

4.4 User navigation

Contents

- Back navigation
- Hierarchical navigation
 - Up navigation
 - Descendant navigation
- Navigation drawer for descendant navigation
 - Lists and carousels for descendant navigation
 - Ancestral navigation
 - Lateral navigation

Two forms of navigation



Back (temporal) navigation

- Provided by the device's Back button
- Controlled by the Android system back stack




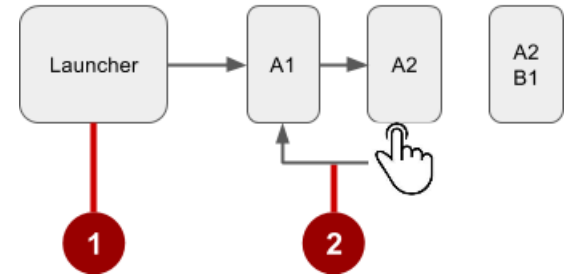
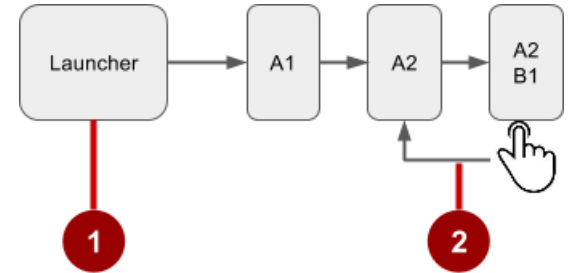
Ancestral (Up) navigation

- Up button provided in app bar
- Controlled by defining parent `Activity` for child `Activity` in the `AndroidManifest.xml`

Back Navigation

Navigation through history of screens

1. History starts from Launcher
2. User clicks the Back  button to navigate to previous screens in reverse order



Changing Back button behavior

- Android system manages the back stack and Back button
- If in doubt, don't change
- Only override, if necessary to satisfy user expectation

For example: In an embedded browser, trigger browser's default back behavior when user presses device Back button

Overriding onBackPressed()

```
@Override  
public void onBackPressed() {  
    // Add the Back key handler here.  
    return;  
}
```

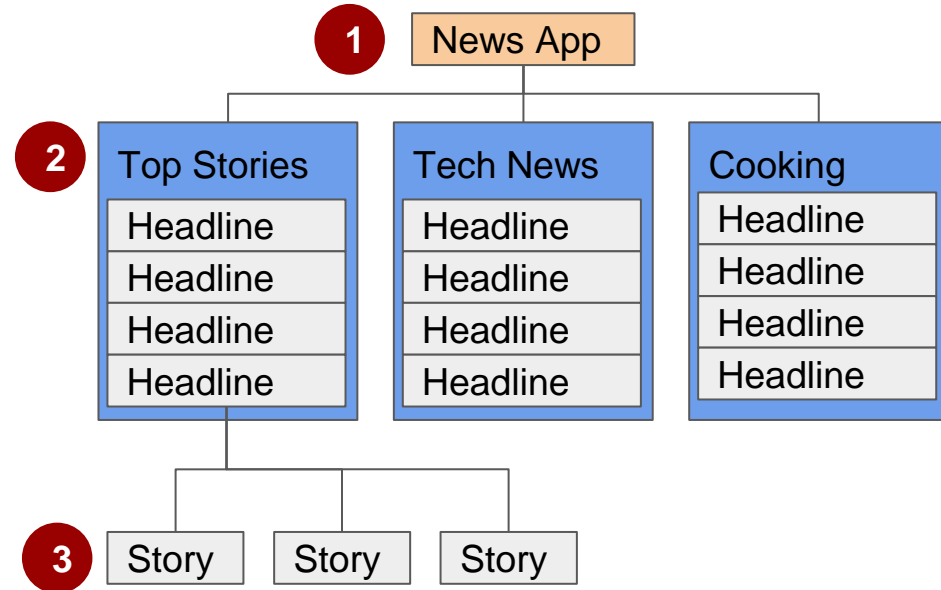
Hierarchical Navigation

Hierarchical navigation patterns

- **Parent screen**—Screen that enables navigation down to child screens, such as home screen and main Activity
- **Collection sibling**—Screen enabling navigation to a collection of child screens, such as a list of headlines
- **Section sibling**—Screen with content, such as a story

Example of a screen hierarchy

1. Parent
2. Children: collection siblings
3. Children: section siblings
 - Use Activity for parent screen
 - Use Activity or Fragment for children screens



