

Android Persistency: Files

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Notes are based on:

The Busy Coder's Guide to Android Development

by Mark L. Murphy

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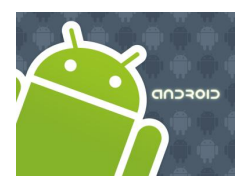
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&

Android Developers

<http://developer.android.com/index.html>



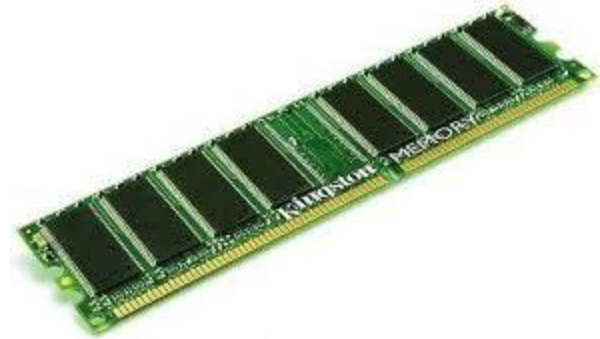


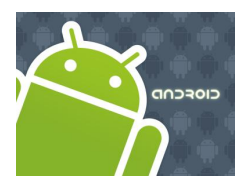
Android Files

Android uses the same *file* constructions found in a typical Java application.

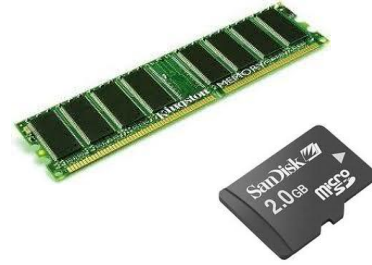
Files can be stored in the device's (small) main memory or in the much larger SD card. They can also be obtained from the network (as we will see later).

Files stored in the device's memory, stay together with other application's resources (such as icons, pictures, music, ...). We will call this type: *Resource Files*.



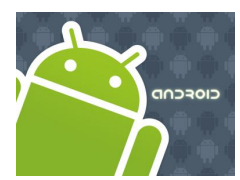


Android Files



Your data storage options are the following:

- 1. Shared Preferences** Store private primitive data in key-value pairs.
- 2. Internal Storage** Store private data on the device memory.
- 3. External Storage** Store public data on the shared external storage.
- 4. SQLite Databases** Store structured data in a private database.
- 5. Network Connection** Store data on the web with your own network server.



Android Files

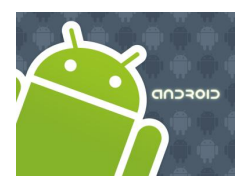
Shared Preferences. Good for a few items saved as <Name, Value>

```
private void usingPreferences () {
    // Save data in a SharedPreferences container
    // We need an Editor object to make preference changes.

    SharedPreferences settings = getSharedPreferences("my_preferred_choices",
                                                    Context.MODE_PRIVATE);
    SharedPreferences.Editor editor = settings.edit();
        editor.putString("favorite_color", "#ff0000ff");
        editor.putInt("favorite_number", 101);
    editor.commit();

    // retrieving data from SharedPreferences container
    String favColor = settings.getString("favorite_color", "default black");
    int favNumber = settings.getInt("favorite_number", 0);

    Toast.makeText(this, favColor + " " + favNumber, 1).show();
}
```

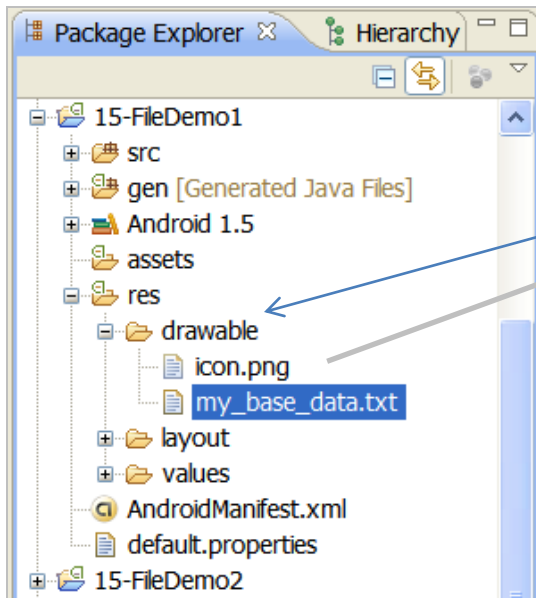


Android Files

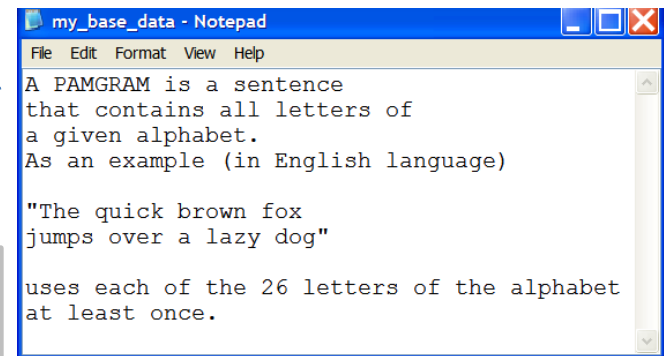
Internal Storage. Using Android Resource Files

