

Android Beginnings

Aug 2016

Greetings,

1 I try to teach the same basic stuff every month in the Android class. This past month
2 it didn't go so well and we didn't cover what we usually do. So I will add some things
3 here that I think the class should learn. I have found that people don't need
4 to remember all the techy stuff if they just remember that its POSSIBLE to do the
5 stuff they don't remember. Knowing its possible makes the venture to figure out
6 HOW more likely to succeed.

7
8 **IN THE BEGINNING, THERE WAS GOOGLE**, and it was good. Not so much now.
9 Google makes the Android Operating System program and **gives** it to phone makers
10 like Motorola, and HTC and Samsung. The phone makers adapt it to the phones
11 they make and modify it and **sell** it to the Phone Companies like Verizon, and T-Mobile
12 and Sprint and ATT. Then, every three months or so, Google releases their latest
13 version and the phone makers and telco's make more changes and THAT'S THE
14 REASON we don't see the same thing on our phones in class when we look at
15 the same page on our neighbors phone. Mostly, they add features.
16 Phones have one **Home Page** which is divided up into multiple Pages/**Panels**.
17 (my terms). My Droid Bionic has 5 home pages and I could look at the bottom of
18 each page see little squares at the very bottom with one being brighter. Those
19 disappeared at the last update a couple of months ago, but a Fixed Page
20 (Task Bar?) appeared and shows Five (was four) Apps that don't vary as you
21 move from panel to panel. Panel to panel may be horizontal or vertical, depending
22 on . . . (Phone Co ?)

23
24 **Notification Bar** is the top line when looking at any Home Page/**Panel**.
25 **NOTIFICATIONS** are a big deal you may never find (pull down). If you miss a phone
26 call, there will be a one line message on the Notifications Page. If you have a new Voice
27 Mail msg, it will be on the Notifications Page. If some of your Apps have an Update
28 available or already updated, you will have a **Notification**. A new feature is to be able
29 to quickly slide the message off the screen (delete it) with one quick swipe.

30

31 **APPs AND WIDGETs** (Available on Settings+Apps, top of co

32 There are two kinds of Apps available free from Google at **PLAY STORE**: APPs
33 and Widgets. Widgets are always running -- they don't have to be Started.
34 I have one for the NETWORK, one for the TIME and one for the BATTERY.

35
36 **eMAIL**
37 To run an Android, you must set up a Google email account (**gmail.com**). That's good.
38 Google backs up your Mail, your Contacts and Calendar and Sync(hronizes) to
39 keep them identical every few seconds. You can copy your email addresses to Google.
40 You **don't need** to notify everyone about your new email address -- stick with the
41 **one you have**. You can install **K-9 Mail** (and others) to **copy** your (lets say) AOL mail **to**
42 your phone without deleting it from AOL (I do it with Outlook with 4 computers).

43
44 **SECURITY**
45 Apps can be installed from Google, Verizon, Amazon and bad guys. Stick with
46 Google. They inspect them for viruses and your security wont let you install from these
47 other guys. You will be asked to turn off this security for a few minutes. Cross your
48 fingers -- NOTHING IS FREE.

49
50 **APPs**
51 Set up App access in three tiers/levels: Task Bar, **Panels**, and List of Apps.
52 My Task Bar has the 5 Apps I use most frequently: **Alarms, People(contacts), Apps,**
53 **Phone**, and **Play Store**. Downloads from Google Play go to your list of Apps. To
54 copy a Shortcut to a Home Page: choose the page, go to Apps, hold down on App for
55 three seconds and a copy (short cut) will go to that Home Page. (It's a short cut.)

56
57 **ALARMs**
58 I set an alarm every time I need to Do something or Be somewhere. I have alarms
59 set for Dr Apptmts weeks away. Most calendars don't Alarm. **Alarm Clock Xtreme**

60
61 **PASSWORDS**
62 I have an App called **SAFE NOTES** where I keep passwords and UserNames.
63 It requires a password to open the list of passwords.