

Mobile Application Development

Menus

Menus

The three fundamental types of menus:

- Options Menu
- Context Menu
- Popup Menu

Menus

- **Options Menu:**

The options menu is the [primary collection of menu items](#) for an activity. This is where you should include actions and other options that are relevant to the current activity context

- **Context Menu:**

A context menu is a floating menu that [appears when the user performs a long-click](#) on an element. It doesn't support item shortcuts and icons.

- **Popup Menu:**

A popup menu displays a list of items in a [vertical list that's anchored to the view](#) that invoked the menu. It disappears if you click outside the popup menu.

Menus

- For all menu types, Android provides a standard XML format to define menu items - you should define a menu and all its items in an [XML menu resource](#).
- You can then [inflate the menu resource](#) (load it as a Menu object) in your activity.

XML Menu Resource

- To define the menu, create an XML file inside your project's `res/menu/` directory and build the menu with the following elements:
 - `<menu>`
Defines a Menu, which is a container for menu items. A `<menu>` element must be the root node for the file and can hold one or more `<item>` and `<group>` elements.
 - `<item>`
Creates a MenuItem, which represents a single item in a menu. This element may contain a nested `<menu>` element in order to create a submenu.
 - `<group>`
An optional, invisible container for `<item>` elements. It allows you to categorize menu items so they share properties such as active state and visibility.

XML Menu Resource

```
<menu xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android">

    <item android:id="@+id/action_settings"
          android:orderInCategory="100"
          android:showAsAction="never"
          android:title="@string/action_settings"/>

</menu>
```

XML Menu Resource

- The <item> element supports several attributes you can use to define an item's appearance and behavior:
 - `android:id`
A resource ID that's unique to the item, which allows the application can recognize the item when the user selects it.
 - `android:icon`
A reference to a drawable to use as the [item's icon](#).
 - `android:title`
A reference to a string to use as the [item's title](#).
 - `android:showAsAction`
Specifies when and how this item should appear as an [action item in the action bar](#).

XML Menu Resource

```
<menu xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android">

    <item android:id="@+id/action_settings"
          android:orderInCategory="100"
          android:showAsAction="never"
          android:title="@string/action_settings"/>

    <item android:id="@+id/action_about"
          android:icon="@drawable/ic_action_about"
          android:title="@string/action_about"
          android:showAsAction="ifRoom"/>

    <item android:id="@+id/action_help"
          android:icon="@drawable/ic_action_help"
          android:title="@string/action_help"
          android:showAsAction="always" />

</menu>
```

XML Menu Resource

```
<menu xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android">

    . . .

    <item android:id="@+id/action_help"
          android:icon="@drawable/ic_action_help"
          android:title="@string/action_help"
          android:showAsAction="always" >
        <menu>
            <item android:id="@+id/action_help_video"
                  android:title="@string/action_help_video" />
            <item android:id="@+id/action_help_text"
                  android:title="@string/action_help_text" />
        </menu>
    </item>
</menu>
```

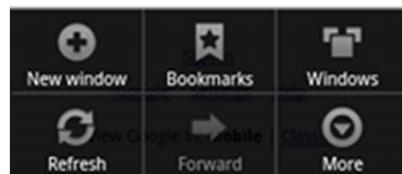
OPTIONS MENU

Creating Options Menu

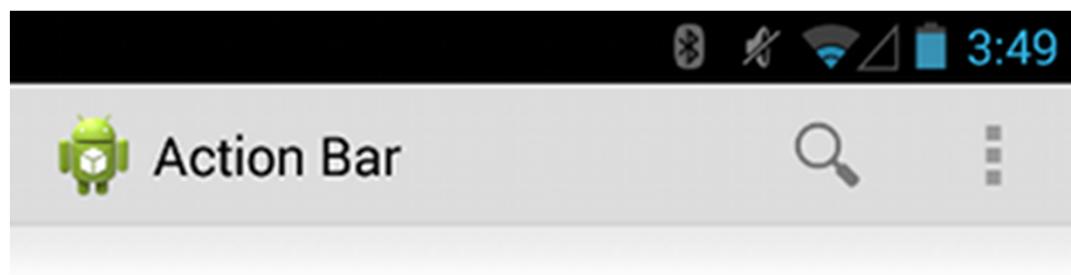
- The [options menu](#) is where you should include actions and other options that are [relevant to the current activity context](#).
- Where the items in your options menu appear on the screen depends on the version for which you've developed your application:
 - If you've developed your application for [Android 2.3.x \(API level 10\) or lower](#), the contents of your options menu appear at the bottom of the screen when the user presses the Menu button.
 - If you've developed your application for [Android 3.0 \(API level 11\) and higher](#), items from the options menu are available in the action bar.

