Navigate to: **"Contents >> Info.plist"** and open it with a text editor (e.g.: *Sublime Text*)
4. Edit the line below the JVMVersion key so it specifies **Version 1.8** (See Image to the side)



```
<key>JVMVersion</key>  
<string>1.8+</string>
```


Android Studio: Caveats

- Certain Computers do not cope well with Android Studio:
 - Older Computers: Java Runtime Rendering Errors
 - Older Microsoft Surface Pro devices: General Interface Limitations
 - QHD & 4K Monitors: UI Scaling Issues can happen!
- Android Studio may crash during execution. If you get Rendering Errors or other stability issues, restart Android Studio.



Android Studio

TEST DEVICES

Testing your Projects

- Using an Android Phone
 - **Instant Run:** Allows changes to be pushed to existing app installation without need for a new build
 - *Requires the deployment target to be the same version as the device.*
 - *Most phones run older versions of Android, so building for nougat will not allow for Instant Run*
- Using an Emulator
 - Android Studio includes an Emulator
 - Other Emulators can be installed



Using a Test Device

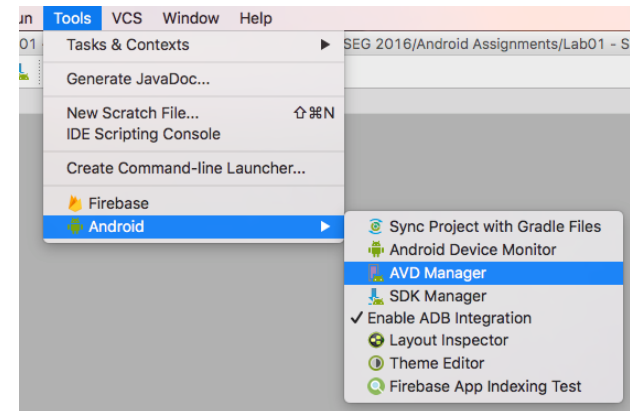
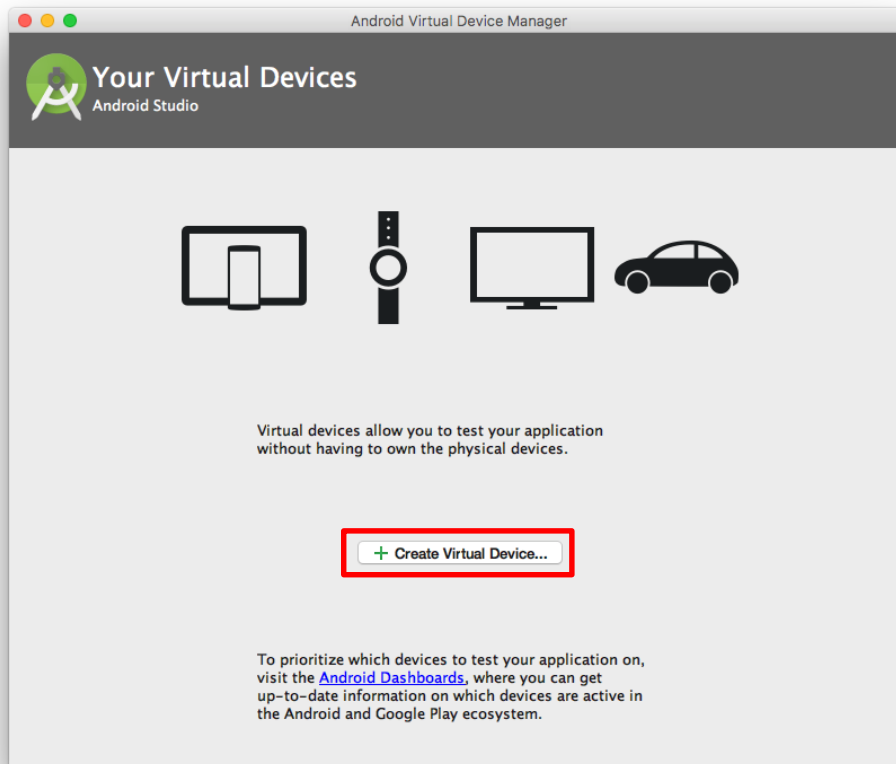
- Windows:
 - Install [OEM USB Drivers](#) to use an Android Phone for Debugging.
- Mac OS:
 - Install Android File Manager to access/move files on the device.
- **Enable USB debugging on your device.**
 - On most devices running Android 3.2 or older, you can find the option under **Settings > Applications > Development**.
 - On Android 4.0 and newer, it's in **Settings > Developer options**.

Note: On Android 4.2 and newer, **Developer options** is hidden by default. To make it available, go to **Settings > About phone** and tap **Build number** seven times. Return to the previous screen to find **Developer options**.

Using an Android Virtual Device (AVD)

- An Android Virtual Device (AVD) is an emulator configuration that lets you model an actual device. It consists of :
 - **A hardware profile:** e.g., whether the device has a camera
 - **A mapping to a system image:** e.g. which Android version
 - **A dedicated storage area on your development machine:** e.g. the device's user data
 - **Other options:** e.g. the emulator skin, appearance, and so on