When an application's **.apk** bytecode is deployed it may store in memory: *code*, *drawables*, and other *raw* resources (such as files). Acquiring those resources could be done using a statement such as:

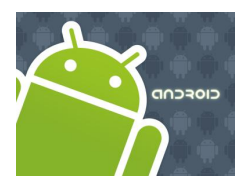
```
InputStream is = this.getResources()
                .openRawResource(R.drawable.my_base_data);
```



Use drag/drop to place file **my_base_data.txt** in **res** folder. It will be stored in the device's memory as part of the **.apk**



Spanish Pamgram
La cigüeña tocaba cada vez mejor el saxofón y el búho pedía kiwi y queso.



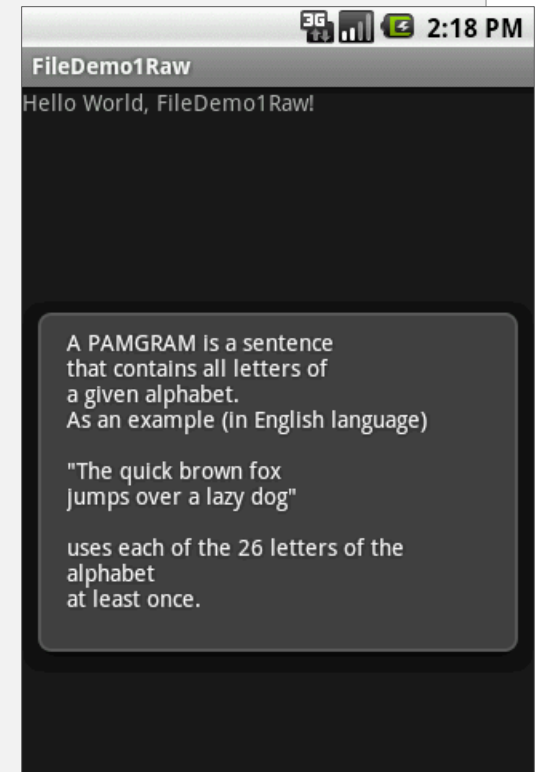
Android Files

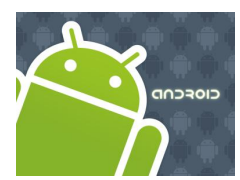
Example 0: Reading a Resource File (see previous figure)

```
//reading an embedded RAW data file
package cis493.files;
import android.app.Activity;
import android.os.Bundle;
import android.widget.Toast;
import java.io.*;

public class FileDemo1Raw extends Activity {

    @Override
    public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.main);
        try {
            PlayWithRawFiles();
        } catch (IOException e) {
            Toast.makeText(getApplicationContext(),
                "Problems: " + e.getMessage(), 1).show();
        }
    }
} // onCreate
```





Android Files

Example 1: Reading a Resource File (see previous figure)

```
public void PlayWithRawFiles() throws IOException {
    String str="";
    StringBuffer buf = new StringBuffer();

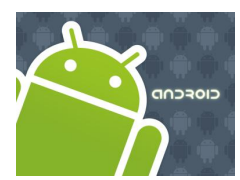
    InputStream is = this.getResources()
                    .openRawResource(R.drawable.my_base_data);

    BufferedReader reader = new BufferedReader(
                            new InputStreamReader(is));

    if (is!=null) {
        while ((str = reader.readLine()) != null) {
            buf.append(str + "\n" );
        }
    }
    is.close();
    Toast.makeText(getBaseContext(),
                  buf.toString(), Toast.LENGTH_LONG).show();
} // PlayWithRawFiles

} // FilesDemol
```



