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GET YOUR CASTS

Description

This app helps you to manage all your favorites audio/video podcast channels so you can listen to it anytime anywhere.

Intended User

This app is for all podcast lovers who like to listen to their favorite channel on their little free time. With all the features provided, podcast lovers can easily viewing/listening their downloaded episodes or stream the content live.

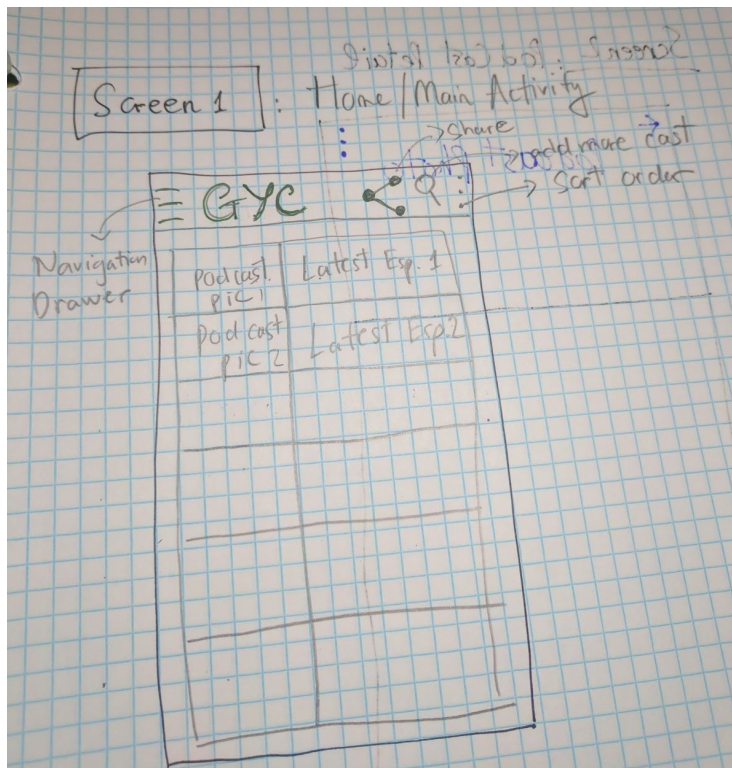
Features

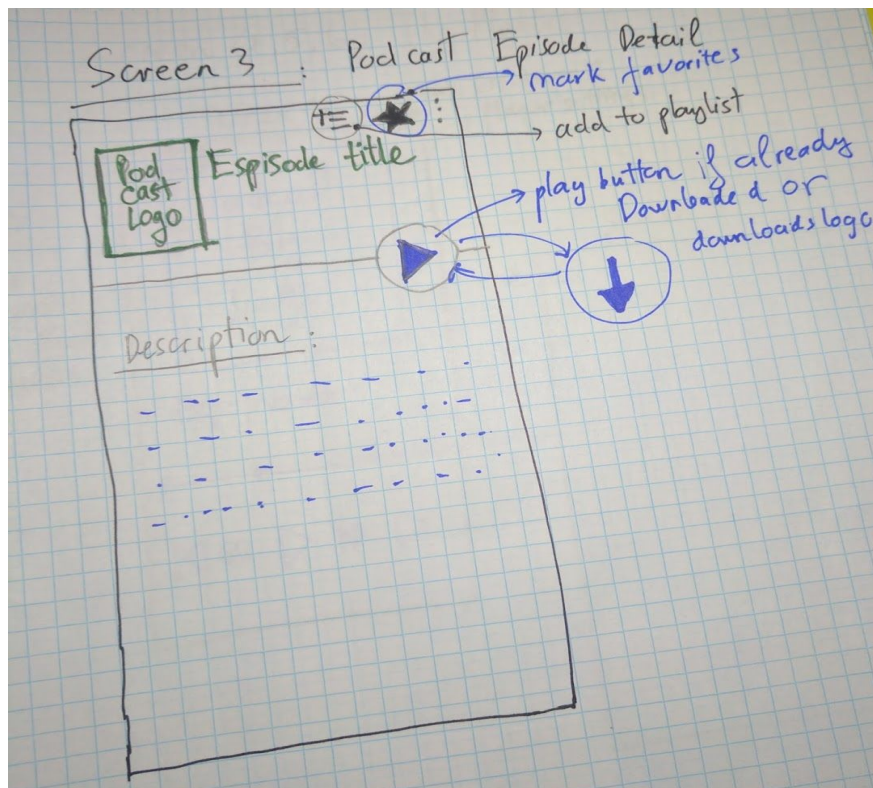
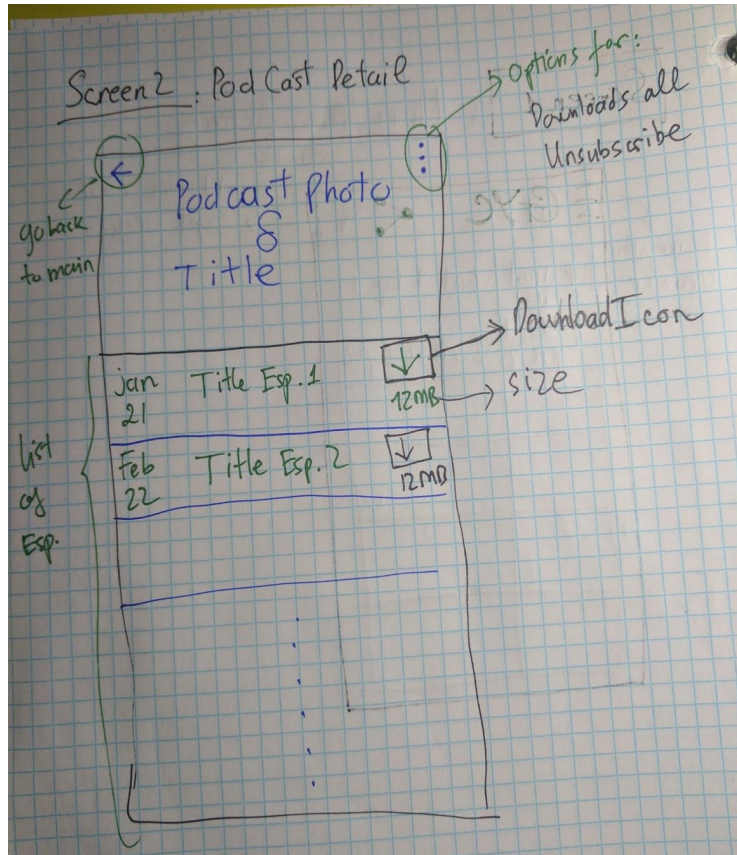
Main features:

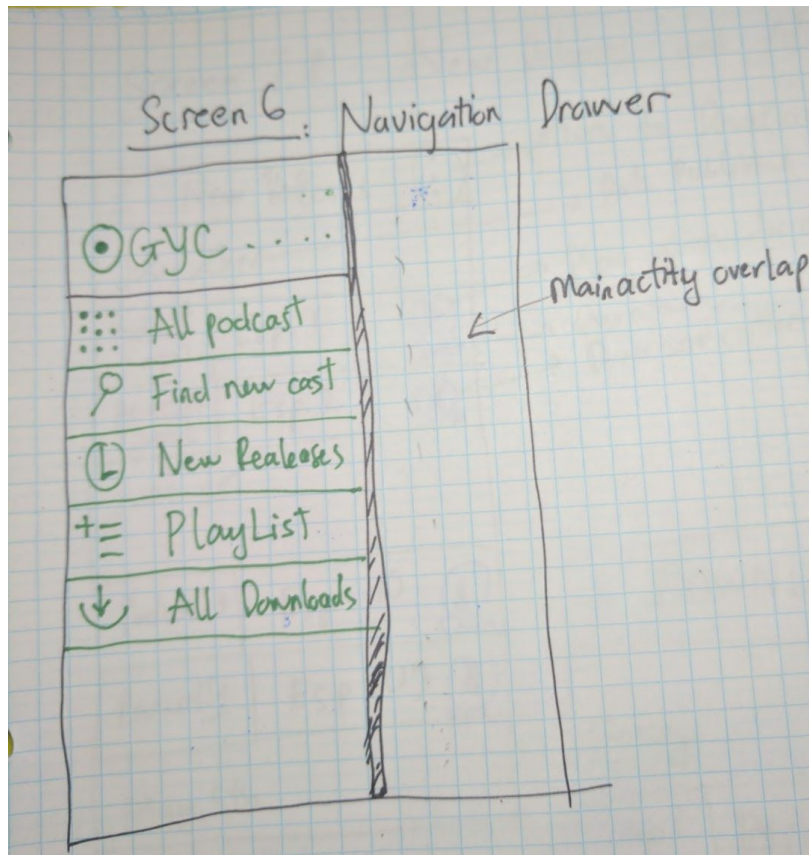
- Searching for any podcasts.
- Subscribe and Unsubscribe to any podcasts
- Supporting both audio and video podcasts.
- New Episode Notifications for subscribed podcasts.
- Offline playback for downloaded episodes.
- Filtering and Organizing your favorite and new release podcasts.

