

First Steps:

- Install Android SDK Platform-Tools, including ADB
 - You will need to add ADB to the system path ~ make sure that this file location is easily accessible and within the same directory as the rest of the APKs
- Ensure that your headset allows USB access, and connect using a wired connection.
 - In the command line, check to make sure that your headset appears when you run:
 - adb devices
- Install APKtool from <https://apktool.org/docs/install/> and follow the instructions provided

Accessing the APK files from your headset

- To list all of the packages present on the headset from a known source and compile a document “packages.txt” run:
 - adb shell pm list packages > packages.txt
- You will need to choose which app you wish to pull at a time, using a search function to look is the easiest way to find the com.path you need for each app

Once you find the location of the package in the package.txt file, copy from com onwards and insert where com.path is, run:

- adb shell pm path com.path
 - Ex: adb shell pm path com.PilotInstitute.AirplanePilotTrainingSimulator

Now pull the package from the path output from the previous command, run:

- adb pull /example/path/output
 - Ex: adb pull
/data/app/~~bj_5YfmyWcHvMyg9tnOTcw==/com.PilotInstitute.AirplanePilotTrainingSimulator-MLZtEu1dj_mRT5D4eGO14Q==/base.apk
./airplan_pilot_base.apk

It is best to create folders for the APK files and then the decoded APKs to keep them separate. APK files are fairly large, but *decoded* APKs are MUCH larger

Decoding your APK Files

To decode an APK file saved locally, you must provide APKtool an absolute path to the base.apk, it is best to copy the absolute path directly into the command line. Run:

- apktool d "C:\user\example-base.apk"
 - Ex: apktool d
"C:\realDesktop\manifest-evaluations\app-apks\airplane_pilot_base.apk"

This will create a directory which you should then move into your decoded-apks directory, and name it clearly depending on your needs. The decoded APK files have *all* the information regarding the application, including the Android Manifest for the app.