Types of hierarchical navigation

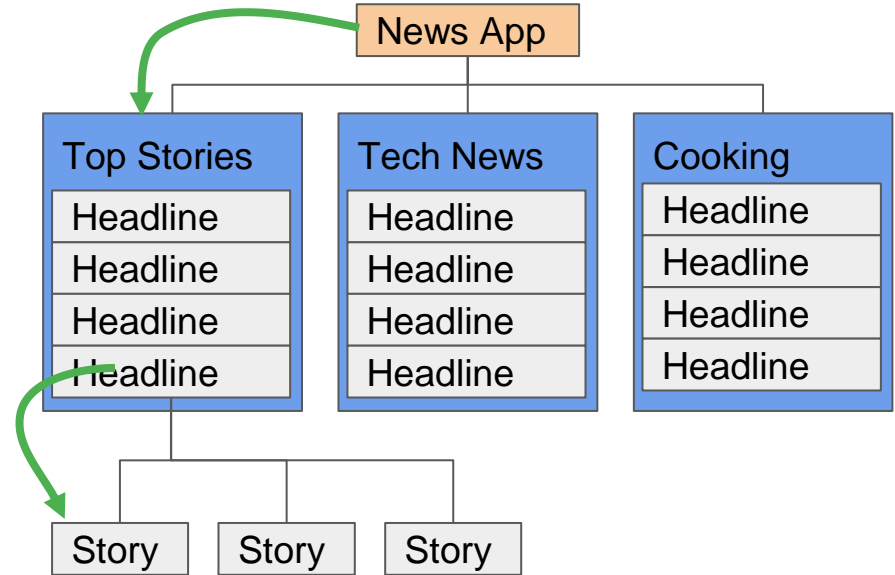
- Descendant navigation
 - Down from a parent screen to one of its children
 - From a list of headlines—to a story summary—to a story
- Ancestral navigation
 - Up from a child or sibling screen to its parent
 - From a story summary back to the headlines
- Lateral navigation
 - From one sibling to another sibling
 - Swiping between tabbed views

Descendant Navigation

Descendant navigation

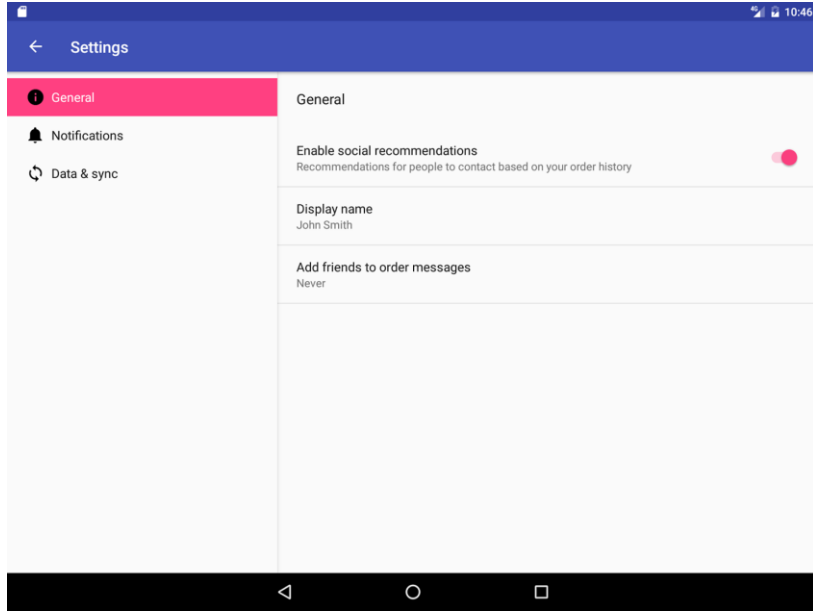
Descendant navigation

- Down from a parent screen to one of its children
- From the main screen to a list of headlines to a story

