Mobile Application Development



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User Interface Design & Development - Part 1





Understand the basics of Android UI Development

- Be able to create and use some more different widgets (views) such as AdapterViews and ArrayAdapters
- Share data between Activities using **Bundles** (just a brief look, we'll cover it and more in detail, in the Persistence lecture notes)
- Understand how to develop and use Fragments in a multi-screen app
- Understand how to use a Contextual Menu to delete multiple items from a list



- When developing software for the web or a desktop computer, you only need to consider the mouse and the keyboard.
- □ With a mobile device, you must take into account the entire world around you (and your users).
- □ The "60 second Vs 60 minute" Use Case

Possible User Input Sources

Keyboard

- "Click" Tap via Touch (or Stylus)
- GPS or Network Location
- Accelerometer Motion
- Orientation / Compass / Altitude

- Vibration
- Sound / Music
- Environment Lighting
- Multi-touch & Gestures
- Device Security / Loss

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User Interface

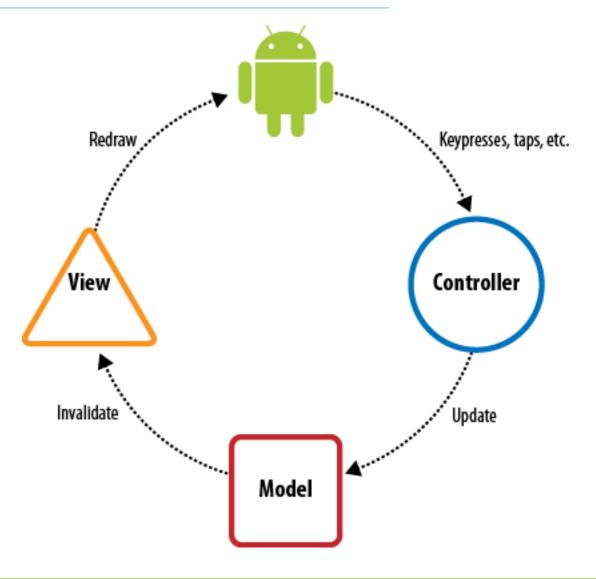


Your app's user interface is everything that the user can see and interact with. Android provides a variety of prebuilt UI components such as structured layout objects and UI controls that allow you to build the graphical user interface for your app. Android also provides other UI modules for special interfaces such as dialogs, notifications, and menus.



App Structure & The Android Framework

The Android UI framework is organised around the common MVC pattern.



Some General UI Guidelines & Observations – (UIGOs)

Activity and Task Design

- Activities are the basic, independent building blocks of applications. As you design your application's UI and feature set, you are free to <u>re-use activities</u> from other applications as if they were yours, to enrich and extend your application.
- "Everything is a Resource"
 - Many of the steps in Android programming depend on creating resources and then loading them or referencing them (in XML files) at the right time



UIGOs - Screen Orientation

- People can easily change the orientation by which they hold their mobile devices
 - Mobile apps have to deal with changes in orientation frequently
 - Android deals with this issue through the use of resources (more on this later)
- □ Start with Portrait Orientation
 - It is natural to start by designing the UI of your main activity in portrait orientation
 - That is the default orientation in the Eclipse plug-in



UIGOs - Unit Sizes

- Android supports a wide variety of unit sizes for specifying UI layouts;
 - px (device pixel), in, mm, pt (1/72nd of an inch)
- All of these have problems creating Uls that work across multiple types of devices
 - Google recommends using resolution-independent units

dp (or dip): density-independent pixels

sp: scale-independent pixels

□ In particular, use sp for font sizes and dp for everything else

UIGOs – Layouts (most common)



LinearLayout: Each child view is placed after the previous one in a single row or column

- RelativeLayout: Each child view is placed in relation to other views in the layout or relative to its parent's layout
- □ FrameLayout: Each child view is stacked within a frame, relative to the top-left corner. Child views may overlap
- TableLayout: Each child view is a cell in a grid of rows and columns
- ConstraintLayout: Similar to RelativeLayout but more flexible and easier to use in Android Studio

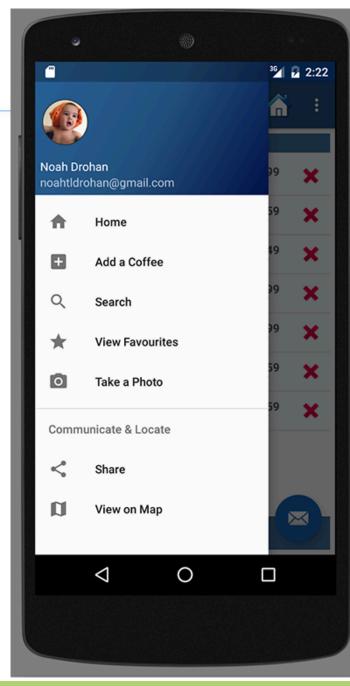


UIGOs - Specifying the Size of a View

- We've previously discussed the use of resolutionindependent measurements for specifying the size of a view
- □ These values go in the XML attributes
 - android:layout_width and android:layout_height
- But, you can get more flexibility with
 - fill_parent: the child scales to the size of its parent
 - wrap_content: the parent shrinks to the size of the child

Case Study

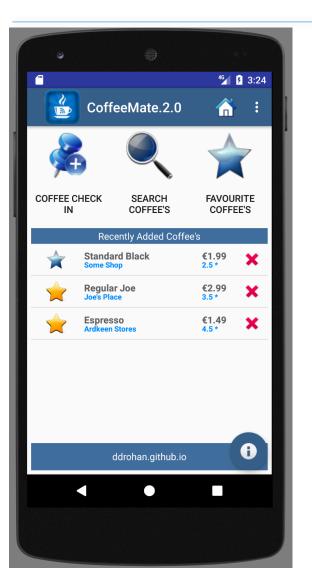
- CoffeeMate an Android App to keep track of your Coffees, their details, and which ones you like the best (your favourites)
- □ App Features (with Google+ Sign-In)
 - List all your Coffees
 - View specific Coffee details
 - Filter Coffees by Name and Type
 - Delete a Coffee
 - List all your Favourite Coffees
 - View Coffees on a Map