Creating an AVD



From the Menu Bar, select **Tools** > **AVD Manager**,

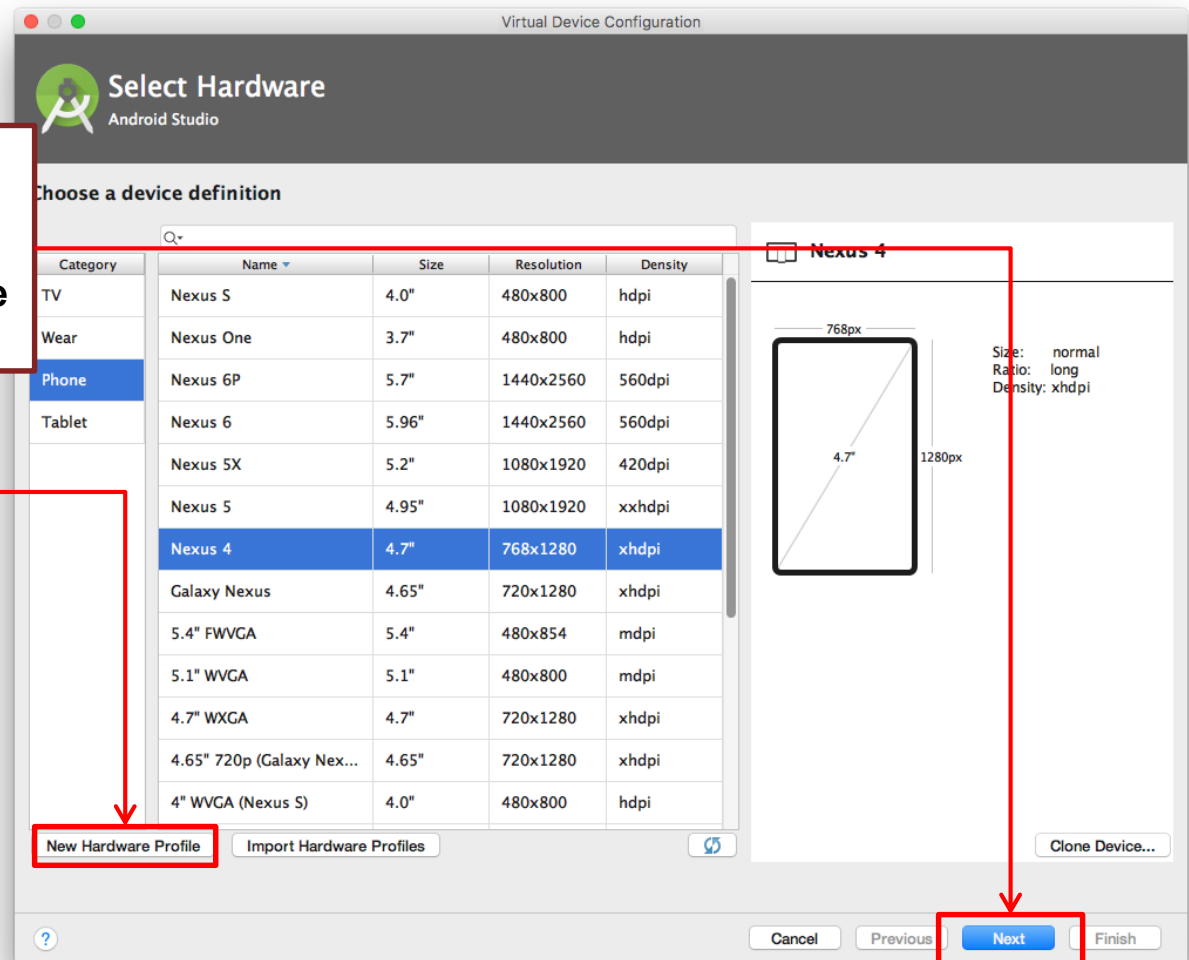
Alternatively, Click the **AVD Manager** icon in the toolbar

Click the “+” button to create a new AVD

Creating an AVD

Select a device from the preset list and press **"Next"** or create your own by clicking the **"New Hardware Profile"** Button.

Note: To reduce the strain on the computer running the AVD, we recommend students use devices with less demanding requirements, such as the Nexus 4.



Creating an AVD

System Image
Android Studio

Select a system image

Recommended **x86 Images** Other Images

Release Name	API Level	ABI	Target
Nougat Download	25	x86_64	Android 7.1.1 (with Google APIs)
Nougat Download	25	x86	Android 7.1.1 (with Google APIs)
Nougat	24	x86_64	Android 7.0 (with Google APIs)
Nougat Download	24	x86	Android 7.0 (with Google APIs)
Marshmallow Download	23	x86	Android 6.0 (with Google APIs)
Marshmallow Download	23	x86_64	Android 6.0 (with Google APIs)
Lollipop Download	22	x86	Android 5.1 (with Google APIs)
Lollipop Download	22	x86_64	Android 5.1 (with Google APIs)

Nougat

API Level **24**

Android **7.0**

Google Inc.

System Image **x86_64**

the fastest and include support for Google APIs

Questions on API level?
See the [API level distribution chart](#)

Cancel Previous **Next** Finish

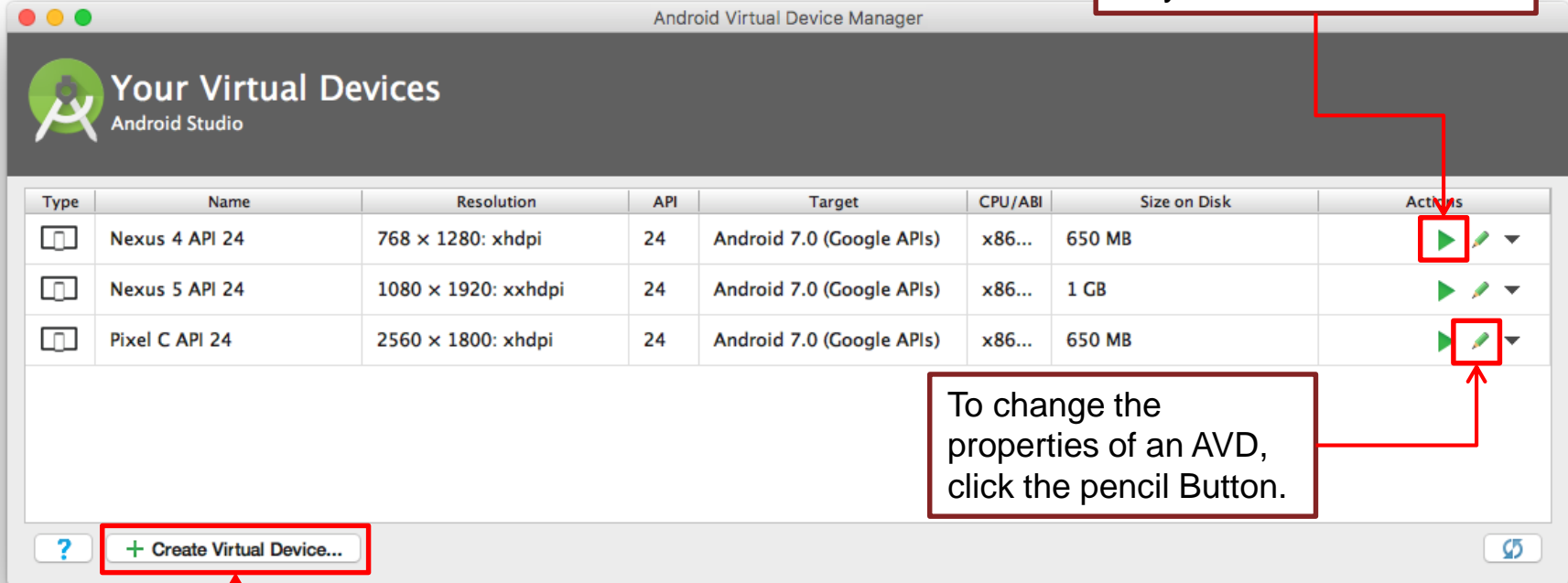
If your device supports Hardware Acceleration, select an x86 Image.

