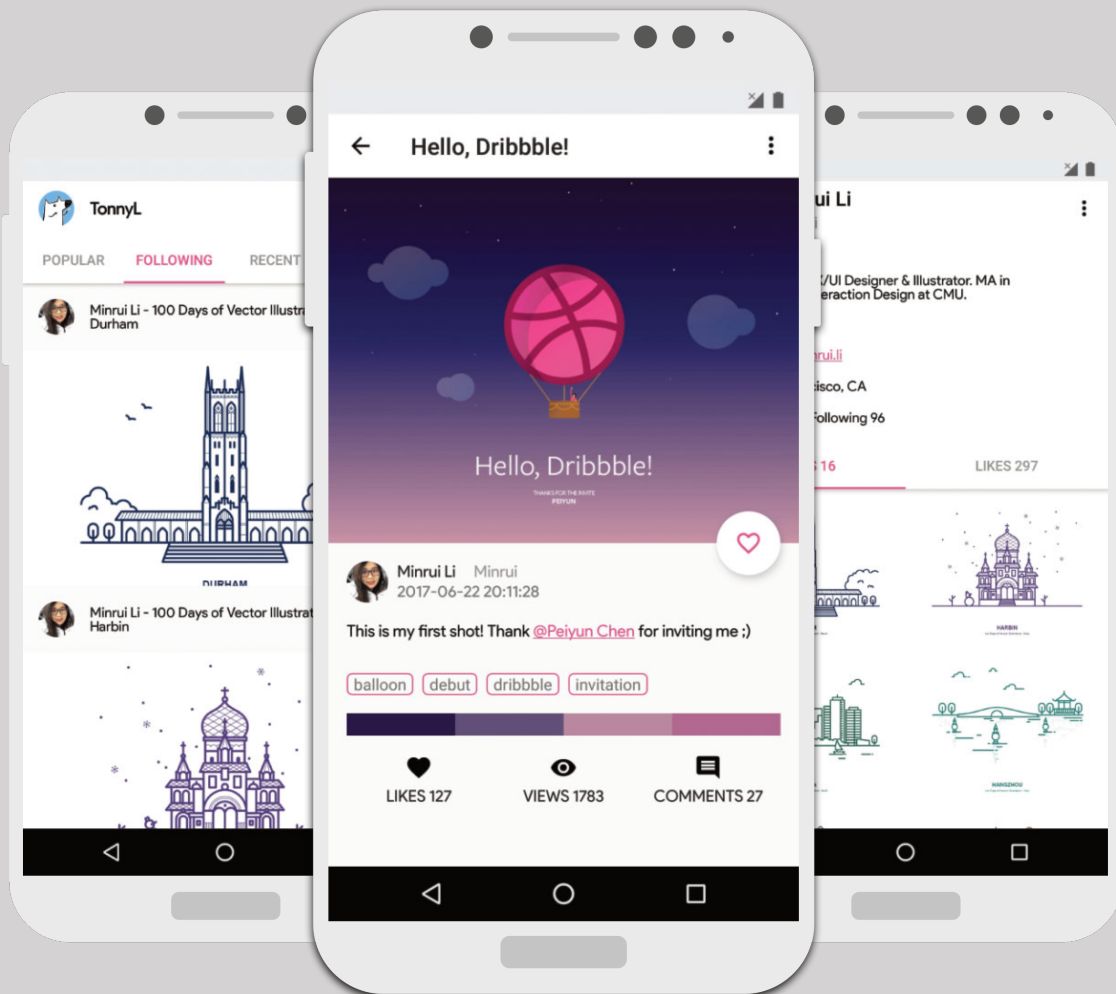


What Kotlin Means for Your Android Apps





At Google I/O 2017, Google announced official support of Kotlin as a language for Android development. This first-party support means that developers can now write Android apps using Kotlin with first-party tools and language support from Google, and developers themselves are very excited.

But you may be wondering what it means for your Android apps going forward.

What is Kotlin?

Kotlin is a modern language that was created to improve some of the pain points that developers have encountered over the many years of using Java and other similar languages. It was first released in July 2011 and has been improved upon many times since as it gathers steam in the Android community.