Creating Options Menu

- Where the items in your options menu appear on the screen depends on the version for which you've developed your application:



Android 2.3.x (API level 10) or lower



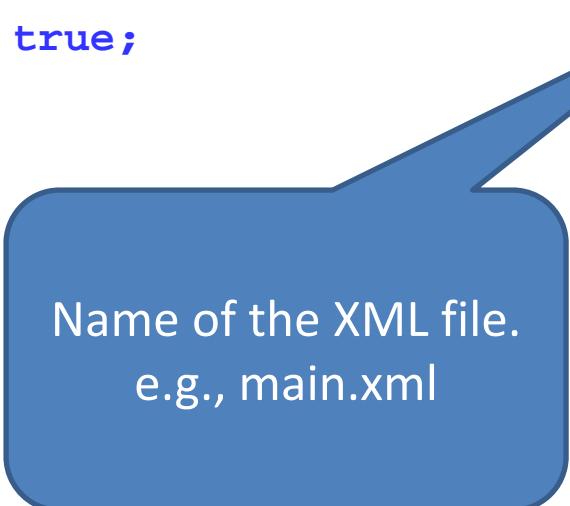
Android 3.0 (API level 11) and higher

- By default, the system places all items in the action overflow, which the user can reveal with the action overflow icon on the right side of the action bar (or by pressing the device Menu button, if available).
- To enable quick access to important actions, you can promote a few items to appear in the action bar by adding `android:showAsAction="ifRoom"` to the corresponding `<item>` elements .

Creating Options Menu

- To specify the options menu for an activity, override `onCreateOptionsMenu()`.
- In this method, you can inflate your menu resource (defined in XML) into the Menu provided in the callback. For example:

```
public boolean onCreateOptionsMenu(Menu menu) {  
    getMenuInflater().inflate(R.menu.main, menu);  
    return true;  
}
```



Name of the XML file.
e.g., main.xml

Handling Click Events

- When the user selects an item from the options menu (including action items in the action bar), the system calls your activity's `onOptionsItemSelected()` method.
- This method passes the `MenuItem` selected. You can identify the item by calling `getItemId()`, which returns the unique ID for the menu item.
- When you successfully handle a menu item, `return true`. If you don't handle the menu item, you should call the `superclass implementation of onOptionsItemSelected()` (the default implementation returns false).