To test features such as Google Maps on your AVD the image selected must include the Google APIs (Selected by Default)

To finish creating your AVD select Next and set the name of your device, then click "Finish".

Starting an AVD

To Start an AVD click the Play Button.



Your Virtual Devices
Android Studio

Type	Name	Resolution	API	Target	CPU/ABI	Size on Disk	Actions
	Nexus 4 API 24	768 × 1280: xhdpi	24	Android 7.0 (Google APIs)	x86...	650 MB	
	Nexus 5 API 24	1080 × 1920: xxhdpi	24	Android 7.0 (Google APIs)	x86...	1 GB	
	Pixel C API 24	2560 × 1800: xhdpi	24	Android 7.0 (Google APIs)	x86...	650 MB	

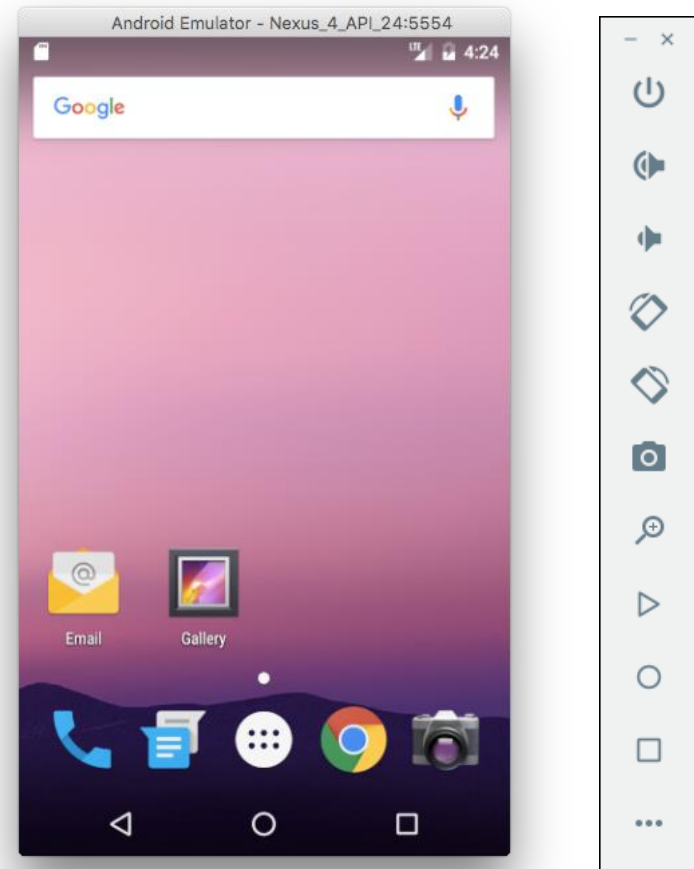
To change the properties of an AVD, click the pencil Button.

+ Create Virtual Device...

You can create multiple devices to test your application in different versions of Android or on devices with different screen properties.

Android Emulator

- Once you start your AVD you do not have to close it when reloading your application.
- If your computer can perform while the AVD is running, keep it on to speed things up.
- When you recompile your code or re-run your application, it will be brought to the front on the test device being used.