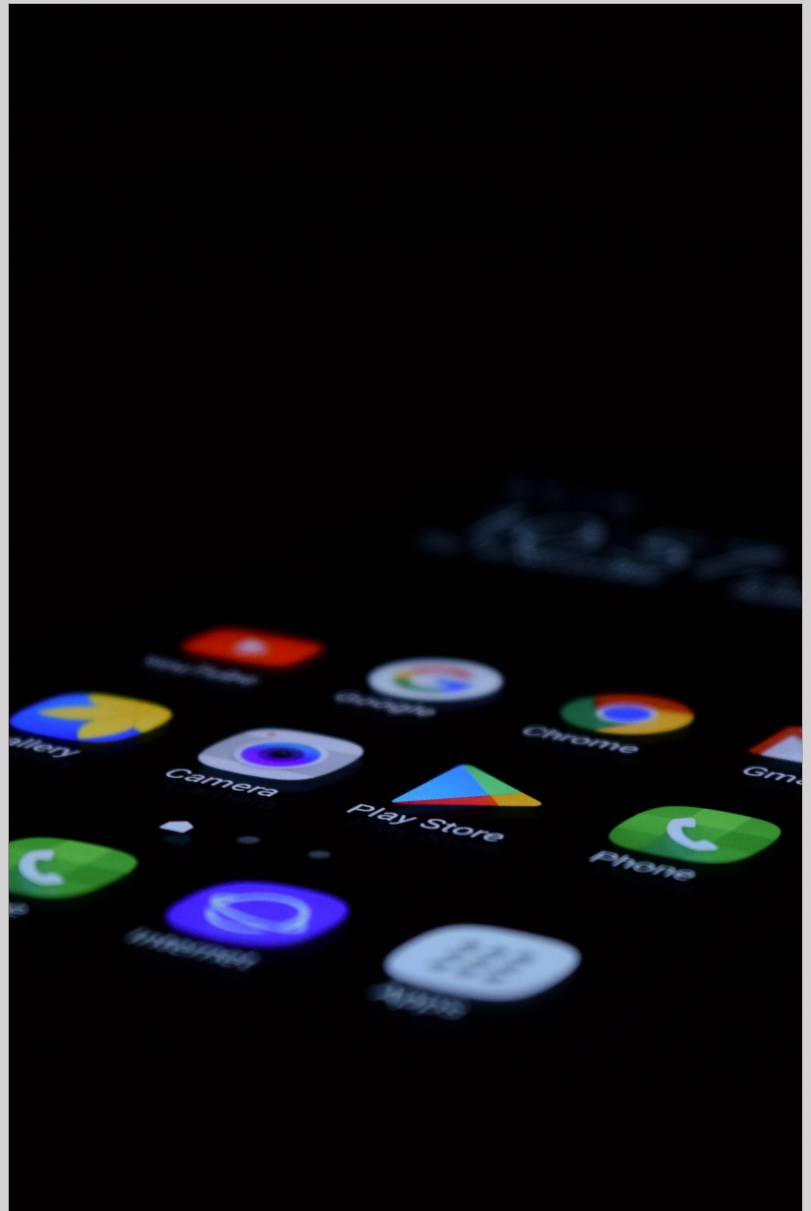
And while it is a relatively new language, the good news is that Kotlin is interoperable with Java, meaning that developers can continue to use the Java Libraries they already know how to use. Legacy code written in Java can easily be migrated to Kotlin, making it easier to gradually transition current apps to the new language.



Few bugs, better code.

Your developers are excited about Kotlin because it makes their lives easier. Something that used to require hundreds of lines of code may now require just a few lines in Kotlin. It essentially allows developers to do all the same things that they are currently doing in Java, but with less code. And less code means fewer bugs and less time required to manage and update the app in the long run.

Kotlin also reduces bugs in code because it enforces constraints that let developers sidestep errors often seen in older languages, providing them with the ability to discover issues within the code as it is written. This empowers developers to find and fix issues before they affect users, ultimately leading to a better user experience, higher Play Store reviews and more downloads.



The future of Kotlin.

Kotlin is not a magical solution to all Android development problems, but it does make solving them easier. Because Kotlin works well with Java, developers can convert a single file from Java to Kotlin mid-project, without having to rewrite old Java code.

And while this means that you don't have to move to Kotlin, at least not immediately, it is time to start to plan for the transition.

Android developers at prominent companies like Basecamp and Pinterest have already switched over to Kotlin and have begun to see the benefits in their projects as it has improved work quality and speed. And as more and more companies start to rely on Kotlin to help their developers become more efficient, the new language needs to be front of mind.

```
package hello

fun main(args: Array<String>) {
    println("Hello World!")
}
```

Ready to make the switch?

Big Nerd Ranch has two options to help your developers move into this new era of Android development. We offer two-day training for those who simply need to learn Kotlin, or a longer seven-day training for those who want to know more about migrating Java apps to the new language.

And if you don't have an Android team of your own, or need to get to market as fast as possible, our developers are happy to complete the transition for you. We've been building apps with Kotlin for years, and we're excited to implement the language in your apps too.

Kotlin won't fully replace Java today, but it is the way forward. Training your developers now will free them to improve current projects, create new projects more efficiently and experiment with new technologies to drive your business forward.



You're going to need a bigger nerd.

Since 2001, Big Nerd Ranch has worked to bring brilliance to life. We achieve this by establishing true partnerships with our clients and by providing a team of engineers, designers, QA testers, and project strategists to guide your digital product from discovery to launch. These same Nerds can join your company's team to take a project across the finish line or train them on the latest and greatest technologies.

We're proud to work with startups and Fortune 100 companies building authentically useful applications and transforming vision into advantage.

And, as a **winner of the 2019 AJC Work/Life Balance Award**, we work as hard on our culture as we do on your projects.

Learn more at www.bignerdranch.com or contact us hello@bignerdranch.com