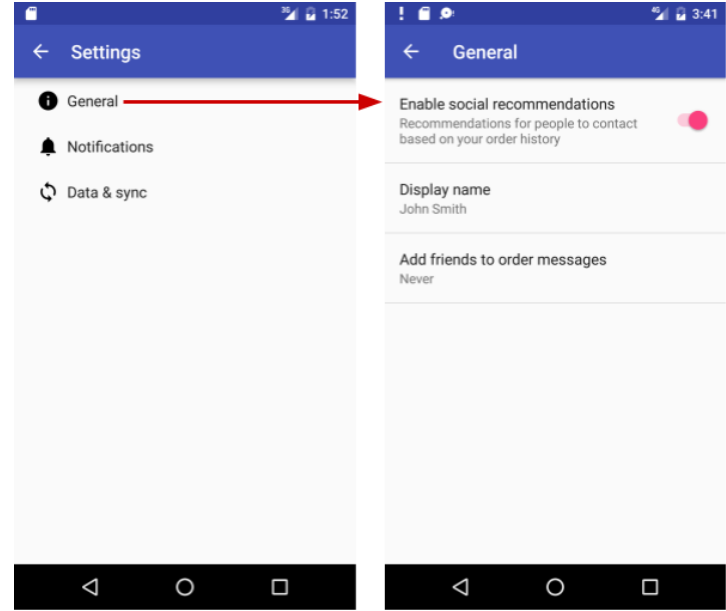


Master/detail flow

- Side-by side on tablets



- Multiple screens on phone



Controls for descendant navigation

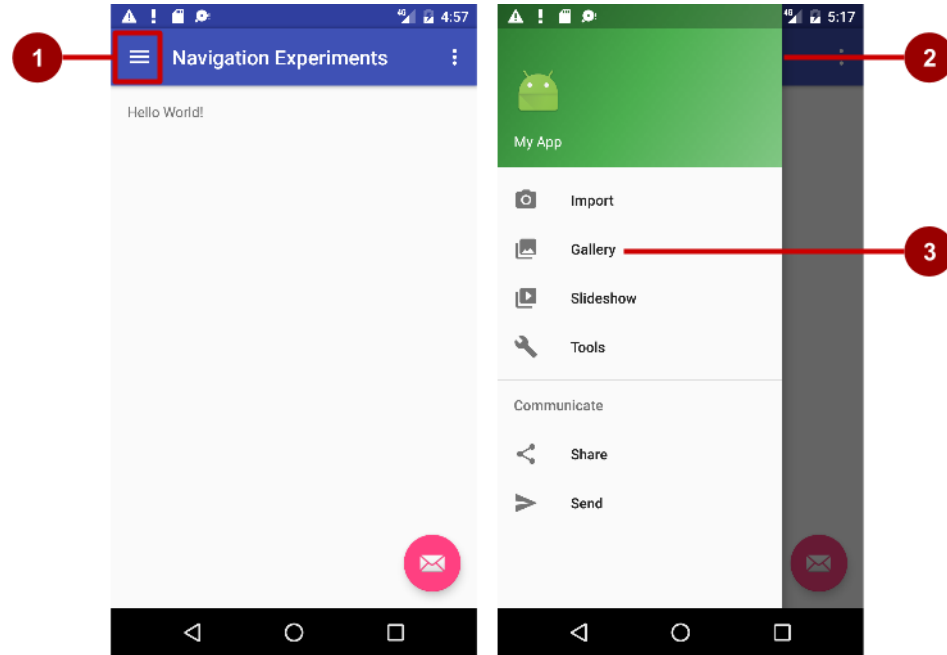
- Navigation drawer
- Buttons, image buttons on main screen
- Other clickable views with text and icons arranged in horizontal or vertical rows, or as a grid
- List items on collection screens

Navigation Drawer

Navigation drawer

Descendant navigation

1. Icon in app bar
2. Header
3. Menu items



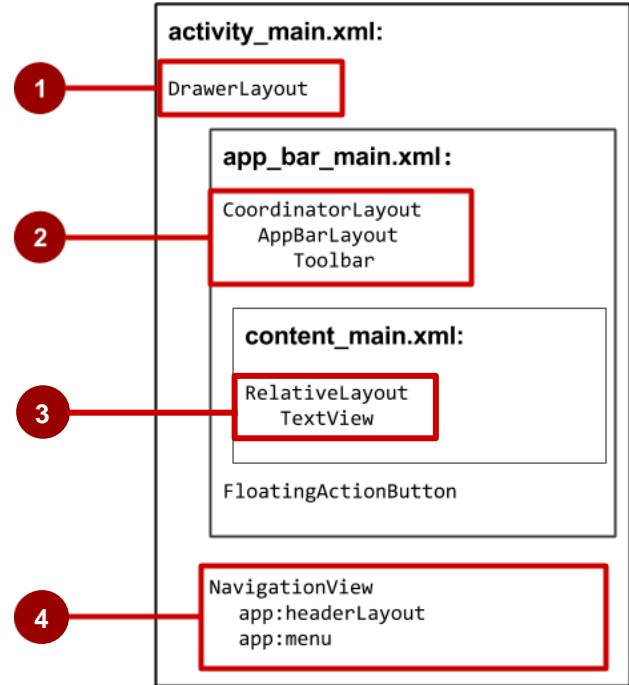
Layouts for navigation drawer

Create layouts:

- A navigation drawer as the Activity layout root ViewGroup
- A navigation View for the drawer itself
- An app bar layout that includes room for a navigation icon button
- A content layout for the Activity that displays the navigation drawer
- A layout for the navigation drawer header

Navigation drawer Activity layout

1. [DrawerLayout](#) is root view
2. CoordinatorLayout contains app bar layout with a Toolbar
3. App content screen layout
4. [NavigationView](#) with layouts for header and selectable items



Steps to implement navigation drawer

1. Populate navigation drawer menu with item titles and icons
2. Set up navigation drawer and item listeners in the Activity code
3. Handle the navigation menu item selections

Other descendant navigation patterns

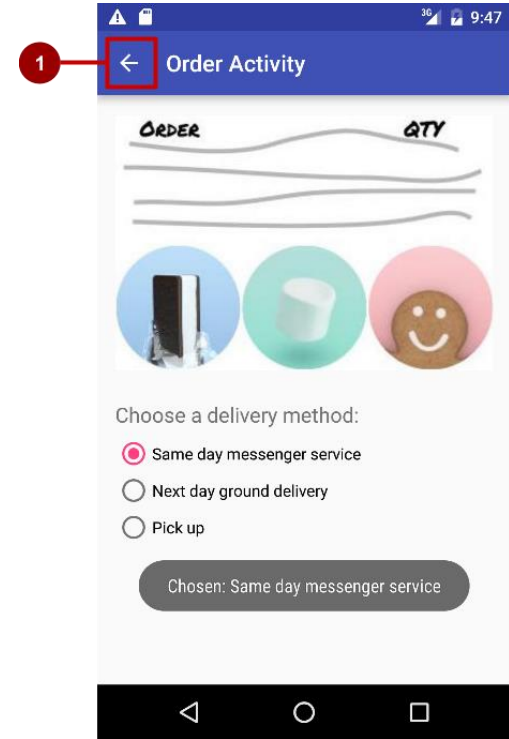
- Vertical list, such as [RecyclerView](#)
- Vertical grid, such as [GridView](#)
- Lateral navigation with a carousel
- Multi-level menus, such as the options menu
- Master/detail navigation flow

Ancestral Navigation

Ancestral navigation (Up button)



Enable user to go up from a section or child screen to the parent



Declare parent of child Activity—AndroidManifest

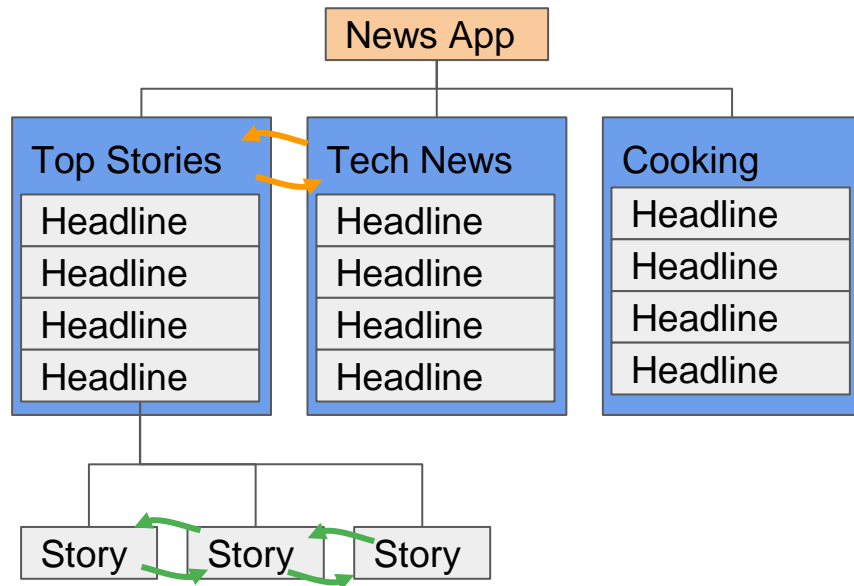
```
<activity android:name=".OrderActivity"
    android:label="@string/title_activity_order"
    android:parentActivityName="com.example.android.
        optionsmenuorderactivity.MainActivity">
    <meta-data
        android:name="android.support.PARENT_ACTIVITY"
        android:value=".MainActivity"/>
</activity>
```


