

Technology

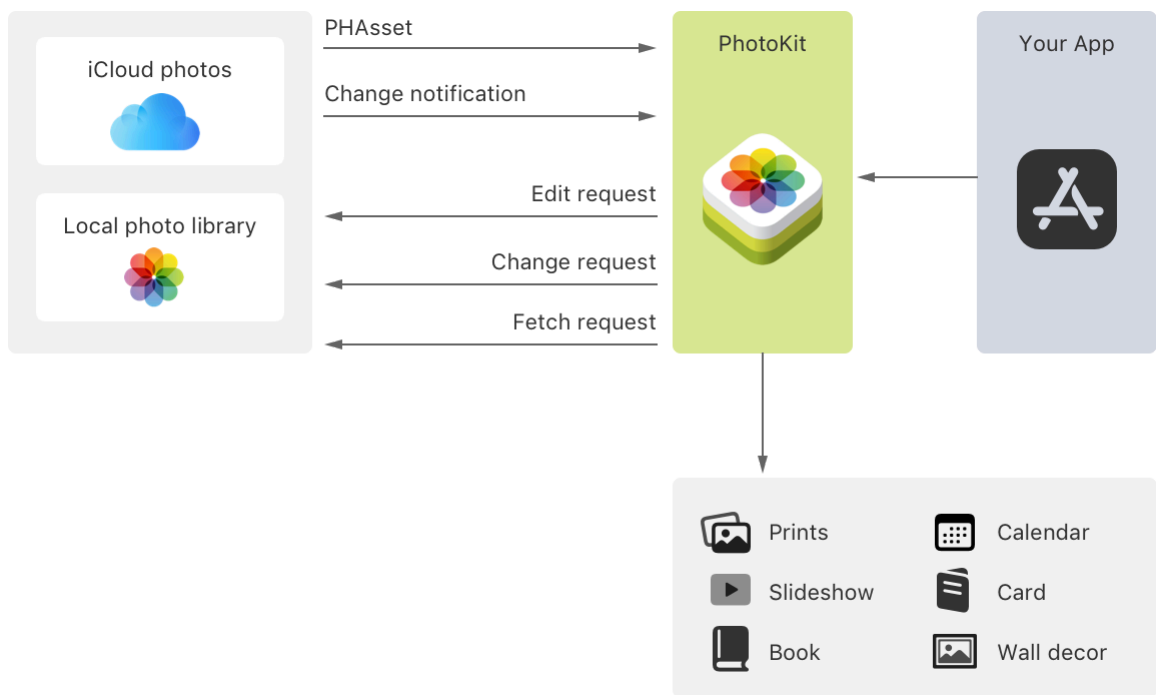
PhotoKit

Work with image and video assets that the Photos app manages, including those from iCloud Photos and Live Photos.

iOS 8.0+ | iPadOS 8.0+ | Mac Catalyst 13.1+ | macOS 10.11+ | tvOS 10.0+ | visionOS 1.0+ | watchOS 10.0+

Overview

PhotoKit is the combination of the Photos and PhotosUI frameworks, which together enable you to access image and video assets that the Photos app manages. You might use PhotoKit to edit or display a person’s photos, or to manage collections of assets such as albums, Moments, and Shared Albums. The framework provides access to photos on the person’s device and in iCloud.



Topics

Frameworks

Reference the API that compose PhotoKit.



Photos

Work with image and video assets that the Photos app manages, including those from iCloud Photos and Live Photos.



PhotosUI

Present a person's photo library using a picker interface, display Live Photos, or extend the Photos app with custom functionality.

Sample code

Browse sample code that walk through specific Photos and PhotosUI workflows.



Browsing and Modifying Photo Albums

Help users organize their photos into albums and browse photo collections in a grid-based layout using PhotoKit.



Selecting Photos and Videos in iOS

Improve the user experience of finding and selecting assets by using the Photos picker.



Bringing Photos picker to your SwiftUI app

Select media assets by using a Photos picker view that SwiftUI provides.



Implementing an inline Photos picker

Embed a system-provided, half-height Photos picker into your app's view.



Creating a Slideshow Project Extension for Photos

Augment the macOS Photos app with extensions that support project creation.

Articles

Browse articles that cover high-level Photos and PhotosUI tasks.



Delivering an Enhanced Privacy Experience in Your Photos App

Adopt the latest privacy enhancements to deliver advanced user-privacy controls.



Fetching Objects and Requesting Changes

Get assets, asset collections, and collection lists matching a specified query.

Loading and Caching Assets and Thumbnails

Request image, video, or Live Photos content, and cache for quick reuse.

Displaying Live Photos

Provide the same interactive playback of Live Photos as in the iOS Photos app.

Creating Photo Editing Extensions

Provide custom functionality in the Photos app by bundling an app extension.