Handling Click Events

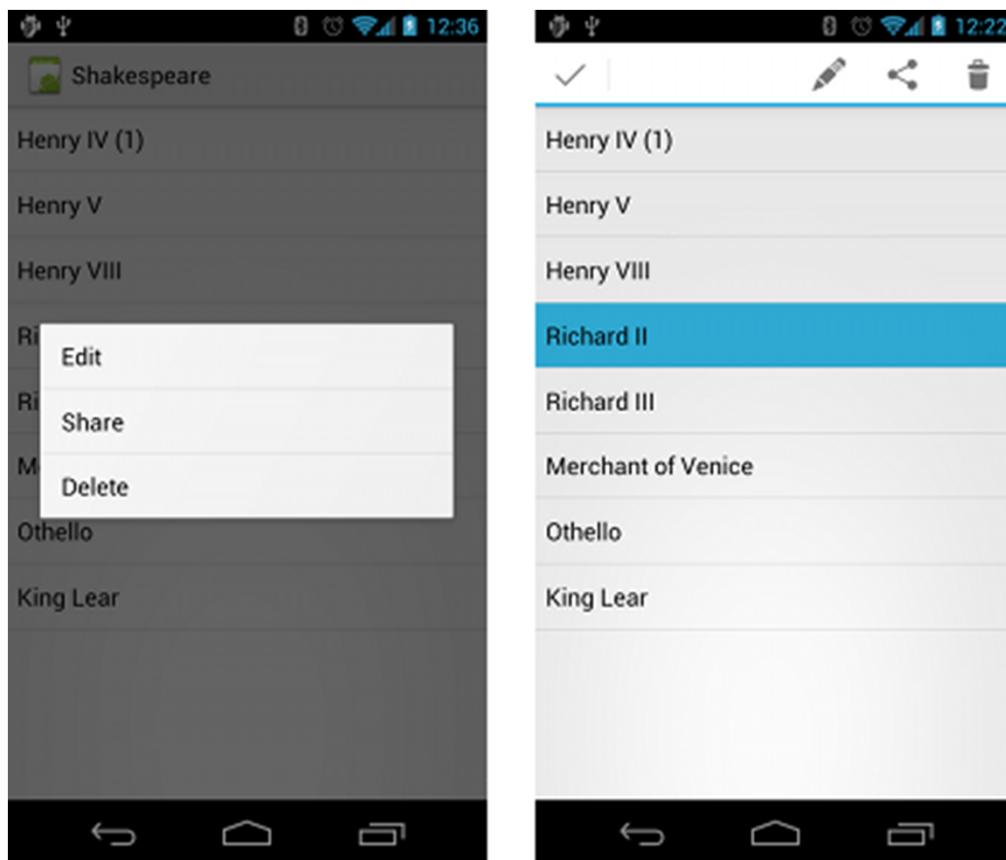
```
@Override
public boolean onOptionsItemSelected(MenuItem item) {
    // Handle item selection
    switch (item.getItemId()) {
        case R.id.action_about:
            showAbout();
            return true;
        case R.id.action_help_video:
            showHelp(1);
            return true;
        case R.id.action_help_text:
            showHelp(2);
            return true;
        default:
            return super.onOptionsItemSelected(item);
    }
}
```

CONTEXT MENU

Creating Context Menu

- A [contextual menu](#) offers actions that affect a specific item or context frame in the UI. You can provide a context menu for any view, but they are most often used for items in a [ListView](#), [GridView](#), or other view collections in which the user can perform direct actions on each item.
- There are two ways to provide contextual actions:
 - In a [floating context menu](#). A menu appears as a floating list of menu items (similar to a dialog) when the user performs a long-click (press and hold) on a view that declares support for a context menu. Users can perform a contextual action on one item at a time.
 - In the [contextual action mode](#). This mode is a system implementation of ActionMode that displays a contextual action bar at the top of the screen with action items that affect the selected item(s). When this mode is active, users can perform an action on multiple items at once (if your app allows it).

Creating Context Menu



about_menu.xml

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<menu xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android">
    <item
        android:id="@+id/about_edit"
        android:title="@string/about_edit" />
    <item
        android:id="@+id/about_share"
        android:title="@string/about_share" />
    <item
        android:id="@+id/about_delete"
        android:title="@string/about_delete" />
</menu>
```

Creating ListView

```
 . . .
String[ ] aboutlist;
. . .
aboutlist = getResources().getStringArray(R.array.aboutlist);

ArrayAdapter<String> adapter=new
ArrayAdapter<String>(this,android.R.layout.simple_list_item_1,a
boutlist);

ListView listview = (ListView) findViewById(R.id.listView1);

listview.setAdapter(adapter);
. . .
```

Creating Floating Context Menu

1. Register the View to which the context menu should be associated by calling `registerForContextMenu()` and pass it the View.
2. Implement the `onCreateContextMenu()` method in your Activity. When the registered view receives a long-click event, the system calls your `onCreateContextMenu()` method. This is where you define the menu items, usually by inflating a `menu resource`.
3. Implement `onContextItemSelected()`. When the user selects a menu item, the system calls this method so you can perform the appropriate action.

1. Register the View

```
 . . .
String[ ] aboutlist;
. . .
aboutlist = getResources().getStringArray(R.array.aboutlist);

ArrayAdapter<String> adapter=new
ArrayAdapter<String>(this,android.R.layout.simple_list_item_1,a
boutlist);