Lateral Navigation

Tabs and swipes

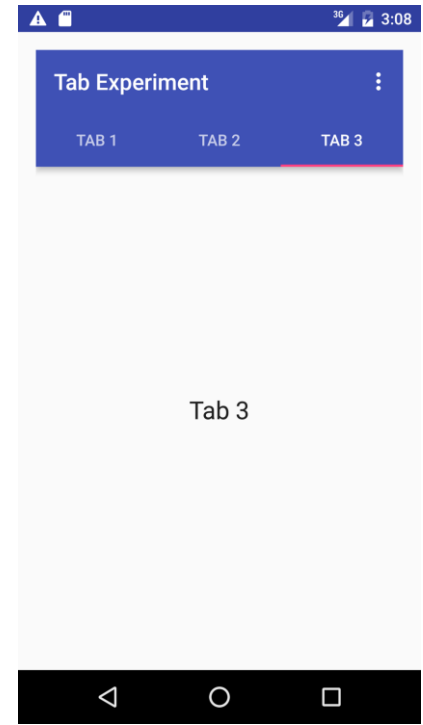
Lateral navigation

- Between siblings
- From a list of stories to a list in a different tab
- From story to story under the same tab



Benefits of using tabs and swipes

- A single, initially-selected tab—users have access to content without further navigation
- Navigate between related screens without visiting parent



Best practices with tabs

- Lay out horizontally
- Run along top of screen
- Persistent across related screens
- Switching should not be treated as history

Steps for implementing tabs

1. Define the tab layout using [TabLayout](#)
2. Implement a Fragment and its layout for each tab
3. Implement a PagerAdapter from [FragmentPagerAdapter](#) or [FragmentStatePagerAdapter](#)
4. Create an instance of the tab layout
5. Use PagerAdapter to manage screens (each screen is a Fragment)
6. Set a listener to determine which tab is tapped

Add tab layout below Toolbar

```
<android.support.design.widget.TabLayout  
    android:id="@+id/tab_layout"  
    android:layout_width="match_parent"  
    android:layout_height="wrap_content"  
    android:layout_below="@id/toolbar"  
    android:background="?attr/colorPrimary"  
    android:minHeight="?attr/actionBarSize"  
    android:theme="@style/ThemeOverlay.AppCompat.Dark.ActionBar"/>
```

Add view pager below TabLayout

```
<android.support.v4.view.ViewPager  
    android:id="@+id/pager"  
    android:layout_width="match_parent"  
    android:layout_height="fill_parent"  
    android:layout_below="@id/tab_layout" />
```

Create a tab layout in onCreate()

```
TabLayout tabLayout = findViewById(R.id.tab_layout);  
tabLayout.addTab(tabLayout.newTab().setText("Tab 1"));  
tabLayout.addTab(tabLayout.newTab().setText("Tab 2"));  
tabLayout.addTab(tabLayout.newTab().setText("Tab 3"));  
tabLayout.setTabGravity(TabLayout.GRAVITY_FILL);
```


Add the view pager in onCreate()

```
final ViewPager viewPager = findViewById(R.id.pager);  
final PagerAdapter adapter = new PagerAdapter (  
    getSupportFragmentManager(), tabLayout.getTabCount());  
viewPager.setAdapter(adapter);
```

Add the listener in onCreate()

```
viewPager.addOnPageChangeListener(  
    new TabLayout.TabLayoutOnPageChangeListener(tabLayout));  
tabLayout.addOnTabSelectedListener(  
    new TabLayout.OnTabSelectedListener() {  
        @Override  
        public void onTabSelected(TabLayout.Tab tab) {  
            viewPager.setCurrentItem(tab.getPosition());}  
        @Override  
        public void onTabUnselected(TabLayout.Tab tab) {}  
        @Override  
        public void onTabReselected(TabLayout.Tab tab) {} }));
```

Learn more

- Navigation Design guide
d.android.com/design/patterns/navigation.html
- Designing effective navigation
d.android.com/training/design-navigation/index.html
- Creating a Navigation Drawer
d.android.com/training/implementing-navigation/nav-drawer.html
- Creating swipe views with tabs
d.android.com/training/implementing-navigation/lateral.html

What's Next?

- Concept Chapter: [4.4 User navigation](#)
- Practical: [4.4 User navigation](#)