SMART DEVICE PROGRAMMING

6133

DATA PASSING BETWEEN ACTIVITIES USING INTENT

✓ In the first (sending) activity:

1. Create the Intent object.

2. Put data or extras into that intent. 3. Start the new activity with startActivity().

✓ In the second (receiving) activity:

1. Get the intent object the activity was started with.

2. Retrieve the data or extras from the Intent object.

- ✓ You can use either intent data and intent extras to pass data between the activities.

- ✓ The intent data can hold only one piece of information. A URI representing the location of the data you want to operate on.

- ✓ That URI could be a web page URL (http://), a telephone number (tel://), a geographic location (geo://) or any other custom URI you define.

- ✓ Intent extras are for any other arbitrary data you want to pass to the started activity.

- ✓ To put data into the intent extras you can use any of the Intent class's putExtra() methods, or create your own bundle and put it into the intent with putExtras().

- ✓ To add data to an explicit intent from the originating activity, create the intent object

  Intent messageIntent = new Intent(this, ShowMessageActivity.class);

- ✓ Use a putExtra() method with a key to put data into the intent extras.
- ✓ The Intent class defines many putExtra() methods for different kinds of data:

  messageIntent.putExtra("msg","this is my message");

  messageIntent.putExtra("x" 100);

  messageIntent.putExtra("y", 500);

- ✓ Start the activity with the intent as usual:

  startActivity(messageIntent);

✓ When you start an activity with an intent, the started activity has access to the intent and the data it contains.

✓ To retrieve the intent the activity was started with, use the getIntent() method:

Intent intent = getIntent();

✓ Use getData() to get the URI from that intent:

Uri locationUri = getData();

- To get the extras out of the intent, you'll need to know the keys for the key/value pairs.

- You can use the standard Intent extras if you used those, or you can use the keys you defined in the originating activity

- Use one of the getExtra() methods to extract extra data out of the intent object:

  String message = intent.getStringExtra("msg");

  int positionX = intent.getIntExtra("x");

  int positionY = intent.getIntExtra("y");