Android Camera Service

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# Overview

Android camera use up to API 21 (L Preview) doesn't provide any type of manager or service callback to determine if the camera is in use. You need to physically check the camera. Bottom line is you need to poll the device to determine if it's in use. For this example I use a background service to poll the device every 30 seconds.

Testing was completed on API 21 since that's the only device I have to test with.

# Installation

Install the apk using Eclipse ADT or adb command line. Once the apk is installed a screen will display the message "Android Camera Service has been installed, please reboot!". Reboot the device. Once it's rebooted the service will run in the background.

All activity will be appear in the LogCat under com.mycompany.androidcamera.

# Testing

Once the device has been rebooted, start and stop the default Android camera application. If the camera is not in use you will see a "Camera not in use" message, if it is in use you should see a "Camera in use" message.

# Uninstall

Using Android Settings/Apps/Android Camera Service, uninstall the apk. Reboot the device.