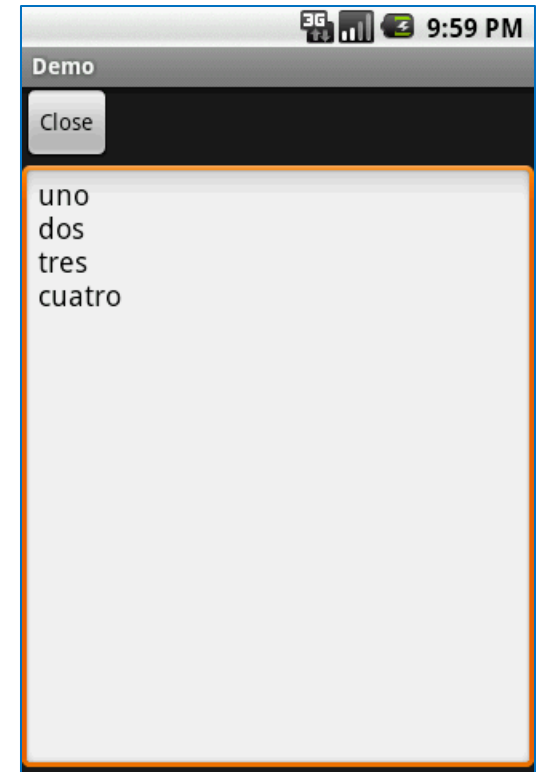


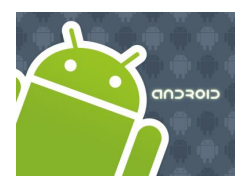
Android Files

Example2: (Internal Storage) Read/Write an Internal File.

In this example an application collects data from the UI and saves it to a persistent data file into the (limited) internal Android System Space area.

Next time the application is executed the Resource file is read and its data is shown in the UI





Android Files

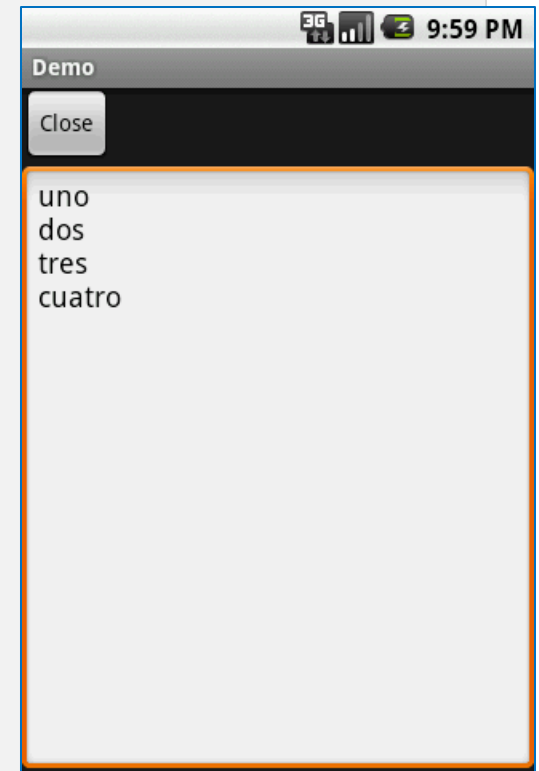
Example2: Grab from screen, save to file, retrieve from file.

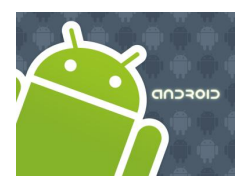
```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<LinearLayout xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
    android:layout_width="fill_parent"
    android:layout_height="fill_parent"
    android:orientation="vertical">

    <Button android:id="@+id/close"
        android:layout_width="wrap_content"
        android:layout_height="wrap_content"
        android:text="Close" />

    <EditText
        android:id="@+id/editor"
        android:layout_width="fill_parent"
        android:layout_height="fill_parent"
        android:singleLine="false"
        android:gravity="top"
        />

</LinearLayout>
```





Android Files

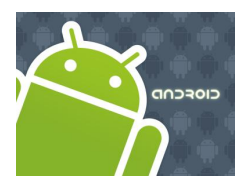
Example2: Grab from screen, save to file, retrieve from file.

```
package cis493.demo;

import android.app.Activity;
import android.os.Bundle;
import android.view.View;
import android.widget.Button;
import android.widget.EditText;
import android.widget.Toast;
import java.io.BufferedReader;
import java.io.InputStream;
import java.io.InputStreamReader;
import java.io.OutputStreamWriter;

public class Demo extends Activity {

    private final static String NOTES="notes.txt";
    private EditText editor;
```



Android Files

Example2: Grab from screen, save to file, retrieve from file.

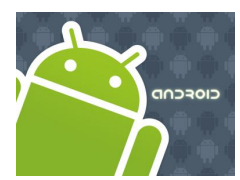
```
@Override
public void onCreate(Bundle icle) {
    super.onCreate(icle);

    setContentView(R.layout.main);
    editor=(EditText) findViewById(R.id.editor);

    Button btn=(Button) findViewById(R.id.close);

    btn.setOnClickListener(new Button.OnClickListener() {
        public void onClick(View v) {
            finish();
        }
    });
}

} //onCreate
```