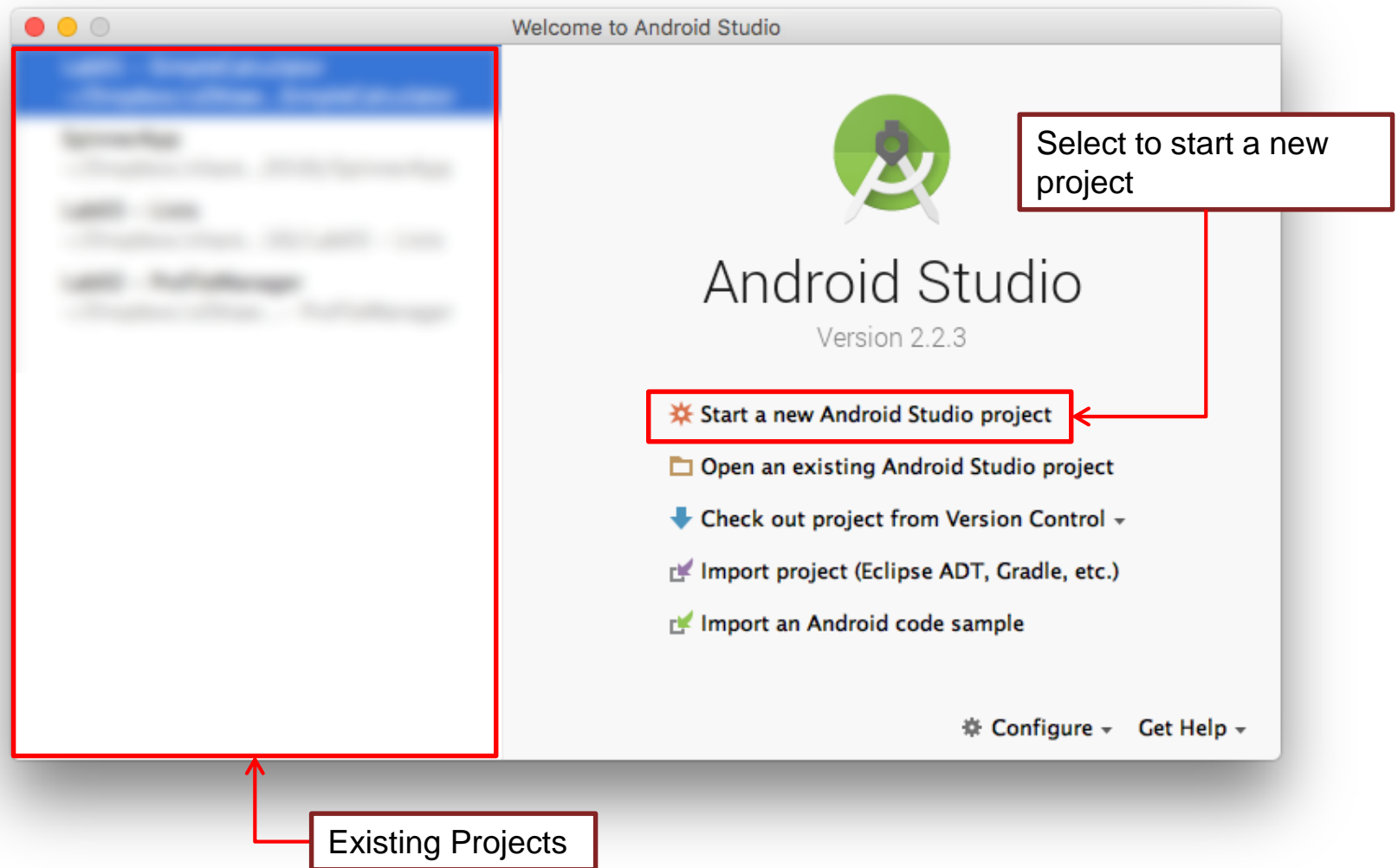
Emulation: Caveats

- Certain Computers will **LAG** when running android emulation:
 - *AMD CPUs: No Intel Hardware Acceleration*
 - *Tablet PCs: Limited Processing – Slow Emulation*
- x86 Device Emulation requires [Intel HAXM](#):
 - Install HAXM if you get Emulator Warnings
 - Enable Hardware Acceleration in BIOS
- Good Emulating Alternatives: [Genymotion](#), [BlueStacks](#)



Android Studio

CREATING A PROJECT (LIVE DEMO)



Create New Project

New Project
Android Studio

Configure your new project

Application name: MyUIDemoApplication

Company Domain: engineering.uottawa

Package name: uottawa.engineering.myuidemoapplication

☐ Include C++ Support

Project location: /Users/felipe/Downloads/Lab01

Cancel Previous Next Finish

Edit

Project Name viewed on Project List.
Name should be Unique!

Domain of the group developing the app

Note: Please remember to give your Projects and Activities meaningful names!

The developer domain is generally based on reverse .com domain hierarchy.

[country code].[top level domain].[business name].[subdomain].[team]

Ex: br.com.firasoft.msp.jimmyfive

- Country Code, Subdomain and Team Fields are optional, but help with structure.

The package name is produced from **Application Name** and **Company Domain**.

You can edit the **Package Name** if necessary

Note: Project locations should not contain whitespaces to avoid issues with the NDK Tools!

Create New Project



Target Android Devices

Select the form factors your app will run on

Different platforms may require separate SDKs

☒ Phone and Tablet

Minimum SDK

API 15: Android 4.0.3 (IceCreamSandwich)

Lower API levels target more devices, but have fewer features available.
By targeting API 15 and later, your app will run on approximately 97.4% of the devices that are active on the Google Play Store.
[Help me choose](#)

☐ Wear

Minimum SDK

API 21: Android 5.0 (Lollipop)

☐ TV

Minimum SDK

API 21: Android 5.0 (Lollipop)

☐ Android Auto

Minimum SDK

Glass Development Kit Preview (API 19)

☐ Glass

Minimum SDK

Glass Development Kit Preview (API 19)

Cancel

Previous

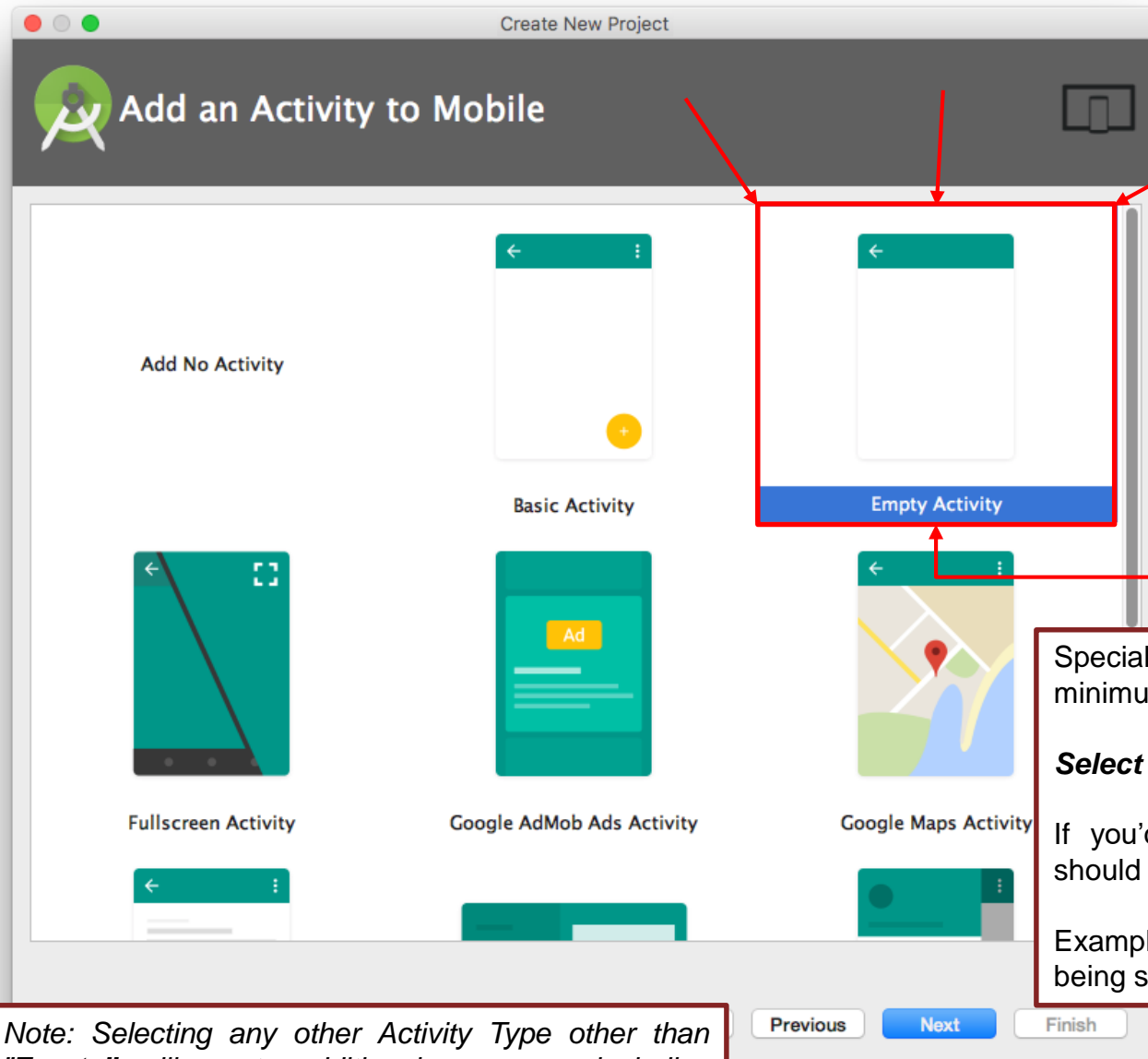
Next

Finish

Minimum Version of Android

Standard Value is API LVL 15, we recommend the default value be kept.