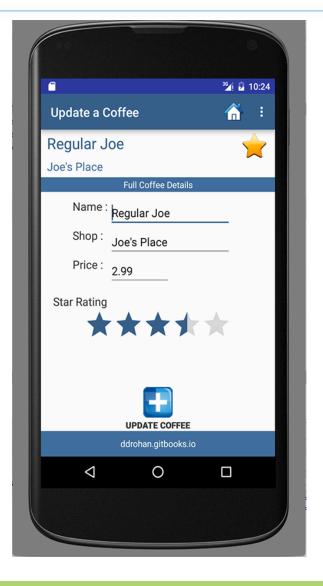


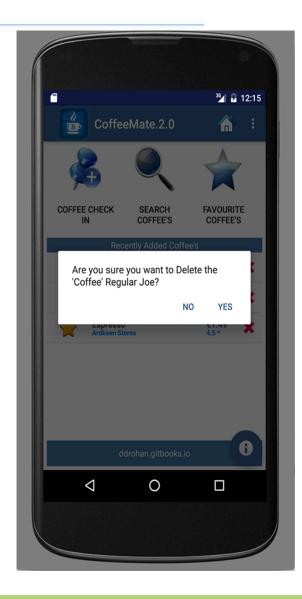


Using Fragments and Custom ArrayAdapters

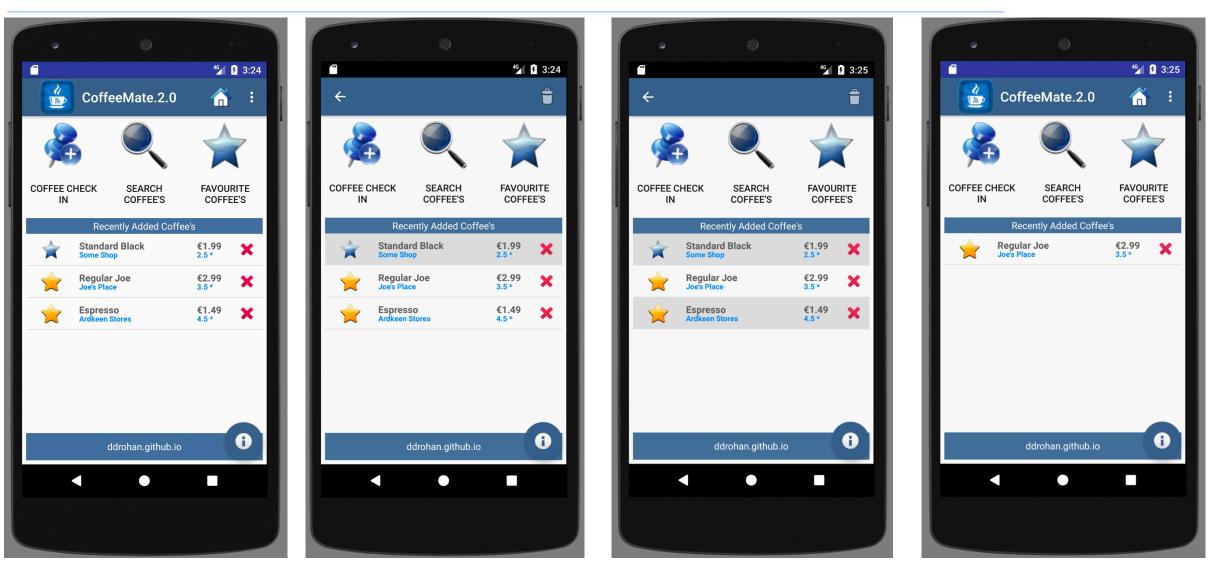


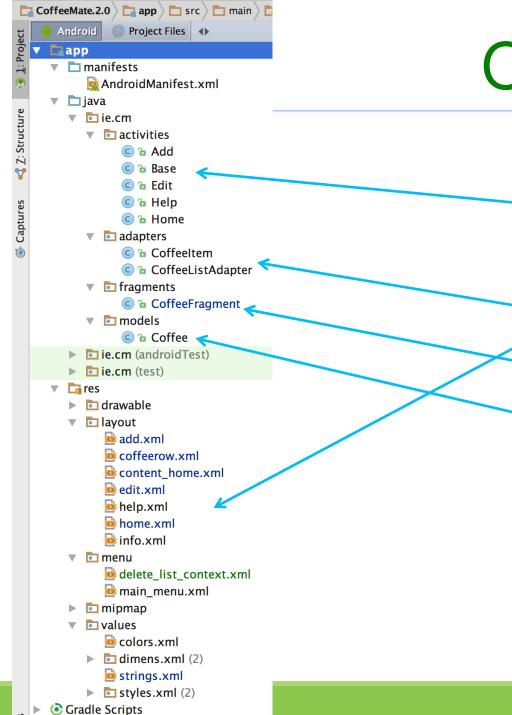














- 5 Activity source files
- 9 xml Layouts & Menus
 - Custom Adapter classes

1 Fragment

1 Model



Using Fragments



Fragments - Recap

- Fragments represents a behaviour or a portion of a user interface <u>in</u> <u>an Activity</u>.
- You can combine multiple fragments in a single activity and <u>reuse a</u> <u>single fragment in multiple activities</u>.
- Each Fragment has its own lifecycle (next slide).
- □ A fragment must always be embedded in an activity.
- □ You perform a *fragment transaction* to add it to an activity.
- When you add a fragment as a part of your activity layout, it lives in a ViewGroup inside the activity's view hierarchy and the fragment defines its own view layout.



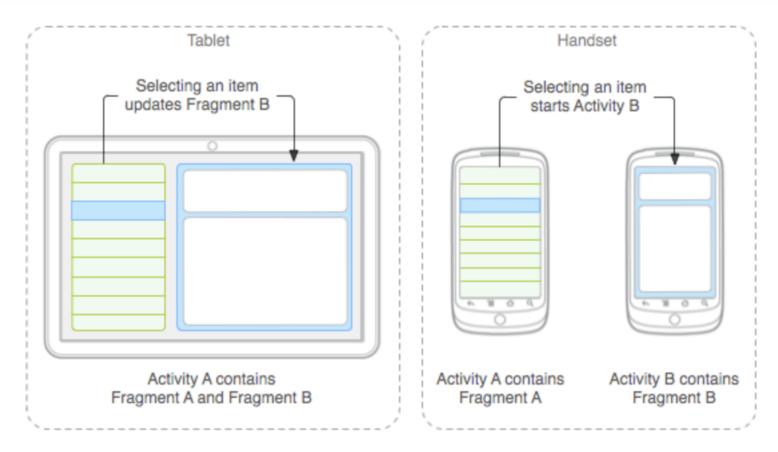
Designing Fragments *

- You should design each fragment as a modular and reusable activity component.
- When designing your application to support both tablets and handsets, you can <u>reuse your fragments</u> in different layout configurations to optimize the user experience based on the available screen space.

For example, on a handset, it might be necessary for separate fragments to provide a single-pane UI when more than one cannot fit within the same activity. (Next Slide)



Designing Fragments

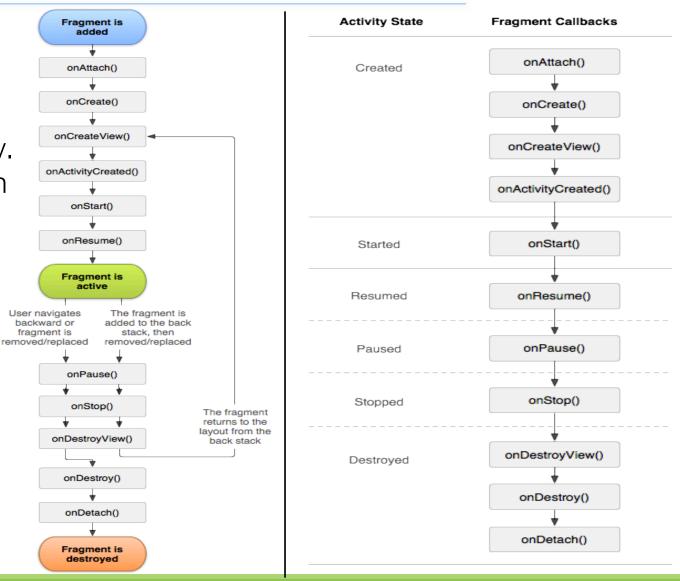


An example of how two UI modules defined by fragments can be combined into one activity for a tablet design, but separated for a handset design.