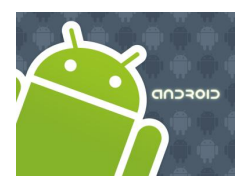


Android Files

Example2: Grab from screen, save to file, retrieve from file.

```
public void onResume() {
    super.onResume();
    try {
        InputStream in=openFileInput(NOTES);
        if (in!=null) {
            InputStreamReader tmp=new InputStreamReader(in);
            BufferedReader reader=new BufferedReader(tmp);
            String str;
            StringBuffer buf=new StringBuffer();

            while ((str = reader.readLine()) != null) {
                buf.append(str+"\n");
            }
            in.close();
            editor.setText(buf.toString());
        }//if
    }
    catch (java.io.FileNotFoundException e) {
        // that's OK, we probably haven't created it yet
    }
    catch (Throwable t) {
        Toast.makeText(this, "Exception: "+ t.toString(), 2000).show();
    }
}
```



Android Files

Example2: Grab from screen, save to file, retrieve from file.

```
public void onPause() {
    super.onPause();

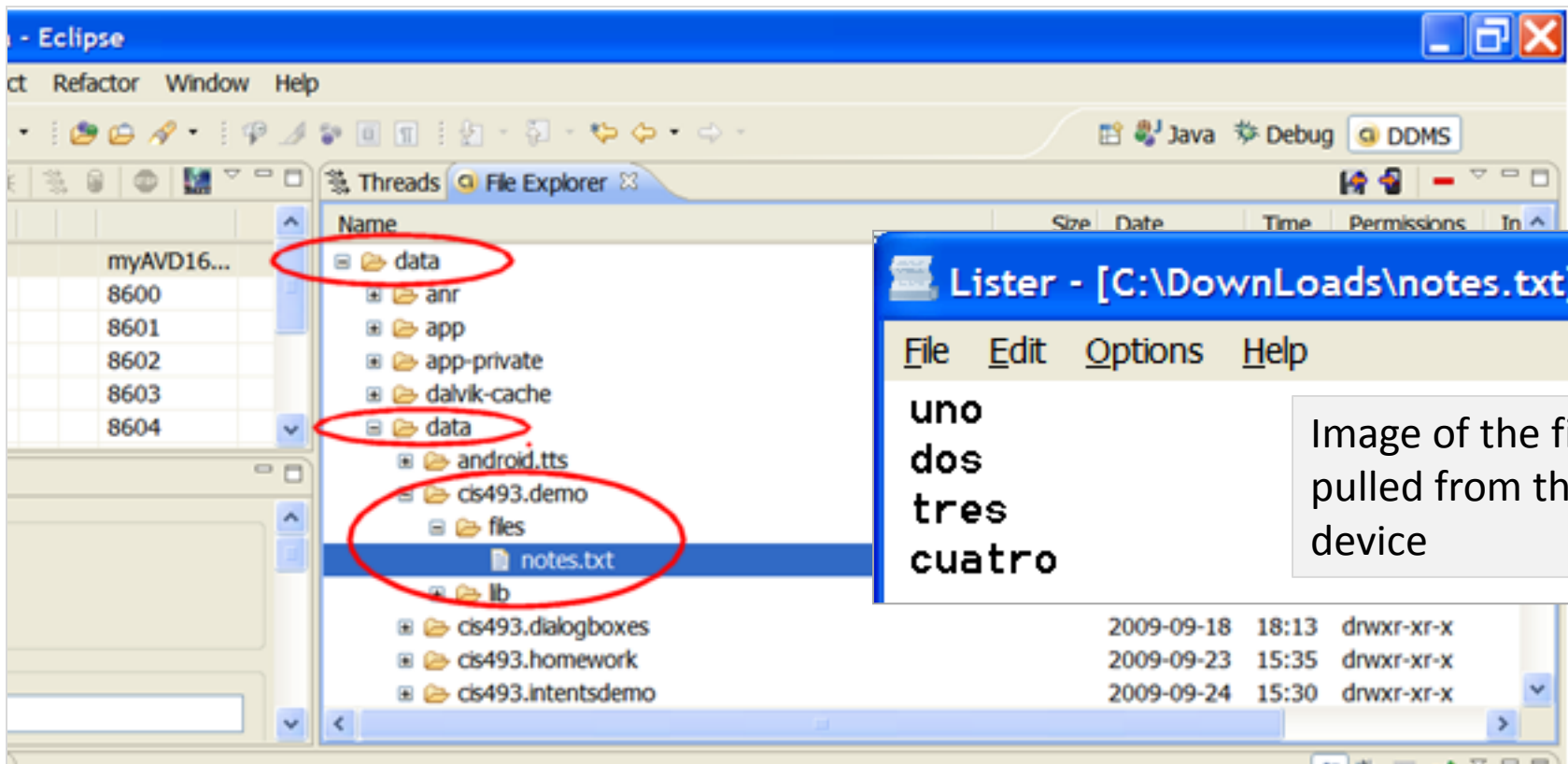
    try {
        OutputStreamWriter out=
            new OutputStreamWriter(openFileOutput("NOTES", 0));

        out.write(editor.getText().toString());
        out.close();
    }
    catch (Throwable t) {
        Toast.makeText(this, "Exception: "+ t.toString(), 2000).show();
    }
}

} //class
```