After learning the ropes, you can develop and publish apps for multiple variations of the Android OS.



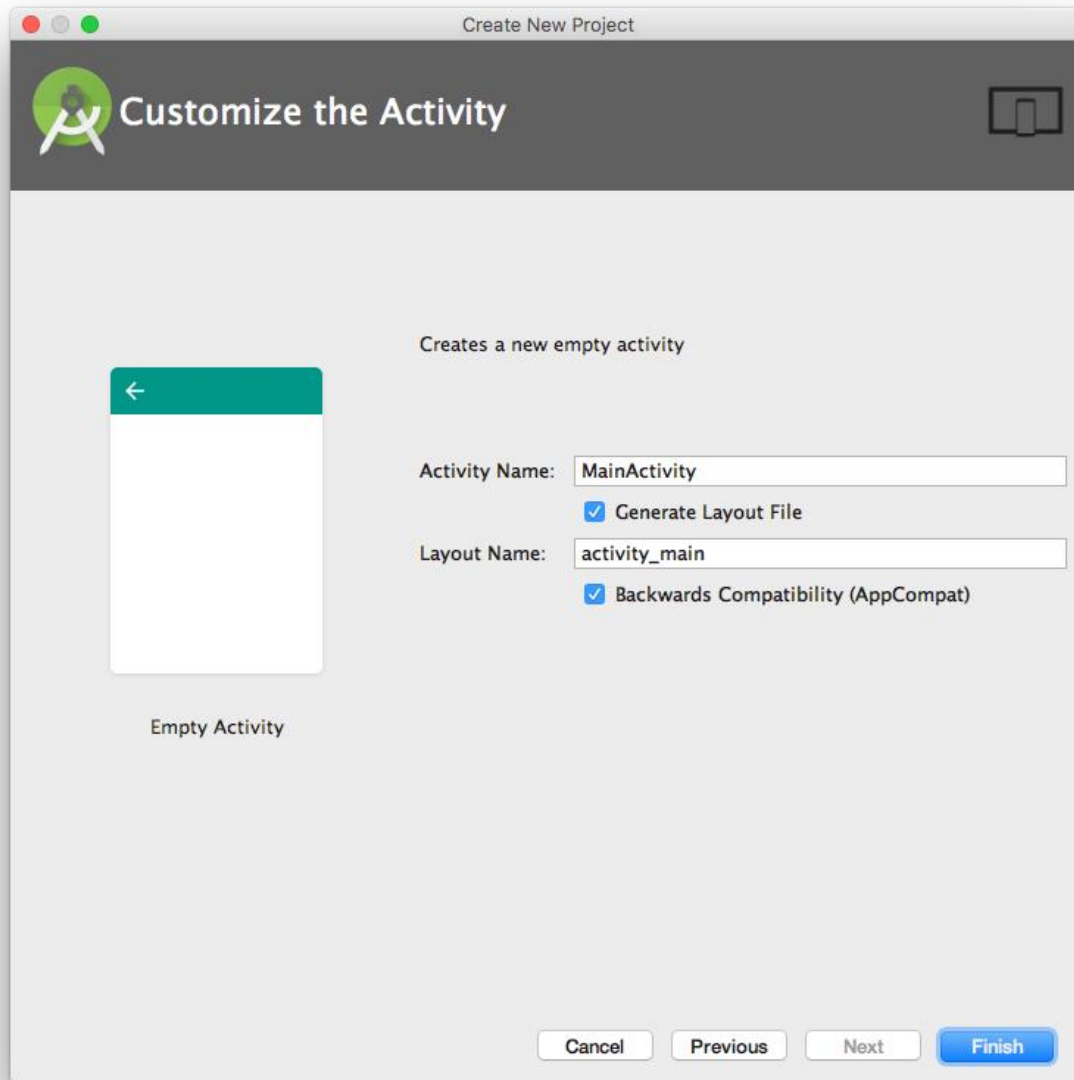
Special types of activities which have minimum elements for their view (UI)

Select “EMPTY Activity” for now.

If you'd like to have special activities you should update the minimum SDK version.

Example: Full screen Applications Started being supported on 4.4 (API LVL 19)

Note: Selecting any other Activity Type other than “Empty” will create additional resources, including XML files and Java code.



