About a tool named ApkTool:  
It is a tool for reverse engineering 3rd party, closed, binary Android apps.  
It can decode resources to their nearly original form and rebuild them after making some modifications.  
It makes it possible to debug smali code step by step.  
Also, it makes working with an app easier because of project-like file structure and automation of some repetitive tasks like building apk.  
  
We can compile our application and we can also decompile it. Compiling means from the source code we compile the application. Whereas in decompile we have the application and we break it down to get the source code.  
Decompiling:  
Decompiling an APK file is quite simple. You just need to issue a command in the following form:  
apktool d <APK filename>  
For the Facebook Lite App, this will get into:  
apktool d facebook\_lite\_v118.0.0.9.94.apk  
Apktool will create a new folder with the same name as the APK file and place all the App data inside it.  
Compiling:  
Compiling a modified source with apktool is as simple as decompiling. You can get the job done by just issuing a command in the form:  
apktool b <app\_source\_path>  
In our example with the Facebook Lite App, this will get into:  
apktool b facebook\_lite\_v[118.0.0.9](http://118.0.0.9/)

.94.   
APKTool is widely used in the Android development and security community for tasks such as analyzing app vulnerabilities, customizing app appearance, and making changes for research and testing purposes.  
However, it's important to respect the terms of use and license agreements of the apps you use and to obtain appropriate permissions if you modify or redistribute the apps.  
  
[#applicationsecurity](https://www.linkedin.com/feed/hashtag/?keywords=applicationsecurity&highlightedUpdateUrns=urn%3Ali%3Aactivity%3A7108725191752491008) [#application](https://www.linkedin.com/feed/hashtag/?keywords=application&highlightedUpdateUrns=urn%3Ali%3Aactivity%3A7108725191752491008) [#penetrationtesting](https://www.linkedin.com/feed/hashtag/?keywords=penetrationtesting&highlightedUpdateUrns=urn%3Ali%3Aactivity%3A7108725191752491008)  
[Amiy Kumar (thecybermusafir)](https://www.linkedin.com/in/ACoAAC8pwBEB3DrDhcYx9pO0lTxYBK1xq5hLbAk) [Asif Khan](https://www.linkedin.com/in/ACoAACZ4AkMBjP1z5LxcSq3ZLwJB5cEqUeDP_Cs)