The Fragment Life Cycle

- To create a fragment, you must subclass Fragment (or an existing subclass of it).
- Has code that looks a lot like an Activity. Contains callback methods similar to an activity, such as onCreate(), onStart(), onPause(), and onStop().
- Usually, you should implement at least onCreate(), onCreateView() and onPause()



Fragment Managers & Transactions



- A great feature about using fragments in your activity is the ability to add, remove, replace, and perform other actions with them, in response to user interaction.
- Each set of changes that you commit to the activity is called a transaction and you can perform one by using APIs in FragmentTransaction.
- You can also save each transaction to a back stack managed by the activity, allowing the user to navigate backward through the fragment changes (similar to navigating backward through activities).

Fragment Managers & Transactions *



You can acquire an instance of FragmentTransaction from the FragmentManager like this: methods can be 'chained'

FragmentManager fragmentManager = getFragmentManager();
FragmentTransaction fragmentTransaction = fragmentManager.beginTransaction();

Each transaction is a set of changes that you want to perform at the same time. You can set up all the changes you want to perform for a given transaction using methods such as add(), remove(), and replace().

□ Then, to apply the transaction to the activity, you must call commit().

Fragment Managers & Transactions



Before you call commit(), however, you might want to call addToBackStack(), in order to add the transaction to a back stack of fragment transactions.

This back stack is managed by the activity and allows the user to return to the previous fragment state, by pressing the Back button.

□ For example, here's how you can replace one fragment with another, and preserve the previous state in the back stack: (next slide)

Fragment Managers & Transactions *



// Create new fragment and transaction
Fragment newFragment = new ExampleFragment();
FragmentTransaction transaction = getFragmentManager().beginTransaction();

```
// Replace whatever is in the fragment_container view with this fragment,
// and add the transaction to the back stack
transaction.replace(R.id.fragment_container, newFragment);
transaction.addToBackStack(null);
```

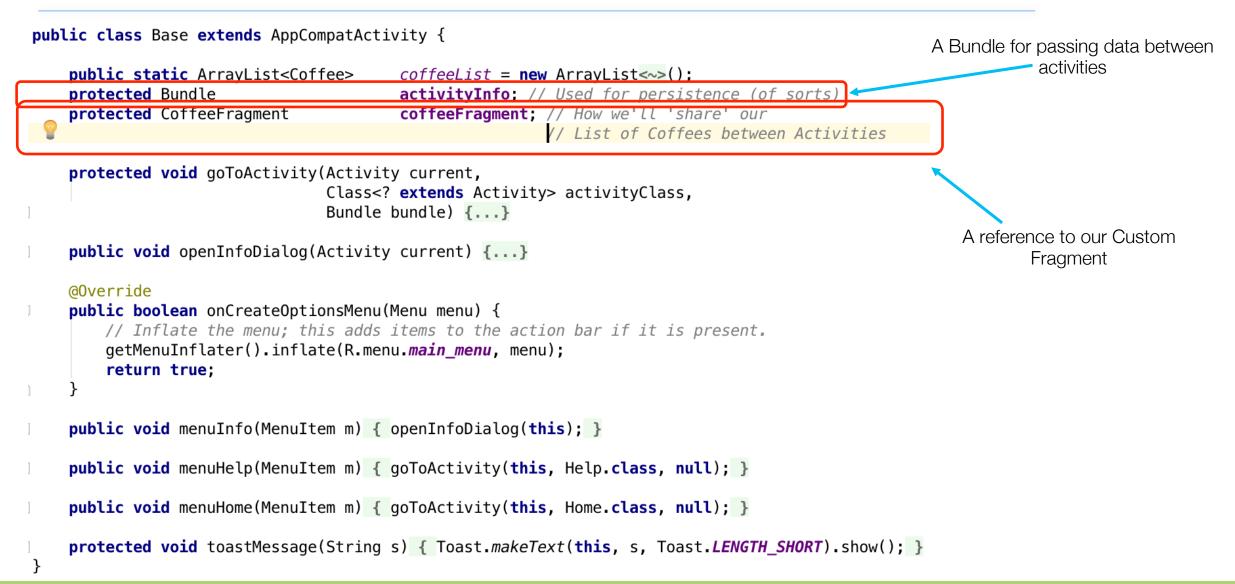
```
// Commit the transaction
transaction.commit();
```

In this example, newFragment replaces whatever fragment (if any) is currently in the layout container identified by the R.id.fragment_container ID. By calling addToBackStack(), the replace transaction is saved to the back stack so the user can reverse the transaction and bring back the previous fragment by pressing the Back button.



Code Highlights (1)





Home

public class Home extends Base {

TextView recentList;

```
@Override
protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {...}
public void add(View v) { goToActivity(this,Add.class,null); }
@Override
protected void onResume() {
    super.onResume();
    if(coffeeList.isEmpty())
        recentList.setText("You have no Coffee's added, go have a coffee!");
    else
        recentList.setText("");
```

coffeeFragment = CoffeeFragment.newInstance(); //get a new Fragment instance
getFragmentManager()

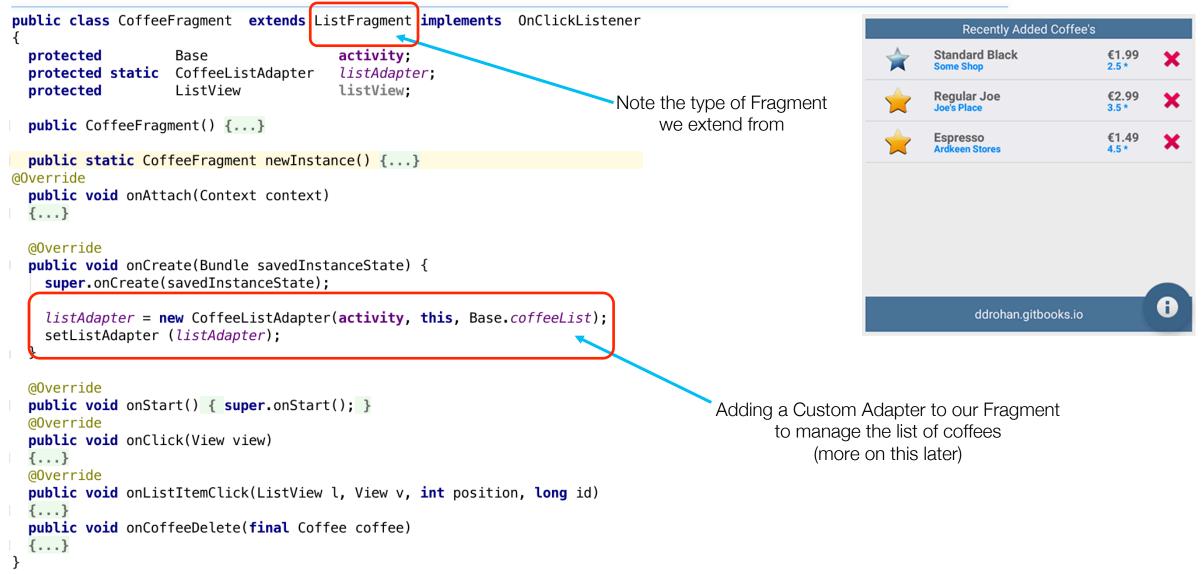
.beginTransaction()

- .replace(R.id.fragment_layout, coffeeFragment)
- .commit(); // add/replace in the current activity