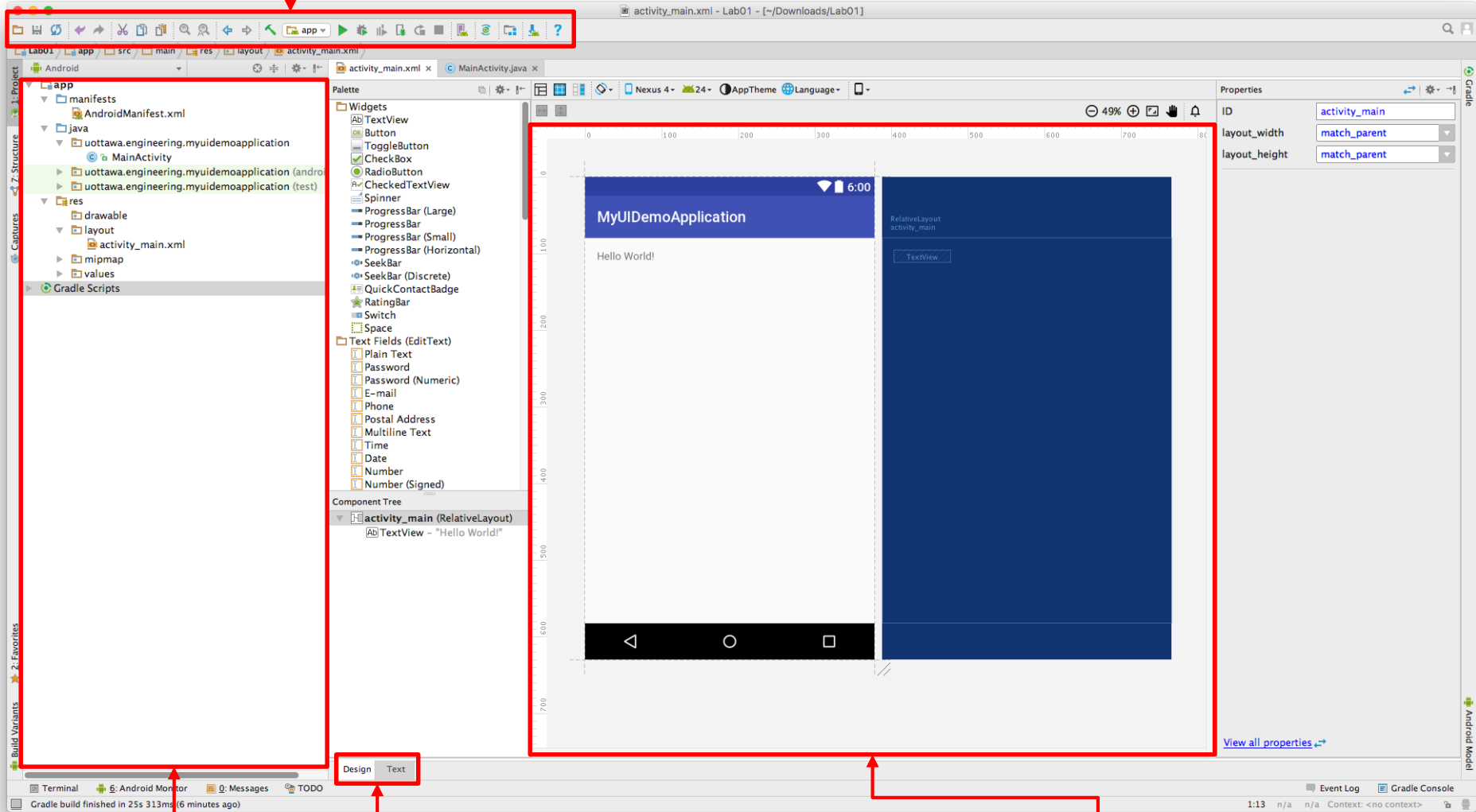
The **AppCompatActivity** allows access to the **ActionBar**

In this screen you can configure the naming scheme of your Activity, these details only affect the developer side of things.

By default Java uses Capitalized Camel Code as a standard for Classes, Interfaces and Camel Code for Methods and Variables. Check Oracle's website for more details:

- <http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/coconventions-135099.html>

Toolbar



Project View

Toggle between Design Preview and XML Source code

Design View: Visual Preview of contents in Layout XML file

AVD Button: Opens the Virtual Device Manager.

SDK Button: Opens the screen where you can Install new Android SDK components

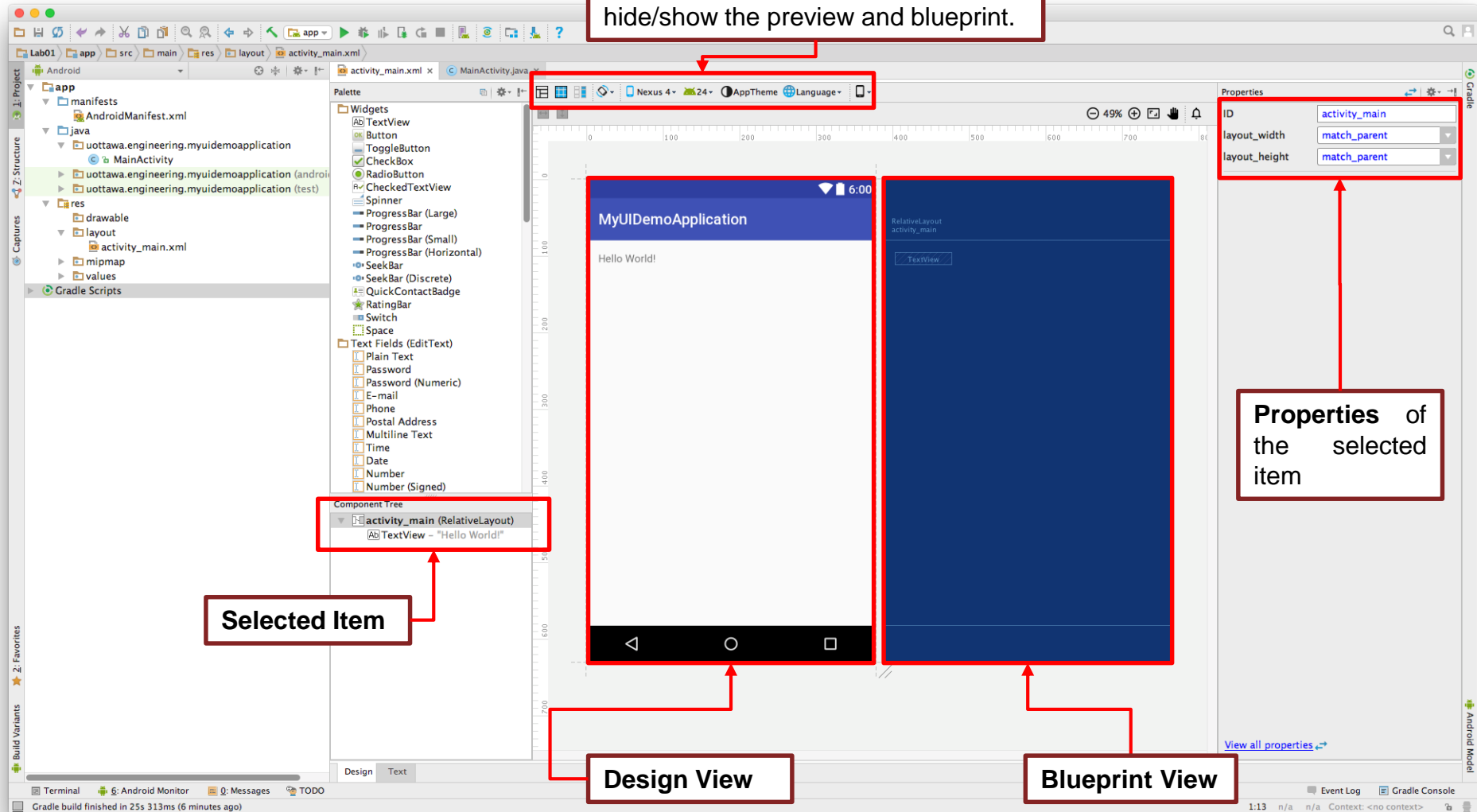
Play Button: Runs the Project on the current test device

