As an already known fact, bluetooth is a wireless technology around us in all the mobile devices.

Bluetooth can be used to transfer text files, photos, videos and more between mobile phones and other electronic devices

where as Bluetooth version 4.0 is known as Bluetooth Low Energy or BLE.

It is also referred by other names such as Bluetooth smart or Wibree.

It is low power variation of original traditional bluetooth standard.

Like Bluetooth, it is also managed and maintained by Bluetooth SIG.

Due to low power consumption and low power sleep modes, BLE devices can be operated years.

As far as designing a common code base is considered, it is possible to connect with both a bluetooth and bluetooth low devices simultanously. In Android specifically there is a BLE api that supports this. Depending upon the situation we can either use Bluetooth or BLE. Stricter power requirements such as proximity sensors, heart rate monitors and fitness devices is one of the main reasons to use BLE.

For supporting bluetooth and BLE in Android, we need to request some permissions in AndroidManifest.xml

**<uses-permission android:name="android.permission.BLUETOOTH"/>**

**<uses-permission android:name="android.permission.BLUETOOTH\_ADMIN"/>**

**<uses-permission android:name="android.permission.ACCESS\_FINE\_LOCATION" />**