Creating a Fragment instance and adding it to our Home Activity (we'll take a close look at the Fragment class next)

Note how we've 'chained' the method calls

Our 'CoffeeFragment' Fragment



Introducing Adapters (Big part of this Case Study)



- Adapters are bridging classes that bind data to Views (eg ListViews) used in the UI.
 - Responsible for creating the child Views used to represent each item within the parent View, and providing access to the underlying data
- Views that support adapter binding must extend the AdapterView abstract class.
 - You can create your own AdapterView-derived controls and create new Adapter classes to bind them.
- Android supplies a set of Adapters that pump data into native UI controls (next slide)

Introducing Adapters (cont'd)



- Because Adapters are responsible for supplying the data AND for creating the Views that represent each item, they can radically modify the appearance and functionality of the controls they're bound to.
- Most Commonly used Adapters

ArrayAdapter

- uses generics to bind an **AdapterView** to an array of objects of the specified class.
- By default, uses the **toString()** of each object to create & populate **TextViews**.
- Other constructors available for more complex layouts (as we will see later on)
- Can extend the class to use alternatives to simple **TextViews** (as we will see later on)
- See also SimpleCursorAdapter attaches Views specified within a layout to the columns of Cursors returned from Content Provider queries.



Using Custom ArrayAdapters

Customizing the ArrayAdapter



- By default, the **ArrayAdapter** uses the **toString**() of the object array it's binding to, to populate the **TextView** available within the specified layout
- Generally, you customize the layout to display more complex views by...
 - Extending the **ArrayAdapter** class with a type-specific variation, eg

public class CoffeeListAdapter extends ArrayAdapter<Coffee> {

 Override the getView() method to assign object properties to layout View objects. (see our case study example next)

The getView() Method



- Used to construct, inflate, and populate the View that will be displayed within the parent AdapterView class (eg a ListView inside our ListFragment) which is being bound to the underlying array using this adapter
- Receives parameters that describes
 - The position of the item to be displayed
 - The View being updated (or null)
 - The ViewGroup into which this new View will be placed
- Returns the new populated View instance as a result
- A call to getItem() will return the value (object) stored at the specified index in the underlying array



Adapters & ListViews

- A ListView receives its data via an Adapter. The adapter also defines how each row is the ListView is displayed.
- □ The Adapter is assigned to the list via the setAdapter() / setListAdapter() method on the ListView / ListFragment object.
- ListView calls the getView() method on the adapter for each data element. In this method the adapter determines the layout of the row and how the data is mapped to the Views (our widgets) in this layout.
- Your row layout can also contain Views which interact with the underlying data model via the adapter. E.G. our 'Delete' option – see later.

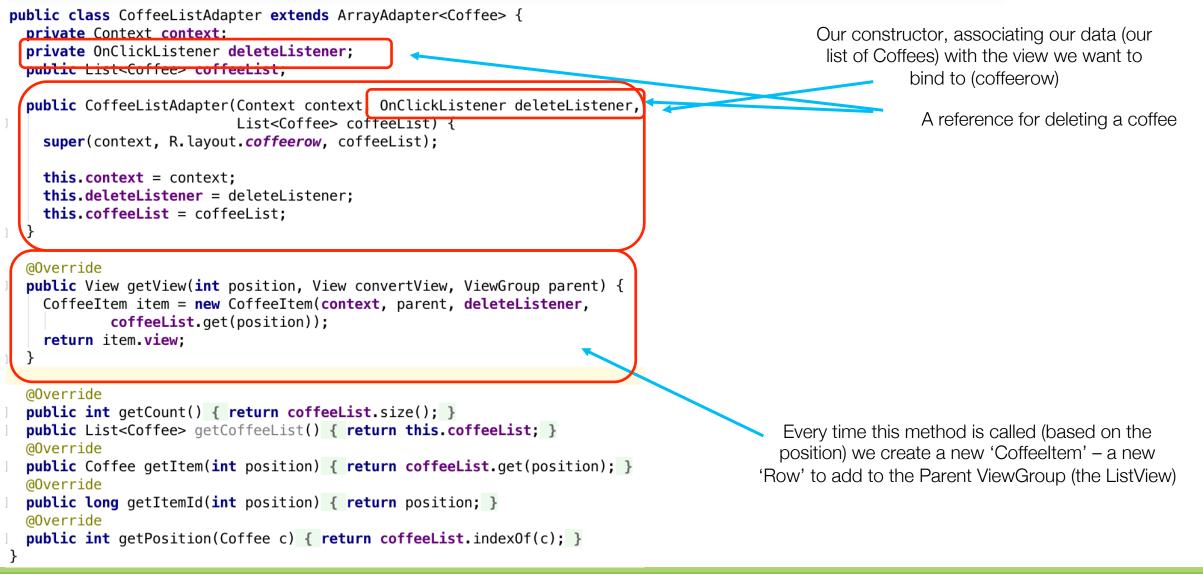


CoffeeMate 2.0

Code Highlights (2)



