

Hello Views >

Relative Layout

<u>RelativeLayout</u> is a <u>ViewGroup</u> that displays child <u>View</u> elements in relative positions. The position of a <u>View</u> can be specified as relative to sibling elements (such as to the left-of or below a given element) or in positions relative to the <u>RelativeLayout</u> area (such as aligned to the bottom, left of center).

A <u>RelativeLayout</u> is a very powerful utility for designing a user interface because it can eliminate nested <u>ViewGroup</u>s. If you find yourself using several nested <u>LinearLayout</u> groups, you may be able to replace them with a single <u>RelativeLayout</u>.

- 1. Start a new project named *HelloRelativeLayout*.
- 2. Open the res/layout/main.xml file and insert the following:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<RelativeLayout xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"</pre>
    android:layout_width="fill_parent"
    android:layout_height="fill_parent">
    <TextView
        android:id="@+id/label"
        android:layout_width="fill_parent"
        android:layout_height="wrap_content"
        android:text="Type here:"/>
    <EditText
        android:id="@+id/entry"
        android:layout_width="fill_parent"
        android:layout_height="wrap_content"
        android:background="@android:drawable/editbox_background"
        android:layout_below="@id/label"/>
    <Button
        android:id="@+id/ok"
        android:layout_width="wrap_content"
        android:layout_height="wrap_content"
        android:layout_below="@id/entry"
        android:layout_alignParentRight="true"
        android:layout_marginLeft="10dip"
        android:text="OK" />
    <Button
        android:layout_width="wrap_content"
        android:layout_height="wrap_content"
        android:layout_toLeftOf="@id/ok"
        android:layout alignTop="@id/ok"
        android:text="Cancel" />
</RelativeLayout>
```

Notice each of the android:layout_* attributes, such as layout_below, layout_alignParentRight, and layout_toLeftOf. When using a RelativeLayout, you can use these attributes to describe how you want to position each View. Each one of these attributes define a different kind of relative position. Some attributes use the resource ID of a sibling View to define its own relative position. For example, the last Button is defined to lie to the left-of and aligned-with-the-top-of the View identified by the ID ok (which is the previous Button).

All of the available layout attributes are defined in RelativeLayout.LayoutParams.

3. Make sure you load this layout in the onCreate() method:

```
public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
    super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
    setContentView(R.layout.main);
}
```

The <u>setContentView(int)</u> method loads the layout file for the <u>Activity</u>, specified by the resource ID — R.layout.main refers to the res/layout/main.xml layout file.

4. Run the application.

You should see the following layout:



Resources

- RelativeLayout
- RelativeLayout.LayoutParams
- <u>TextView</u>
- <u>EditText</u>
- Button

← Back to Hello, Views

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