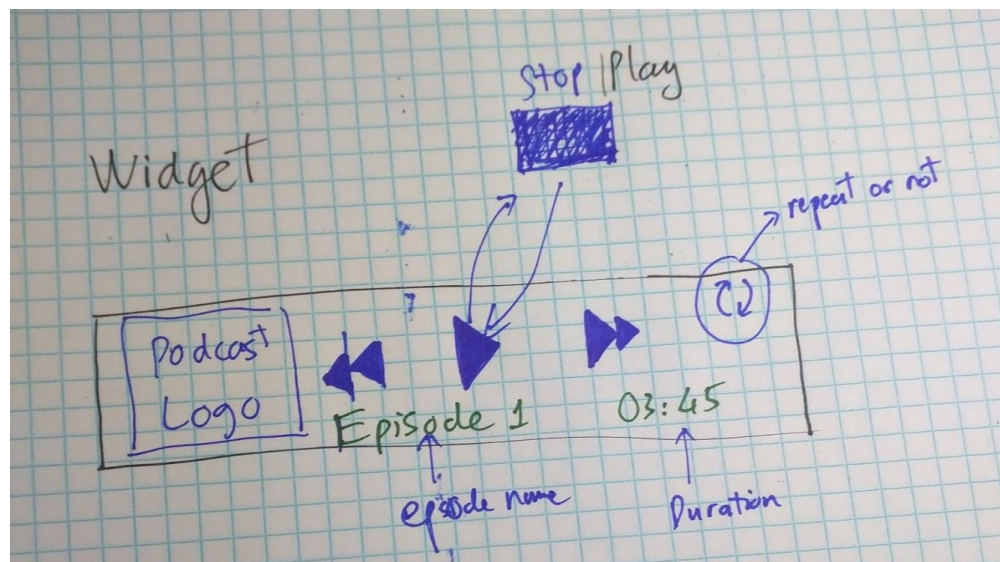
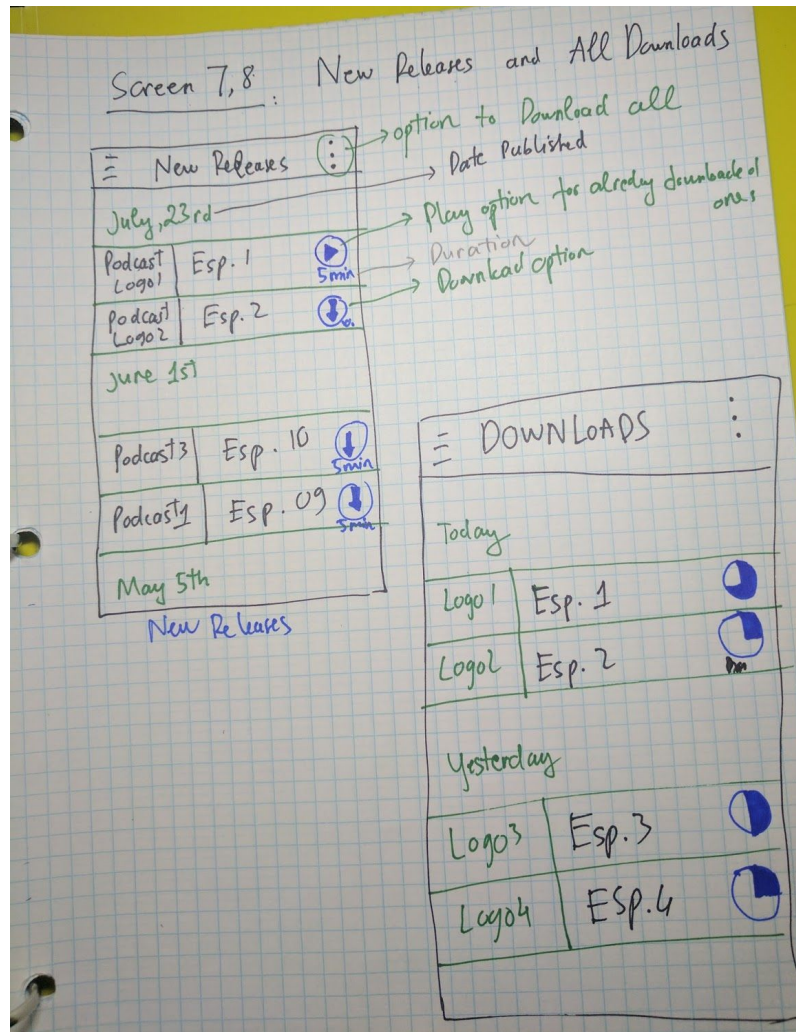
User Interface Mocks

These can be created by hand (take a photo of your drawings and insert them in this flow), or using a program like Photoshop or Balsamiq.