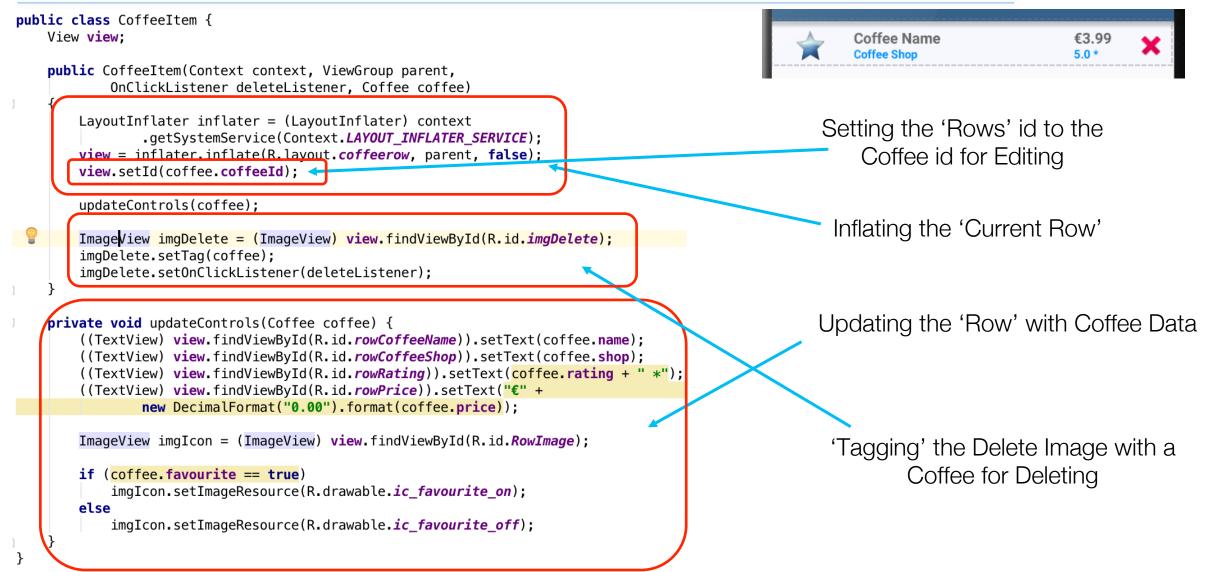
CoffeeListAdapter



Coffeeltem

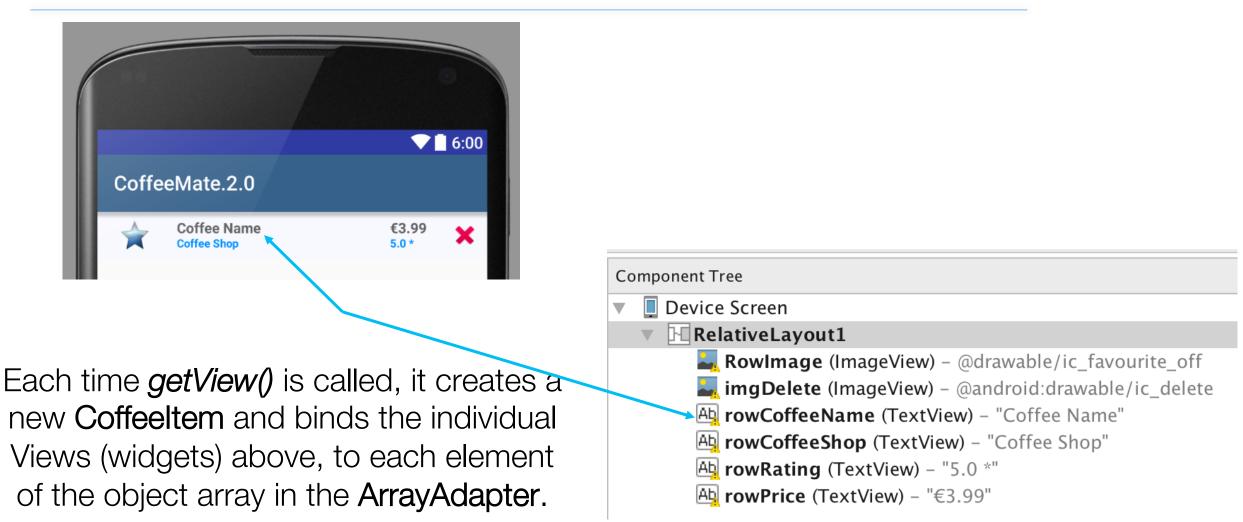
This class represents a single row in our list





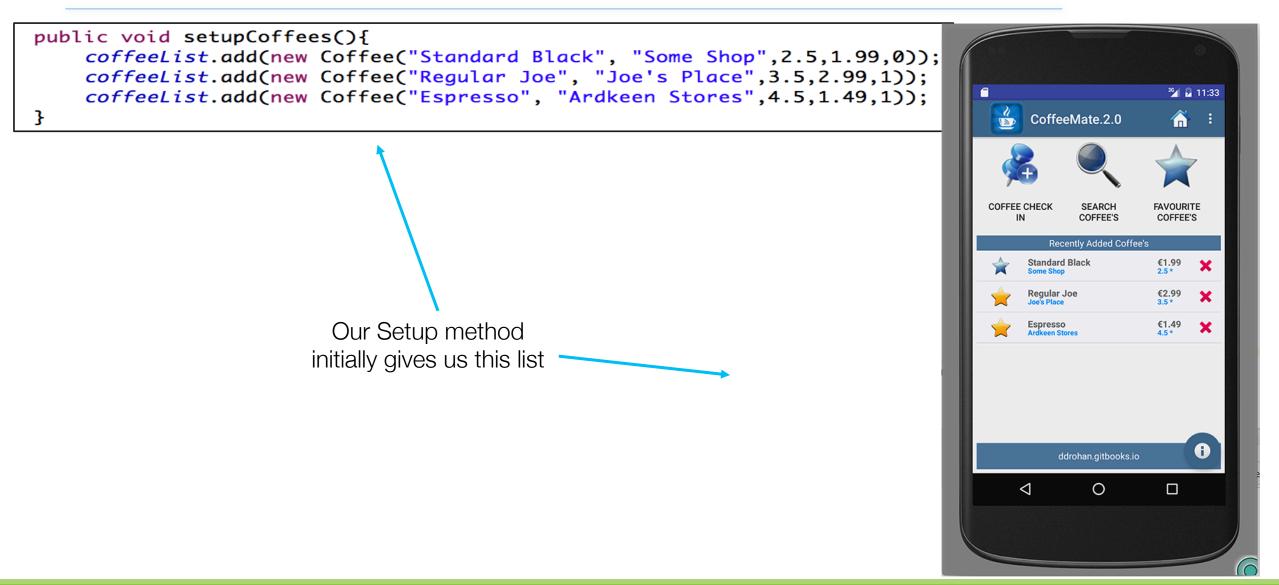
Coffeerow (Our Custom Layout)







Resulting ListView (inside our Fragment)





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Code Highlights (3)

Edit a Coffee – class CoffeeFragment



@Override

public void onListItemClick(ListView l, View v, int position, long id)

Bundle activityInfo = new Bundle(); activityInfo.putInt("coffeeID", v.getId());

```
Intent goEdit = new Intent(getActivity(), Edit.class);
goEdit.putExtras(activityInfo);
getActivity().startActivity(goEdit);
```

Remember we set the id of the 'row' (v) ? Here we retrieve it, and store it in a Bundle so we know which coffee to edit

Edit a Coffee – class Edit



public class Edit extends Base {
 private Context context;
 private Boolean isFavourite;
 private Coffee aCoffee;
 private ImageView favouriteImage;

@Override

public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
 super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
 context = this;
 setContentView(R.layout.edit);

activityInfo = getIntent()_getExtras(); aCoffee = getCoffeeObject(activityInfo.getInt("coffeeID"));

```
((TextView)findViewById(R.id.coffeeNameTextView)).setText(aCoffee.name);
((TextView)findViewById(R.id.coffeeShopTextView)).setText(aCoffee.shop);
```

```
((EditText)findViewById(R.id.nameEditText)).setText(aCoffee.name);
((EditText)findViewById(R.id.shopEditText)).setText(aCoffee.shop);
((EditText)findViewById(R.id.priceEditText)).setText(""+aCoffee.price);
((RatingBar) findViewById(R.id.coffeeRatingBar)).setRating((float)aCoffee.rating);
```

favouriteImage = (ImageView) findViewById(R.id.favouriteImageView);

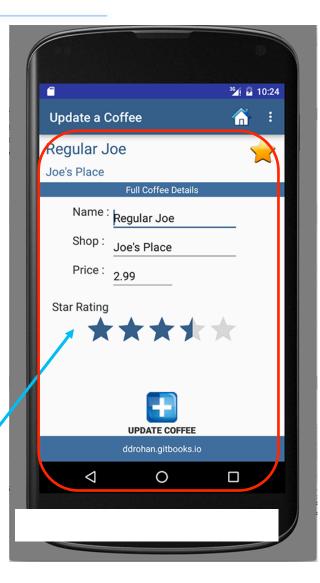
```
if (aCoffee.favourite == true) {
    favouriteImage.setImageResource(R.drawable.ic_favourite_on);
    isFavourite = true;
} else {
    favouriteImage.setImageResource(R.drawable.ic_favourite_off);
    isFavourite = false;
```