ListView listview = (ListView) findViewById(R.id.listView1);
    listview.setAdapter(adapter);
. . .
registerForContextMenu(listview);
```

2. Implement onCreateContextMenu()

```
@Override  
public void onCreateContextMenu(ContextMenu menu, View v,  
        ContextMenuInfo menuInfo) {  
  
    super.onCreateContextMenu(menu, v, menuInfo);  
  
    MenuInflater inflater = getMenuInflater();  
    inflater.inflate(R.menu.about_menu, menu);  
  
}
```

3. Implement onContextItemSelected()

```
@Override  
public boolean onContextItemSelected(MenuItem item) {  
  
    AdapterContextMenuInfo info = (AdapterContextMenuInfo) item.getMenuInfo();  
  
    switch (item.getItemId()) {  
        case R.id.about_edit:  
            Toast.makeText(getApplicationContext(),  
                "Edit: " + info.position,  
                Toast.LENGTH_SHORT).show();  
            return true;  
        . . .  
  
        default:  
            return super.onContextItemSelected(item);  
    }  
}
```

POPUP MENU

Creating Popup Menu

- A PopupMenu is a [modal menu](#) anchored to a View.
- It appears below the anchor view if there is room, or above the view otherwise. It's useful for:
 - Providing an [overflow-style menu](#) for actions that relate to specific content.
 - Providing a second part of a command sentence (such as a button marked "Add" that produces a popup menu with different "Add" options).
 - Providing a drop-down similar to Spinner that does not retain a persistent selection.
- Note: PopupMenu is available with [API level 11 and higher](#).

popup.xml

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<menu xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android">
    <item
        android:id="@+id/popup_choice1"
        android:title="@string/popup_choice1"/>
    <item
        android:id="@+id/popup_choice2"
        android:title="@string/popup_choice2"/>
    <item
        android:id="@+id/popup_choice3"
        android:title="@string/popup_choice3"/>
</menu>
```

Activity XML

```
<RelativeLayout . . . >

    <Button
        android:id="@+id	btn_popup"
        android:layout_width="wrap_content"
        android:layout_height="wrap_content"
        android:layout_alignParentLeft="true"
        android:layout_alignParentTop="true"
        android:layout_marginLeft="20dp"
        android:layout_marginTop="20dp"
        android:text="@string	btn_popup"
        android:onClick="showPopup" />

</RelativeLayout>
```

Activity Class File

```
public void showPopup(View v) {  
    PopupMenu popup = new PopupMenu(this, v);  
  
    MenuInflater inflater = popup.getMenuInflater();  
    inflater.inflate(R.menu.popup, popup.getMenu());  
  
    . . .  
  
    popup.show();  
}
```

Activity Class File

```
popup.setOnMenuItemClickListener(new
    PopupMenu.OnMenuItemClickListener() {
        @Override
        public boolean onMenuItemClick(MenuItem item) {
            switch (item.getItemId()) {
                case R.id.popup_choice1:
                    Toast.makeText(getApplicationContext(), item.getTitle(),Toast.LENGTH_SHORT).show();
                    return true;
                . . .
                default:
                    return false;
            }
        }
    });
});
```

Summary

- **Fundamental Menu Types**
 - Options Menu
 - Context Menu
 - Popup Menu
- **Implementation**
 - XML menu resource (**res/menu/**) - <menu>, <item>, <group>
 - The <item> appearance and behavior: (android:id, android:icon, android:title, android:showAsAction)
 - To use the menu in your activity, you need to inflate the menu resource (convert the XML resource into a programmable object) using `MenuInflater.inflate()`

Summary

- **Option Menu**
 - Inflate your menu resource (defined in XML) in **onCreateOptionsMenu()**
 - Handle click events in **onOptionsItemSelected()**
- **Context Menu**
 - Register the View to which the context menu should be associated by calling **registerForContextMenu()** and pass it the View.
 - Inflate your menu resource (defined in XML) in **onCreateContextMenu()**
 - Handle click events in **onContextItemSelected()**
- **Popup Menu**
 - Inflate your menu resource (defined in XML) in **View's onClick event handler**
 - Handle click events in **OnMenuItemClickListener()**

Q & A