Android Files

File is stored in the phone's memory under: `/data/data/app/files`

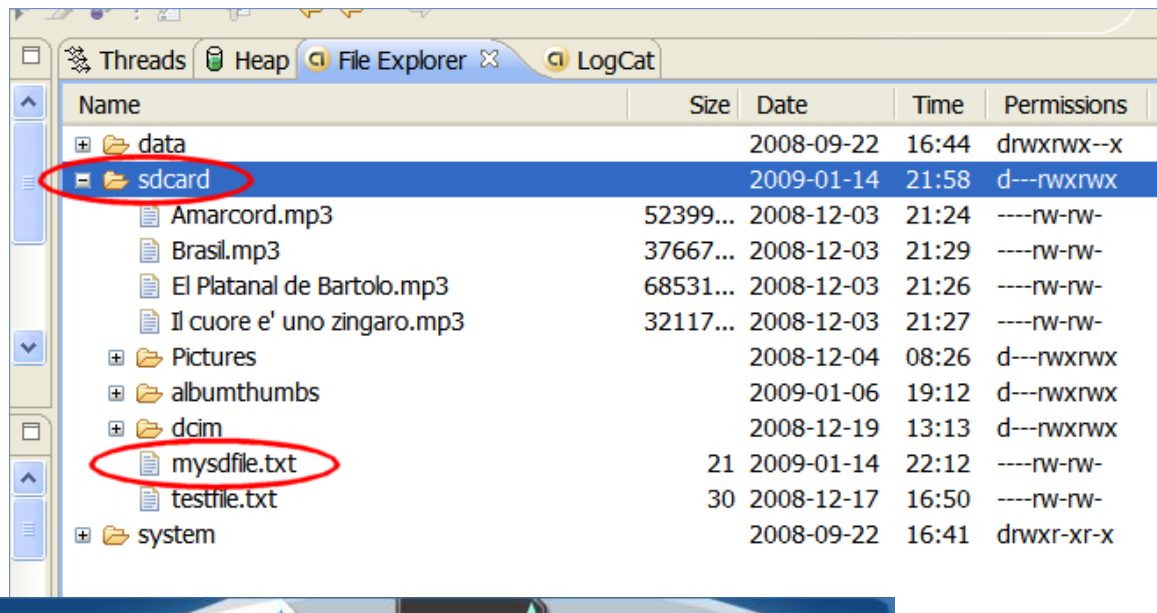


Android Files

Example 3: (External Storage)

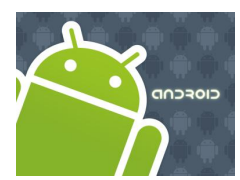
Reading/Writing to the External Device's **SD card**.

Storing data into the SD card has the obvious advantage of a larger working space.



Name	Size	Date	Time	Permissions
data		2008-09-22	16:44	drwxrwx--x
sdcard		2009-01-14	21:58	d---rwxrwx
Amarcord.mp3	52399...	2008-12-03	21:24	----rw-rw-
Brasil.mp3	37667...	2008-12-03	21:29	----rw-rw-
El Platanal de Bartolo.mp3	68531...	2008-12-03	21:26	----rw-rw-
Il cuore e' uno zingaro.mp3	32117...	2008-12-03	21:27	----rw-rw-
Pictures		2008-12-04	08:26	d---rwxrwx
albumthumbs		2009-01-06	19:12	d---rwxrwx
dcim		2008-12-19	13:13	d---rwxrwx
mysdfile.txt	21	2009-01-14	22:12	----rw-rw-
testfile.txt	30	2008-12-17	16:50	----rw-rw-
system		2008-09-22	16:41	drwxr-xr-x





Android Files

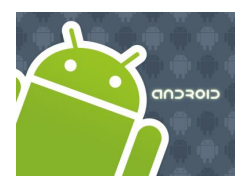


WARNING: Writing to the Device's **SD card**.

Since SDK1.6 it is necessary to request permission to write to the SD card.
Add the following clause to your AndroidManifest.xml

```
<uses-permission  
    android:name="android.permission.WRITE_EXTERNAL_STORAGE">  
</uses-permission>
```





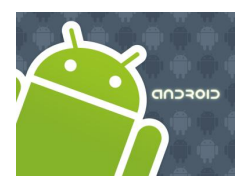
Android Files

Example 3: Reading/Writing to the Device's SD card.