Assigning our Coffee object details to the widgets on our layout

Retrieving the "id" of our selected

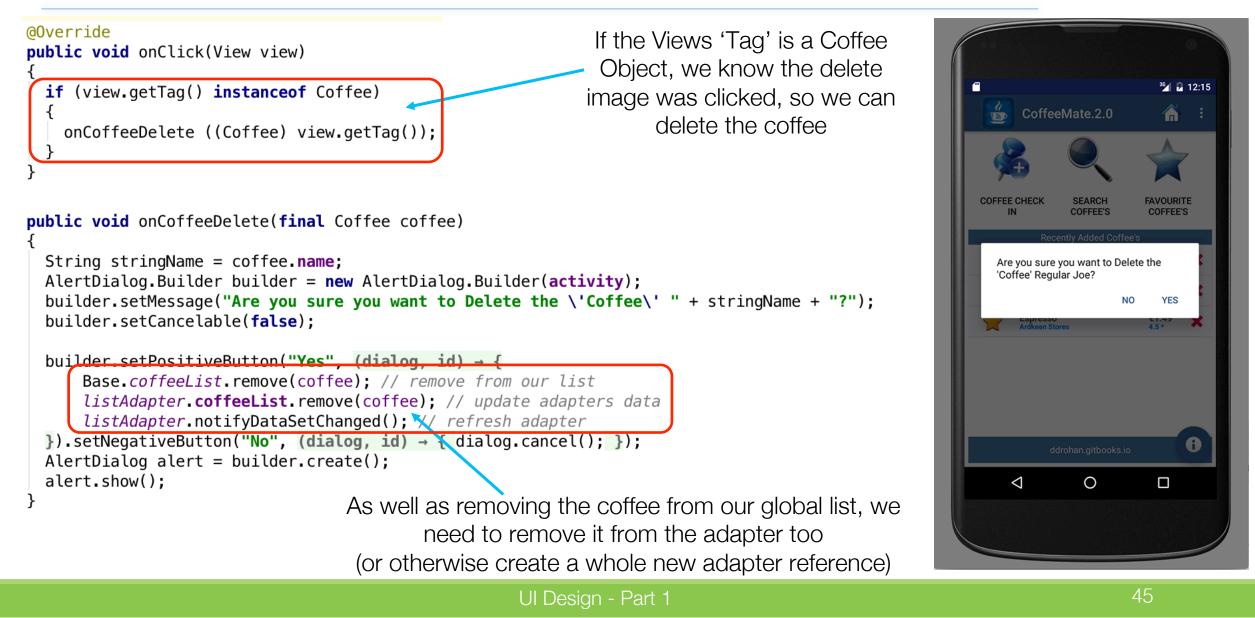
coffee from the bundle and

finding it in the arraylist





Delete a Coffee – class CoffeeFragment





CoffeeMate 2.0

Using Contextual Menus (for multiple selection & deletion)

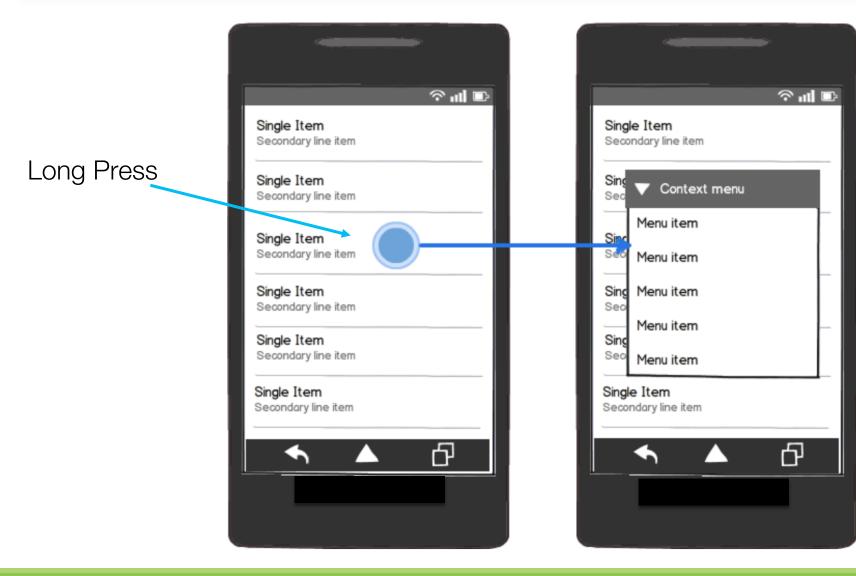


Contextual ActionMode / Action Bar

- The Contextual Action Mode is a system implementation of ActionMode that focuses user interaction toward performing contextual actions.
- When a user enables this mode by selecting an item, a Contextual Action Bar appears at the top of the screen to present actions the user can perform on the currently selected item(s).
- □ A Contextual Action Bar (CAB) in Android is a temporary action bar that overlays the app's action bar for the duration of a particular sub-task.
- Triggered by Long Press Gesture used to handle multi-select and contextual actions.
- Prior to Android 3.0, a Floating Context Menu would have been displayed on the Long Press Gesture.

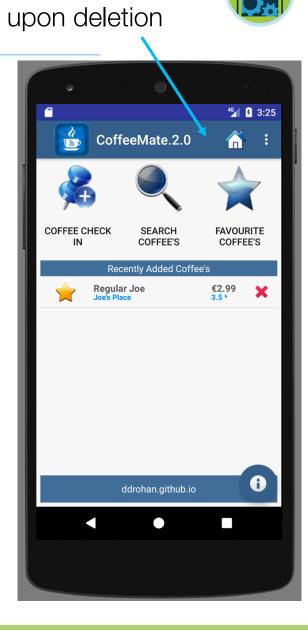


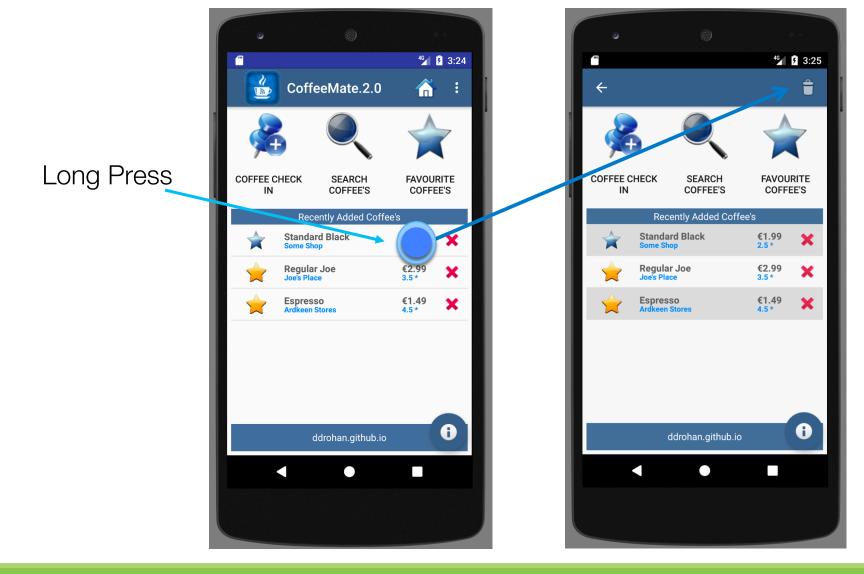
1. Floating Context Menu (Android 3.0-)



UI Design - Part 1

2. Contextual Action Bar (Android 3.0+) Original Menu restored





UI Design - Part 1



Implementing a Contextual Action Bar

- 1. Design your resources/xml (Context Menu, background style, AppTheme style options).
- 2. Implement the **AbsListView.MultiChoiceModeListener** and set it to your ViewGroup (e.g. ListView).
- 3. Configure your ViewGroup for multiple selection of items.
- 4. Implement the necessary behaviour in the Listener Callbacks.