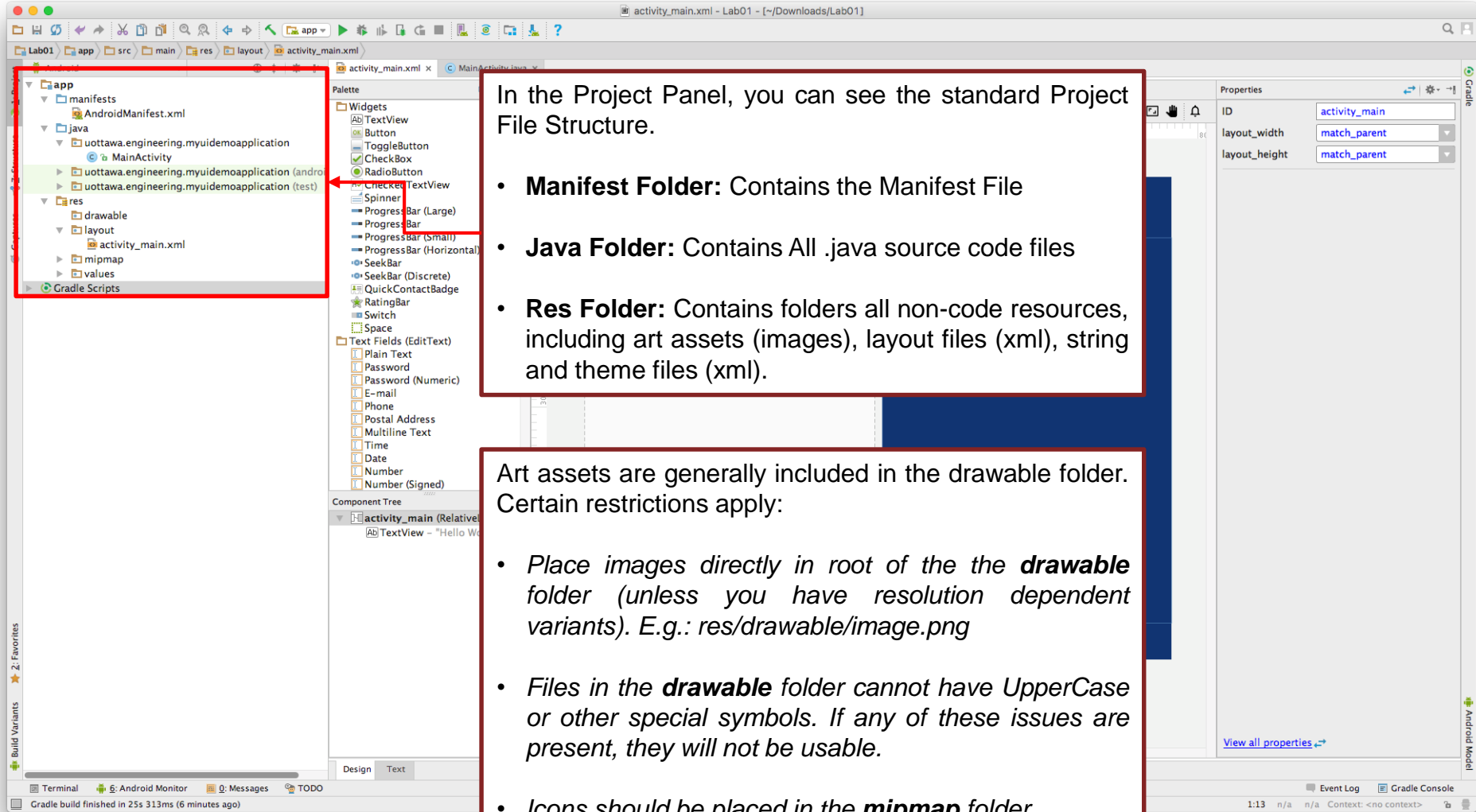
The screenshot shows the Android Studio IDE interface with several components highlighted by red boxes and annotated with text:

- Play Button:** Located in the top toolbar, it is used to run the project on the current test device.
- AVD Button:** Located in the top toolbar, it is used to open the Virtual Device Manager.
- SDK Button:** Located in the top toolbar, it is used to open the screen where you can install new Android SDK components.
- Widget Palette:** Located on the left side, it lists all standard Android Objects that can be added to the Component Tree.
- Component Tree:** Located on the left side, it lists all Widgets in the current XML Layout.
- Properties Panel:** Located on the right side, it displays the properties of the currently selected item in the Component Tree.

The main workspace shows a design view of a layout with a blue background and a black bar at the bottom. The Component Tree shows a hierarchy starting with 'activity_main (RelativeLayout)' containing a 'TextView' with the text 'Hello World!'. The Properties Panel shows the ID 'activity_main', layout_width 'match_parent', and layout_height 'match_parent'.

UI Toolbar: Used to change properties of the activity, style and hide/show the preview and blueprint.





The screenshot shows the Android Studio IDE. On the left, the 'Project Panel' displays the file structure of the 'app' module. A red rectangle highlights the following structure:

- app**
 - manifests
 - AndroidManifest.xml
 - java
 - uottawa.engineering.myuidemoapplication
 - MainActivity
 - uottawa.engineering.myuidemoapplication (android)
 - activity_main.xml
 - uottawa.engineering.myuidemoapplication (test)
 - res
 - drawable
 - layout
 - activity_main.xml
 - mipmap
 - values
 - Gradle Scripts

In the center, the 'activity_main.xml' file is open in the editor. On the right, the 'Properties' panel shows the ID 'activity_main' and layout dimensions 'match_parent'.

In the Project Panel, you can see the standard Project File Structure.

- **Manifest Folder:** Contains the Manifest File
- **Java Folder:** Contains All .java source code files
- **Res Folder:** Contains folders all non-code resources, including art assets (images), layout files (xml), string and theme files (xml).