Assume the SD card in this example has been named *sdcard*. We will use the **Java.io.File** class to designate the file's path. The following fragment illustrates the code strategy for output files.

```
File myFile = new File("/sdcard/mysdfile.txt");
myFile.createNewFile();

FileOutputStream fOut = new FileOutputStream(myFile);
OutputStreamWriter myOutWriter = new OutputStreamWriter(fOut);
myOutWriter.append(txtData.getText());
myOutWriter.close();
fOut.close();
```



Android Files

Example 3: Reading/Writing to the Device's SD card.

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<LinearLayout
xmlns:android=http://schemas.android.com/apk
/res/android
android:id="@+id/widget28"
android:layout_width="fill_parent"
android:layout_height="fill_parent"
android:background="#ff0000ff"
android:orientation="vertical"
>
<EditText
android:id="@+id/txtData"
android:layout_width="fill_parent"
android:layout_height="180px"
android:text="Enter some data here ..."
android:textSize="18sp" />

<Button
android:id="@+id/btnWriteSDFile"
android:layout_width="143px"
android:layout_height="44px"
android:text="1. Write SD File" />

<Button
android:id="@+id/btnClearScreen"
android:layout_width="141px"
android:layout_height="42px"
android:text="2. Clear Screen" />

<Button
android:id="@+id/btnReadSDFile"
android:layout_width="140px"
android:layout_height="42px"
android:text="3. Read SD File" />

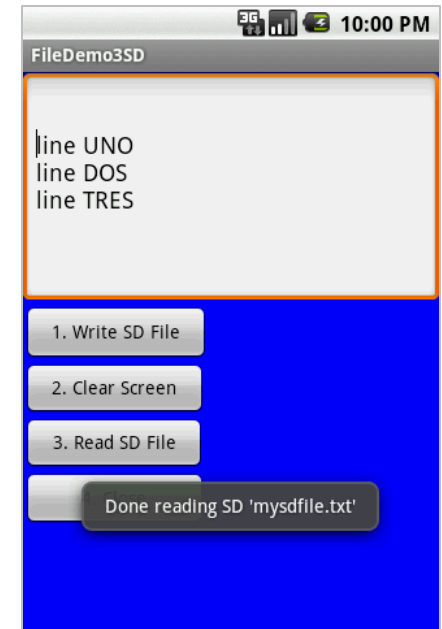
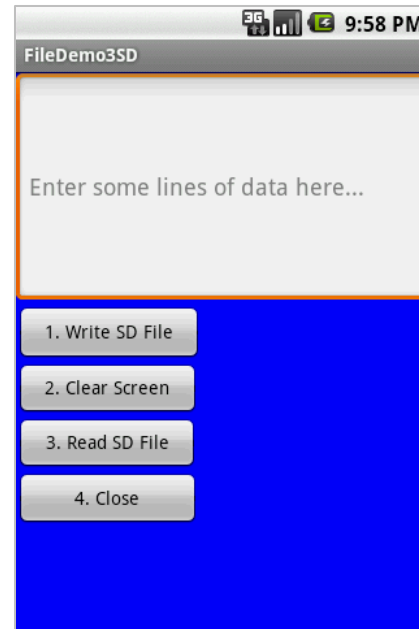
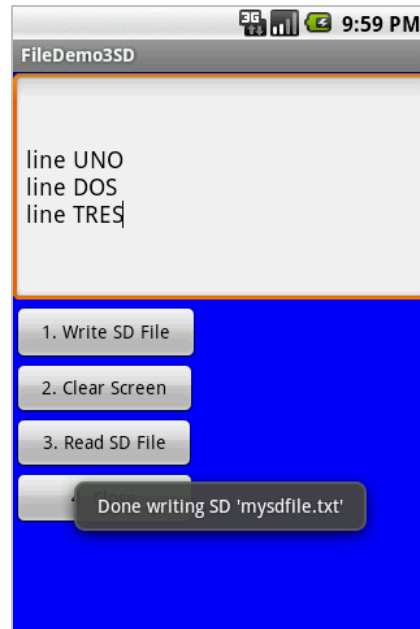
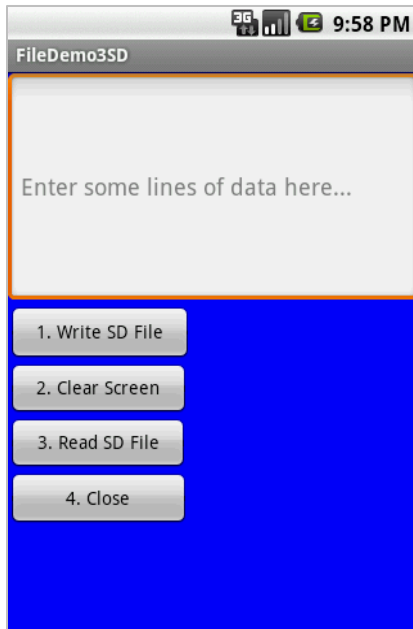
<Button
android:id="@+id/btnClose"
android:layout_width="141px"
android:layout_height="43px"
android:text="4. Close" />