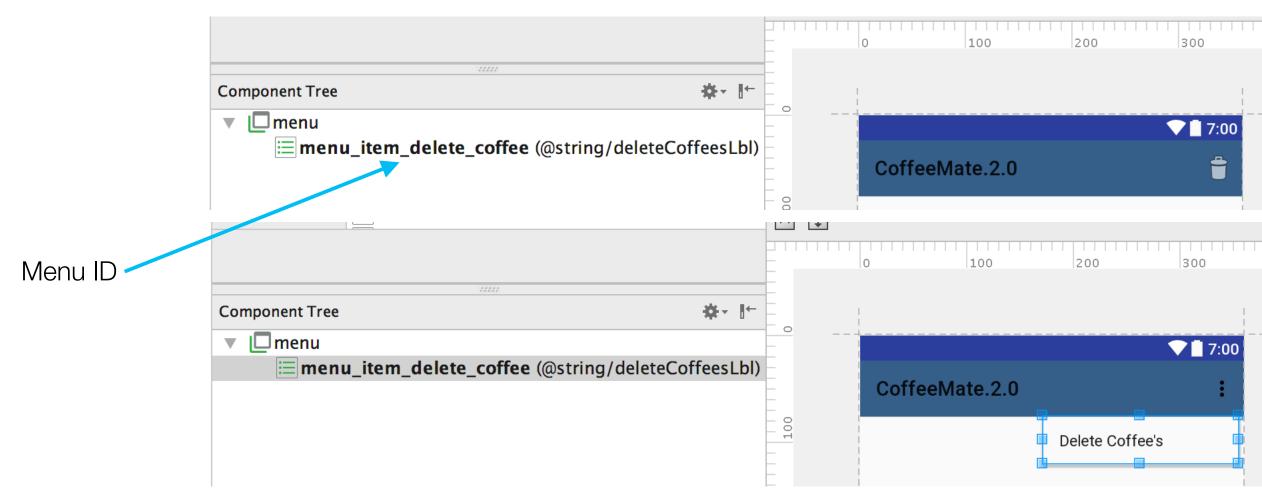
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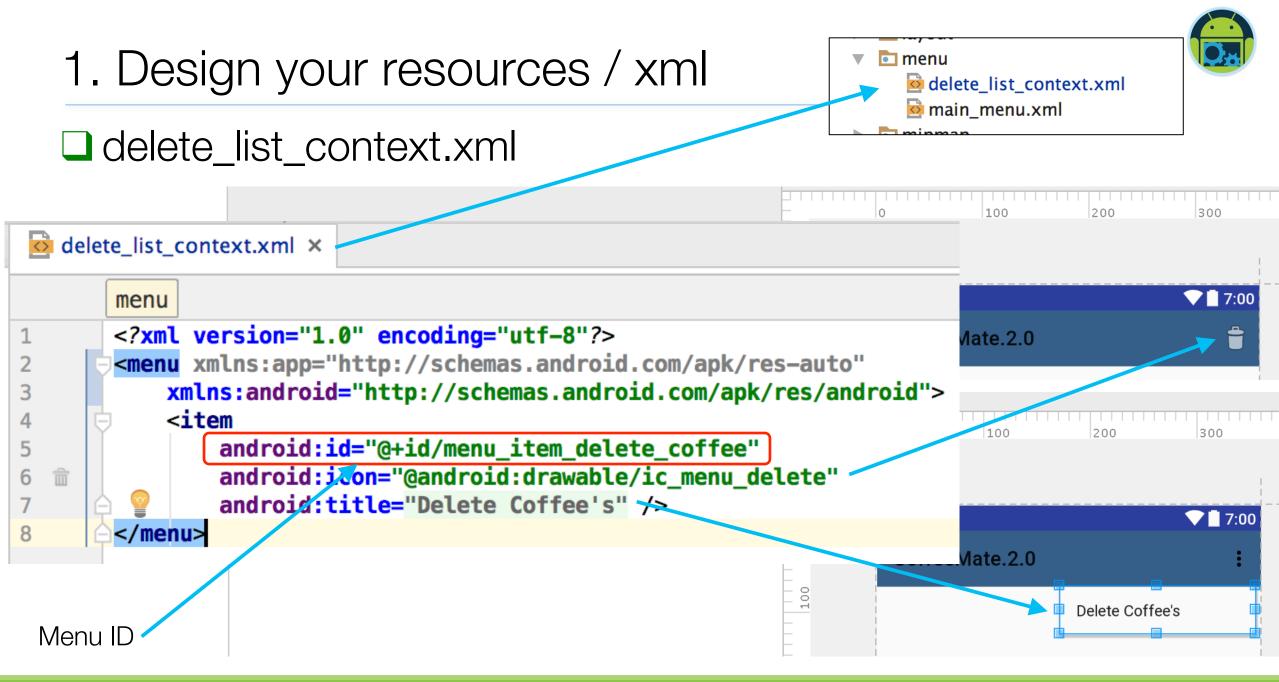
Code Highlights (4)