Key Considerations

How will your app handle data persistence?

To handle data persistence, we will use Sqlite Database backend along with Content Provider. We will keep one DB table for each podcast and one table for all podcast episodes which can be easily filter with type of podcast. Also, date downloads and released are also part of the episode db.

Describe any corner cases in the UX.

There can be some corner cases which related to start and stop the media player while switching between different screens. Therefore, I decide to make the media player a background service which can continue playing the soundtrack even if we are not at the media player screen.

Also, partial of the media player activity will be always on top of the bottom 10% screen area of the application. This helps users to easily navigate to the playlist as well as media player.

Also, updating the progress circle icon for each of the episode also a little bit tricky. We need an asynchronous observer pattern framework like RxJava to ease the updating task. Moreover, the database also needs to keep track of the progress of the episode to help display this information again when the application restarts.

Describe any libraries you'll be using and share your reasoning for including them.

- _Glide - loading image seamlessly for different size.
- _ExoPlayer - media player support playing video/audio podcast.
- _RxJava/RxAndroid 2 - reactive framework helps to update UI items asynchronously after network requests or database query operations
- _Dagger 2 - dependency injection for probably network service
- _Kotlin plugin support.

Describe how you will implement Google Play Services.

_With suggestions, I would add Firebase Crash Reporting and Firebase Analytics to track user behaviors.

Next Steps: Required Tasks

This is the section where you can take the main features of your app (declared above) and decompose them into tangible technical tasks that you can complete incrementally until you have a finished app.

Task 1: Project Setup

_Start the new project from Android Studio 3.0 canary 6 with Kotlin support (I want to start using some kotlins in the app)

_Add library to gradle files: Glide, RxAndroid, RxJava, ExoPlayer, Retrofit

_Check in project to Github to start increment development process.

Task 2: Implement UI for Each Activity and Fragment

List the subtasks.

_Build UI for Screen1 as a fragment of MainActivity

_Build UI for Screen2 as a fragment of PodCastDetailActivity

_Build UI for Screen3 as a fragment for EpisodeDetailActivity

_Build UI for Navigation Drawer

_Build UI for Screen4 and 5 as fragments for PlaylistActivity

_Build UI for Screen7 as a fragment for NewReleaseActivity

_Build UI for Screen8 as a fragment for AllDownloadsActivity

_Build notification UI to notify of new episodes and download progress also.

_Build widget UI and service.

Note: we will use MVVM architecture + new Android Architecture Components to complete these tasks.

Task 3: Build and Test SQLITE Database And Content Provider

_Build SQLITE Database and Content Provider to store information about podcast and episodes.

+Design Podcast DB table and Episodes details DB table.

+Implement a DB helper for SQLITE DB to query the data.

+Design Content Provider for querying the SQLITE DB.

_Write some tests to test the DB feature like insert, remove, query, update.

_Build Loader for each activities to load data from DB or query networks for searching.

Task 4: Build Network Related Service and Features

_Test out different podcast api services such as:

<https://www.audiosear.ch/>

<https://gpoddernet.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>

- _Build Network Service with Retrofit apis and RxJava for fetching the podcast raw data.
- _Build IntentService for podcast search.
- _Build JobDispatcher service for getting update and send notification of new available episodes
- _Build the parser for the Raw data so we can try with different DB operators.
- _Build image service with Glide to load different podcast images.
- _Build module for checking new available episodes and send notification to user..
- _Build download service to download.
- _Design so we can use Dagger for Injection service.
- _Write some tests for these features.

Task 5: Build the Media Player Service with ExoPlayer

- _Build Offline Play Audio Podcast Service.
- _Build Offline Play Video Podcast Service.
- _Implement features to keep track of each episodes progress and update the DB.
- _Test these features with different size of media file and format.
- _Try to design so we can use it through injection service.

Task 6 : Build Firebase Crash Reporting and Firebase Analytics features

Task 7: Test Everything together and with different android devices screen sizes.