</LinearLayout>

```

Android Files

Example 3: Reading/Writing to the Device's SD card.



Android Files

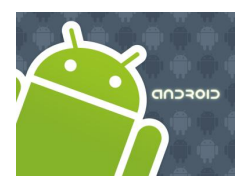
Example 3: Reading/Writing to the Device's SD card.

The screenshot shows the DDMS File Explorer panel in Eclipse. The 'sdcard' folder is selected and circled in red. Below it, a list of files and folders is displayed with columns for Name, Size, Date, Time, and Permissions. The file 'mysdfile.txt' at the bottom of the list is also circled in red.

Name	Size	Date	Time	Permissions	In
data		2009-05-18	15:41	drwxrwx--x	
sdcard		1969-12-31	19:00	d--rwxrwx	
Amarcord.mp3	52399...	2008-12-03	21:24	---rw-rw-	
Brasil.mp3	37667...	2008-12-03	21:29	---rw-rw-	
El Platano de Bartolo.mp3	68531...	2008-12-03	21:26	---rw-rw-	
Il cuore e' uno zingaro.mp3	32117...	2008-12-03	21:27	---rw-rw-	
LOST.DIR		2009-09-18	14:13	d--rwxrwx	
OrangeGradient.jpg	2435	2009-09-08	20:07	---rw-rw-	
Pictures		2008-12-04	08:26	d--rwxrwx	
Bea-Strada-Volterra-12X17.jpg	263230	2008-12-03	21:31	---rw-rw-	
Bea-Vic-Arno-Firenze.jpg	314676	2008-12-03	21:31	---rw-rw-	
Tuscany.jpg	17728...	2008-12-03	21:32	---rw-rw-	
florence-arno.jpg	18395...	2008-12-03	21:31	---rw-rw-	
Rumba-Aida.m4v	20236...	2009-01-19	22:37	---rw-rw-	
TESTFILE.TXT	30	2008-12-17	16:50	---rw-rw-	
The Girl from Ipanema.mp3	49759...	2009-09-08	20:06	---rw-rw-	
albumthumbs		2009-09-24	11:47	d--rwxrwx	
brianwood_golf.jpg	15645	2009-09-08	15:04	---rw-rw-	
contacts.csv	13081	2009-05-20	09:43	---rw-rw-	
contactsVM.csv	7104	2009-06-26	12:17	---rw-rw-	
dancelogo2.jpg	2967	2009-09-08	15:21	---rw-rw-	
dcim		2009-09-09	03:57	d--rwxrwx	
100ANDRO		2009-07-03	17:04	d--rwxrwx	
Camera		2009-07-03	17:05	d--rwxrwx	
golf_cleveland.jpg	4582	2009-09-08	15:13	---rw-rw-	
myDB	9216	2009-05-18	15:47	---rw-rw-	
myFirstAndroidDb.db4o	1207	2009-03-12	14:41	---rw-rw-	
mysdfile.txt	27	2009-09-24	21:59	---rw-rw-	

Using DDMS *File Explorer* panel to inspect the SD card.



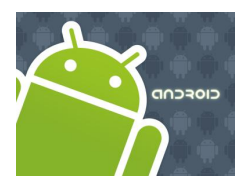


Android Files

Example 3: Reading/Writing to the Device's SD card.

```
package cis493.filedemo;
import java.io.*;
import android.app.Activity;
import android.os.Bundle;
import android.view.*;
import android.view.View.OnClickListener;
import android.widget.*;

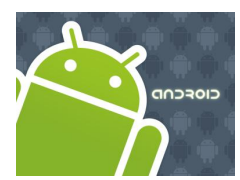
public class FileDemo3SD extends Activity {
    // GUI controls
    EditText txtData;
    Button btnWriteSDFile;
    Button btnReadSDFile;
    Button btnClearScreen;
    Button btnClose;
    @Override
    public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
        super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
        setContentView(R.layout.main);
        // bind GUI elements with local controls
        txtData = (EditText) findViewById(R.id.txtData);
        txtData.setHint("Enter some lines of data here...");
    }
}
```



Android Files

Example 3: Reading/Writing to the Device's SD card.