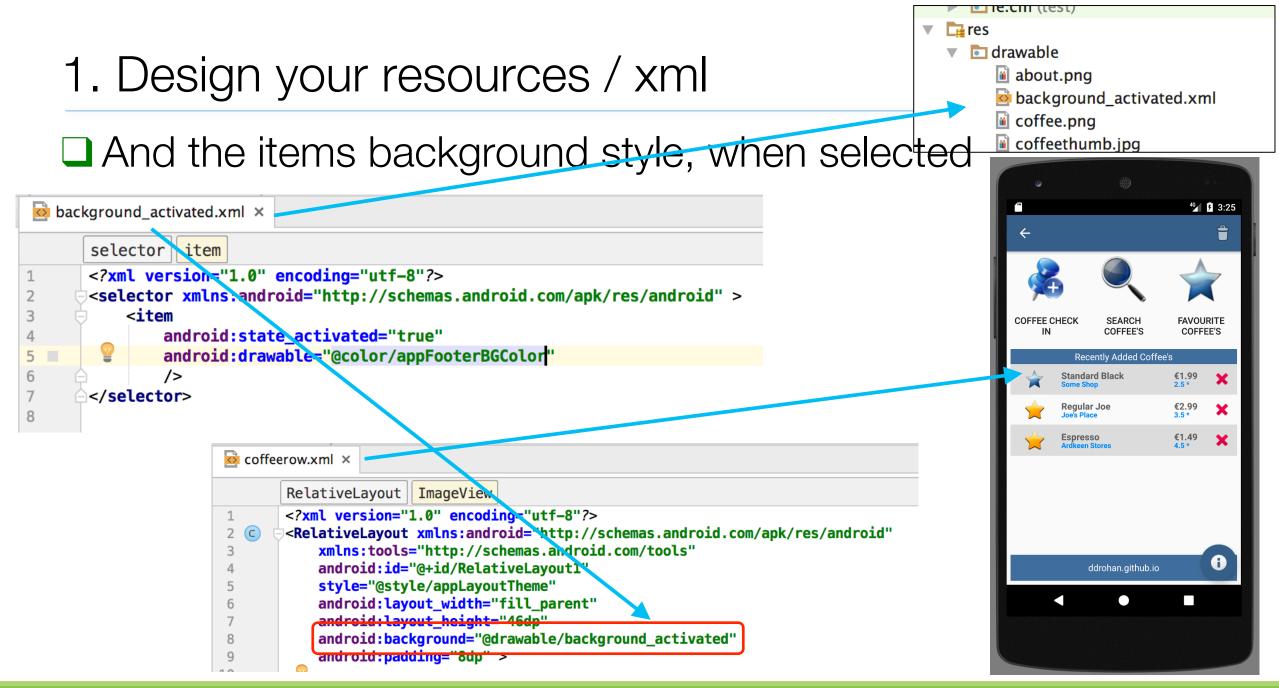
1. Design your resources / xml



□ Firstly, decide what you want your context menu to look like





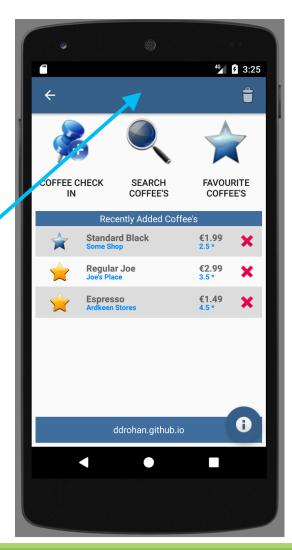




1. Design your resources / xml

And how to overlay the context menu on the main app menu (in styles.xml)

styles.xml ×
Edit all themes in the project in the theme editor.
resources style item
1 <- resources>
2 3 <pre><!-- Base application theme--></pre>
<pre>4</pre>
<pre>5 <!-- Customize your theme here--> 6 <item name="colorPrimary">@color/colorPrimary</item></pre>
7 7
<pre>8 </pre> <pre> <item name="colorAccent">@color/colorAccent</item> </pre> <pre> </pre> <pre> </pre> <pre> </pre>
<pre></pre>
1





□ First, update your Activity/Fragment *

We'll look at implementing the callbacks a bit later (just accept the default implementations for now)



Set your listener to the ViewGroup (or ListView in our case) like so and specify multiple selections is possible

@Override

public View onCreateView(LayoutInflater inflater, ViewGroup parent, Bundle savedInstanceState) {
 View v = super.onCreateView(inflater, parent, savedInstanceState);

listView = (ListView) v.findViewById(android.R.id.list);
listView.setChoiceMode(ListView.CHOICE_MODE_MULTIPLE_MODAL);
listView.setMultiChoiceModeListener(this);

return v;

Note, Android's system List reference

4. Implement Listener Callbacks *



□ Here's a full list of all the callback methods (and one helper)

	/* ********** MultiChoiceModeListener methods (beain) *********************
	<pre>@Override public boolean onCreateActionMode(ActionMode actionMode, Menu menu) {}</pre>
	<pre>@Override public boolean onPrepareActionMode(ActionMode actionMode, Menu menu) { return false; }</pre>
	<pre>@Override public boolean onActionItemClicked(ActionMode actionMode, MenuItem menuItem) {}</pre>
	<pre>private void deleteCoffees(ActionMode actionMode) {}</pre>
ĺ	<pre>@Override public void onDestroyActionMode(ActionMode actionMode) {}</pre>
	<pre>@Override public void onItemCheckedStateChanged(ActionMode actionMode, int position, long id, boolean checked) {} /* ***********************************</pre>

4. Implement Listener Callbacks

menu



X

Inflating the Context Menu ⁴⁶ 3:24 @Override COFFEE CHECK SEARCH FAVOURITE public boolean onCreateActionMode(ActionMode actionMode, Menu menu) COFFEE'S COFFEE'S Recently Added Coffee's MenuInflater inflater = actionMode.getMenuInflater(); **Standard Black** €1.99 2.5* inflater.inflate(R.menu.delete_list_context, menu); €2.99 3.5 * Regular Joe return true; €1.49 4.5 * Espresso This replaces or 'overlays' the current app

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ddrohan.github.io

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4. Implement Listener Callbacks



Triggered when Menultem selected ⁴⁶ 9 3:2 @Override public boolean onActionItemClicked(ActionMode actionMode, MenuItem menuItem) COFFEE CHECK SEARCH FAVOURITE COFFEE'S COFFFF'S €1.99 2.5* switch (menuItem.getItemId()) €2.99 3.5* €1.49 🗙 ⁴⁶ **3**:25 case R.id.menu_item_delete_coffee: CoffeeMate.2.0 deleteCoffees(actionMode); return true; COFFEE CHECK SEARCH FAVOURITE default: • han.github.io COFFEE'S COFFF'S return false; €2.99 Regular Joe □ In our case, we delete the selected coffees 0 ddrohan.github.io

4. Implement Listener Callbacks



Triggered when Menultem selected

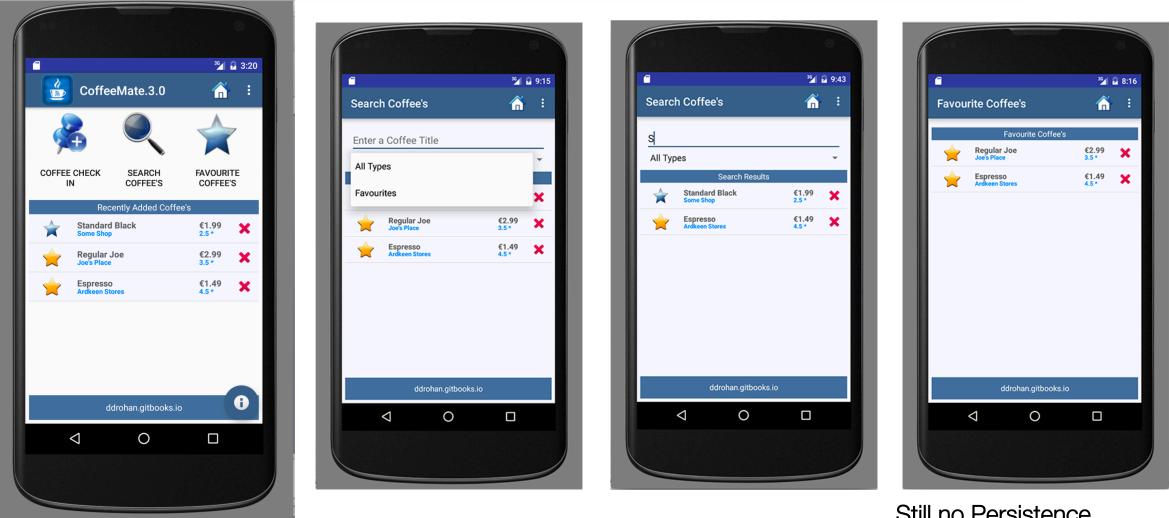
```
private void deleteCoffees(ActionMode actionMode)
{
    for (int i = listAdapter.getCount() - 1; i >= 0; i--)
    {
        if (listView.isItemChecked(i))
        {
            Base.coffeeList.remove(listAdapter.getItem(i));
        }
        actionMode.finish();
        listAdapter.notifyDataSetChanged();
    }
}
```

□ In our case, we delete the selected coffees



CoffeeMate 3.0





Still no Persistence in this Version



Questions?