Alert Controllers

AlertBox - Learning Outcomes

Theory:

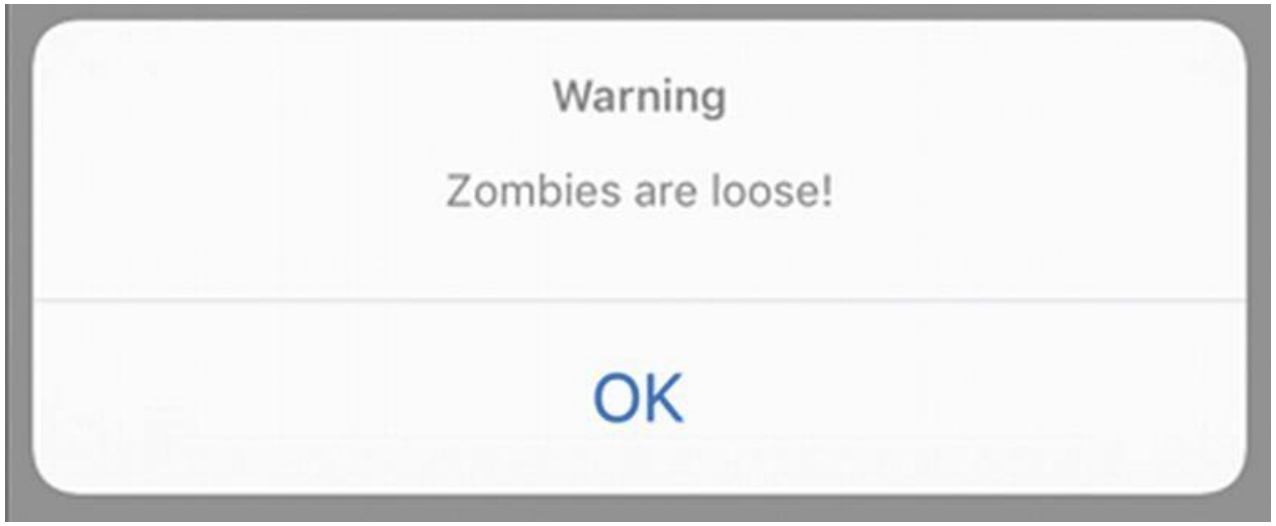
- What is an alert box
- Where are alert boxes used?

Code:

- Changing the **title, message,** and **buttons**
- Configuring the **style** of the alert box
- Showing the alert box to the user
- Accepting user input through the text box
- Configuring the **button handlers** for the alert box

Alert Controller

Displays information in a popup box.

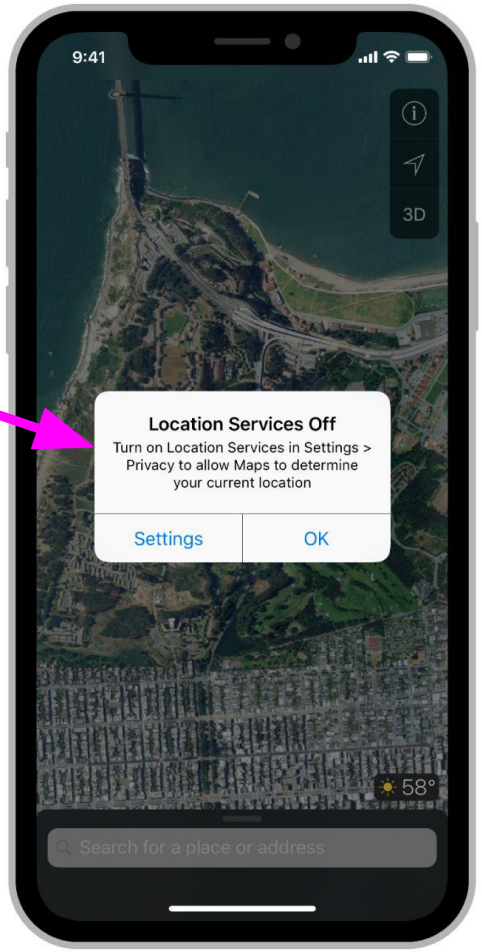


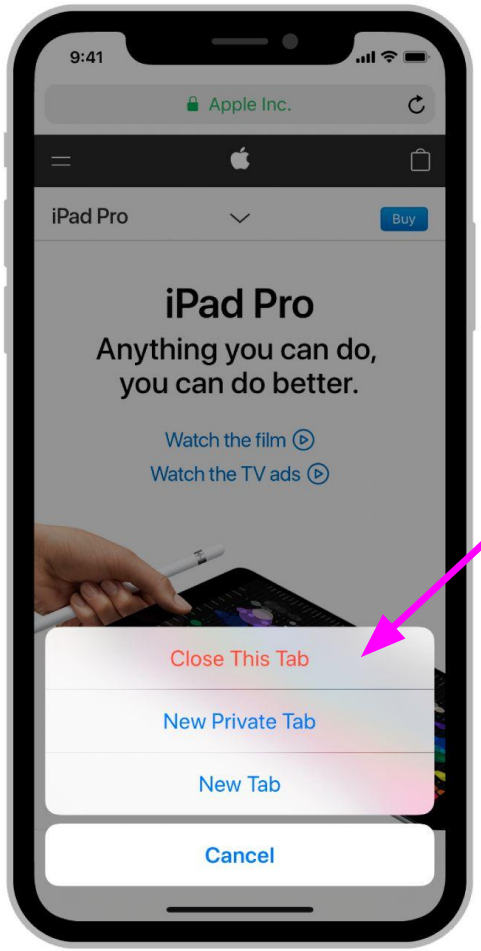
Alert Controller can be customized:

1. Customize **title, message,** and **number of buttons**
2. Customize **the *preferred style*** of the controller (**popup** vs. **action sheet**)

Popup vs. ActionSheet

Popup (alert)



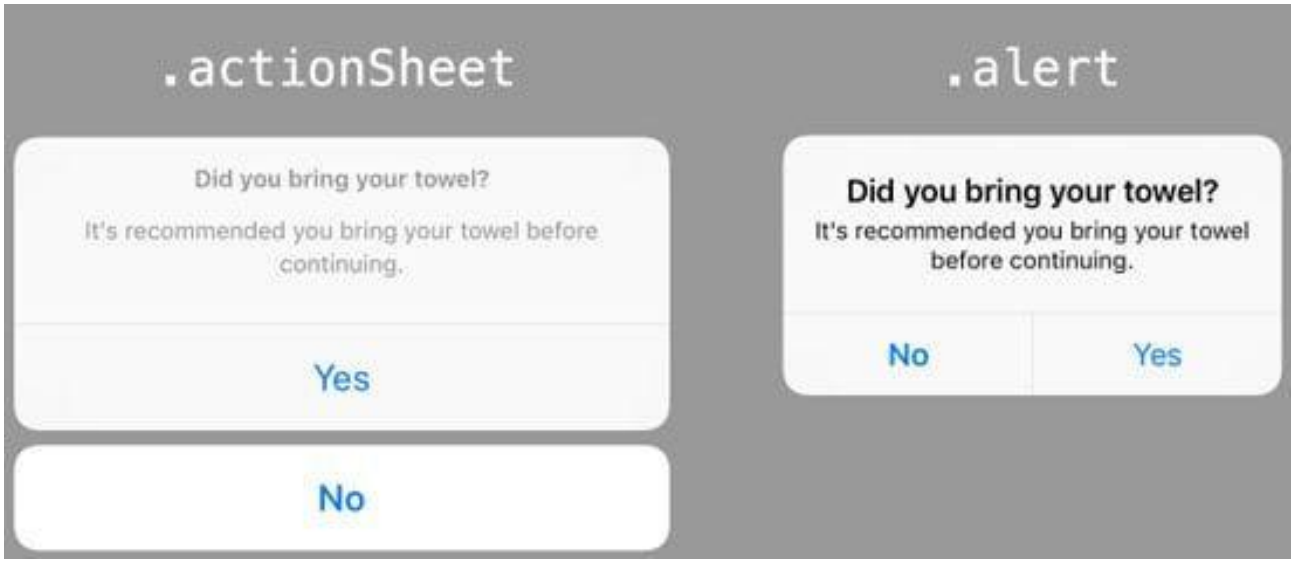


Action Sheet

How to style your box

To choose the style of your popup, IOS provides two *constant* values:

- `.actionSheet`
- `.alert`



AlertControllers can accept user input

You can add a textbox to your AlertController:

Recipe Alert - How to Create the Alert Controller

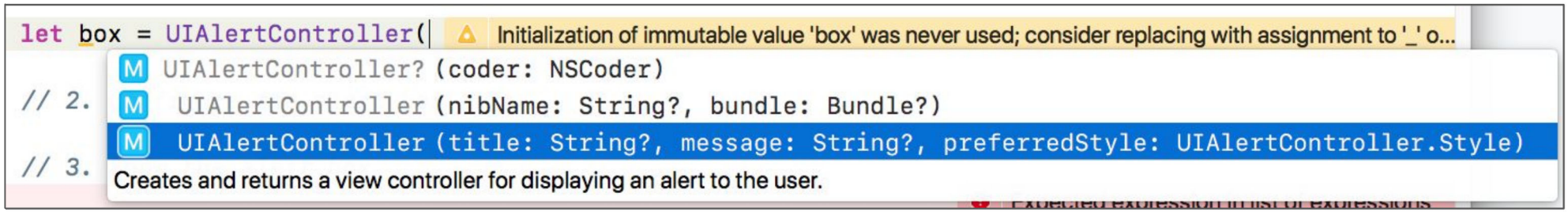
1. Create and configure the alert box
2. OPTIONAL: add buttons
3. OPTIONAL: add button handlers
4. OPTIONAL: add text fields
5. Show the alert box

1. Creating the AlertBox

Use the UIAlertController initializer to create new Alert Box:

```
let box = UIAlertController(title: String?, message: String?,
preferredStyle: UIAlertController.Style)
```

Use XCode's Autocomplete feature to find the correct initializer:



2. Adding an Optional Button

Buttons are optional and can be added using the .addAction function

```
let box = UIAlertController(title: "Weather Popup", message: "Will it rain today?", preferredStyle:
.actionSheet)
box.addAction(UIAlertAction(title: "Yes", style: .default, handler: nil))
```

The .addAction function accepts a *UIAlertAction*, the built-in IOS class for Alert Controller buttons

3. Adding a Button Click Handler

The UIAlertAction button can accept a call back function.

A call back function is a function that is called **after** an activity is completed

```
box.addAction(
    UIAlertAction(title: "YES", style: .default, handler: ((UIAlertAction) -> Void)?)
)
```

In the above snippet, the *handler* is run when the person presses “YES”

- In this case, the **callback function** is similar to a “click handler” for the YES button

4. Modifying UI from Within a Button Click Handlers

To modify UI from inside a button click handler, you must include the **self** reference

```
box.addAction(UIAlertAction(title: "Push me!", style: .default, handler: {
     action in
     self.resultsLabel.text = "HELLO WORLD!"
 }))
```

5. Adding a Text Box