Art assets are generally included in the drawable folder. Certain restrictions apply:

- Place images directly in root of the the **drawable** folder (unless you have resolution dependent variants). E.g.: res/drawable/image.png
- Files in the **drawable** folder cannot have UpperCase or other special symbols. If any of these issues are present, they will not be usable.
- Icons should be placed in the **mipmap** folder

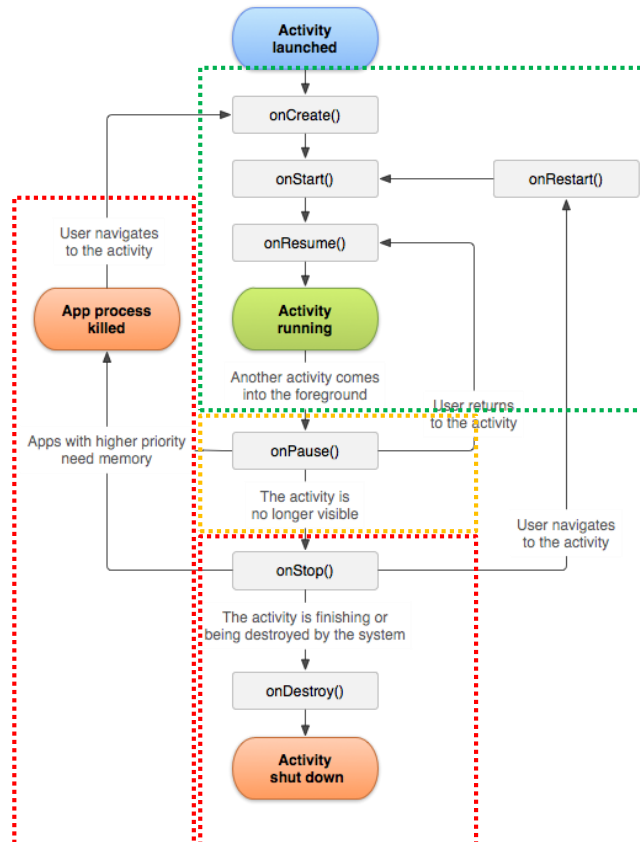
Android Manifest

- File containing the basic configuration of the of Android application.
- Includes: App Name, App Package, Used Theme, Target Version, Intents, Activities.
- All the elements that can appear in the manifest file are listed in alphabetical order. These are the only legal elements; you cannot add your own elements or attributes.

Activity

- There is no **Main()**, activities are started from their **OnCreate()**, with the first activity creation being called by the Android System.
- “An **Activity** is an application component that provides a screen with which users can interact in order to do something, such as dial the phone, take a photo, send an email, or view a map.”
- An application usually consists of multiple activities that are loosely bound to each other, with one being the **Main activity**.
- Individual Activities perform specific tasks and are connected by **Intents**.
- Each time a new activity starts, the previous activity is stopped, but the system preserves the activity in a stack.

Activity



The **entire lifetime** of an activity happens between the first call to **onCreate()** through to a single final call to **onDestroy()**.

An Activity can be **Active**, in the **Foreground** or **Destroyed**.

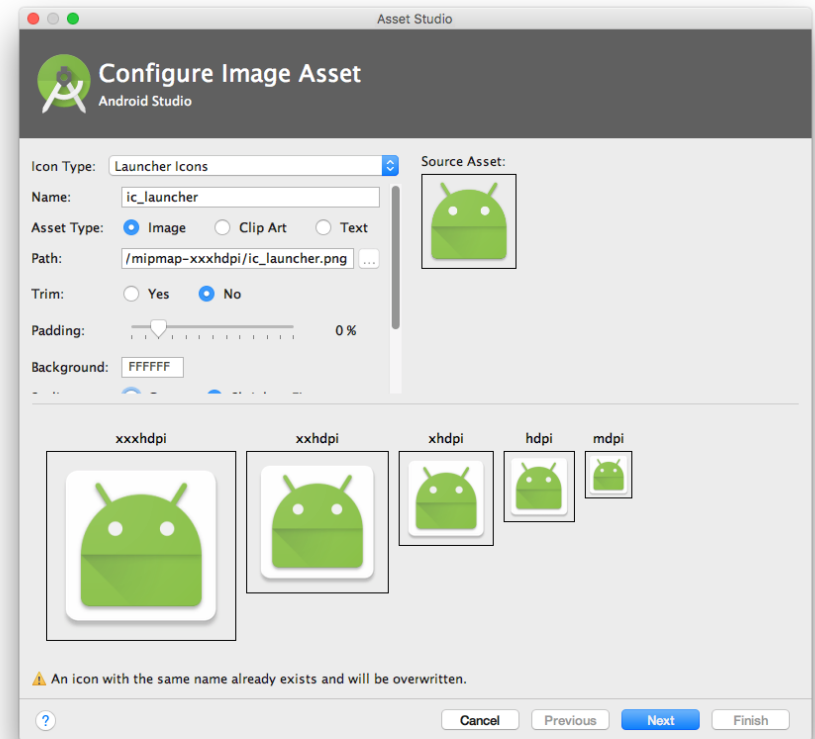
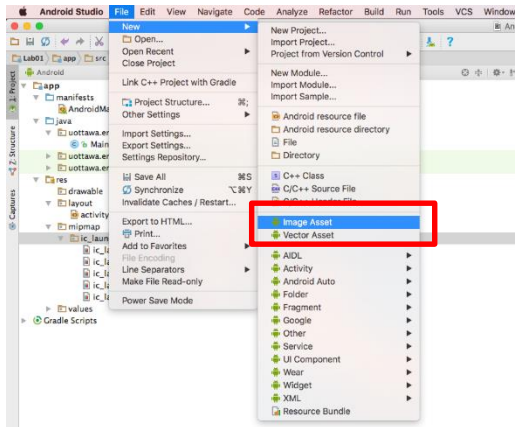
- **Active**: The activity is visible to the user and running.
- **Foreground**: The activity is not visible but still loaded to memory.
- **Destroyed**: The activity has been destroyed and is not accessible.

Note: The main activity of a project is specified in the **Manifest file**.

Changing the Application Icon

Step 1: Creating the Art Assets

1. Right click on the project in Project Explorer.
2. select ***New > Image Asset***
3. Select **"Launcher Icons"** in the Type Dropdown.
4. Select "Image" as an Asset Type and Select the Desired Image.
5. Press **"Next"** and then **"Finish"**.



Changing the Application Icon

If you changed the name of the Application Icon You created, you have to assign it in the project Manifest.

Step 2: Updating the Manifest

1. Open the Manifest file (**AndroidManifest.xml**).
2. Update the Icon Property (**android:icon**) inside the **<Application>** element to another art asset. A miniature preview of your icon will be displayed next to it.

E.g.:
android:icon="@mipmap/ic_launcher_alt"



Questions?