```
btnWriteSDFile = (Button) findViewById(R.id.btnWriteSDFile);
btnWriteSDFile.setOnClickListener(new OnClickListener() {
    @Override
    public void onClick(View v) {
        // write on SD card file data from the text box
        try {
            File myFile = new File("/sdcard/mysdfile.txt");
            myFile.createNewFile();
            FileOutputStream fOut = new FileOutputStream(myFile);
            OutputStreamWriter myOutWriter = new OutputStreamWriter(fOut);
            myOutWriter.append(txtData.getText());
            myOutWriter.close();
            fOut.close();
            Toast.makeText(getBaseContext(),
                "Done writing SD 'mysdfile.txt'",
                Toast.LENGTH_SHORT).show();
        } catch (Exception e) {
            Toast.makeText(getBaseContext(),
                e.getMessage(), Toast.LENGTH_SHORT).show();
        }
    }
}); // btnWriteSDFile
```



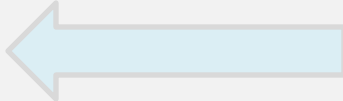
Android Files

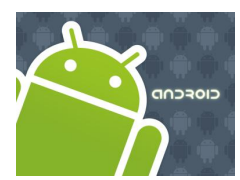
Example 3: Reading/Writing to the Device's SD card.

```

btnReadSDFile = (Button) findViewById(R.id.btnReadSDFile);
btnReadSDFile.setOnClickListener(new OnClickListener() {
    @Override
    public void onClick(View v) {
        // write on SD card file data from the text box
        try {
            File myFile = new File("/sdcard/mysdfile.txt");
            FileInputStream fIn = new FileInputStream(myFile);
            BufferedReader myReader = new BufferedReader(new InputStreamReader(fIn));
            String aDataRow = "";
            String aBuffer = "";
            while ((aDataRow = myReader.readLine()) != null) {
                aBuffer += aDataRow + "\n";
            }
            txtData.setText(aBuffer);
            myReader.close();
            Toast.makeText(getApplicationContext(),
                "Done reading SD 'mysdfile.txt'", 1).show();
        } catch (Exception e) {
            Toast.makeText(getApplicationContext(), e.getMessage(), 1).show();
        }
    } // onClick
}); // btnReadSDFile

```


 A light blue arrow with a thin black outline, pointing horizontally to the left. It is positioned to the right of the code block, specifically pointing towards the line where the file path is defined.



Android Files

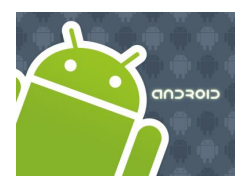
Example 3: Reading/Writing to the Device's SD card.

```
btnClearScreen = (Button) findViewById(R.id.btnClearScreen);
btnClearScreen.setOnClickListener(new OnClickListener() {
    @Override
    public void onClick(View v) {
        // clear text box
        txtData.setText("");
    }
}); // btnClearScreen

btnClose = (Button) findViewById(R.id.btnClose);
btnClose.setOnClickListener(new OnClickListener() {
    @Override
    public void onClick(View v) {
        // clear text box
        finish();
    }
}); // btnClose

} // onCreate

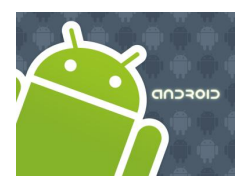
} // class
```

Android Files

Example 3: Reading/Writing to the Device's SD card. You may also use the **Scanner/PrintWriter** classes, as suggested below:

```
private void testScannerFiles() {
    // Add to manifest the following permission request
    // <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.WRITE_EXTERNAL_STORAGE" />
    try {
        String SDcardPath = Environment.getExternalStorageDirectory().getPath();
        String mySDFileName = SDcardPath + "/" + "mysdfiletest.txt";
        tvMessage.setText("Writing to: " + mySDFileName);
        PrintWriter outfile= new PrintWriter( new FileWriter(mySDFileName) );
            outfile.println("Hola Android");
            outfile.println("Adios Android");
            outfile.println(new Date().toString());
        outfile.close();
        // read SD-file, show records.
        Scanner infile= new Scanner(new FileReader(mySDFileName));
        String inString= "\n\nReading from: " + mySDFileName + "\n";
        while(infile.hasNextLine()) {
            inString += infile.nextLine() + "\n";
        }
        tvMessage.append(inString);
        infile.close();
    } catch (FileNotFoundException e) {
        tvMessage.setText( "Error: " + e.getMessage());
    } catch (IOException e) {
        tvMessage.setText( "Error: " + e.getMessage());
    }
}
```



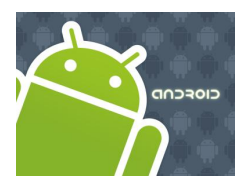
Android Files

Example 4: Some more ideas on using the Scanner/PrintWriter classes.

```
// writing
FileOutputStream fos = openFileOutput("XYZ",
Context.MODE_PRIVATE);

PrintWriter outfile= new PrintWriter( fos );
outfile.println("Hola Android");
outfile.close();

// reading
InputStream is = openFileInput("XYZ");
Scanner infile= new Scanner(is);
String inString= "";
while(infile.hasNextLine()) {
    inString = infile.nextLine();
}
```



Files

Questions ?

Files

Accessing the SD card

```
String spPath = "";
```

```
sdPath = Environment.getExternalStorageDirectory()  
        .getAbsolutePath()  
        + "/myFileName.txt" ;
```