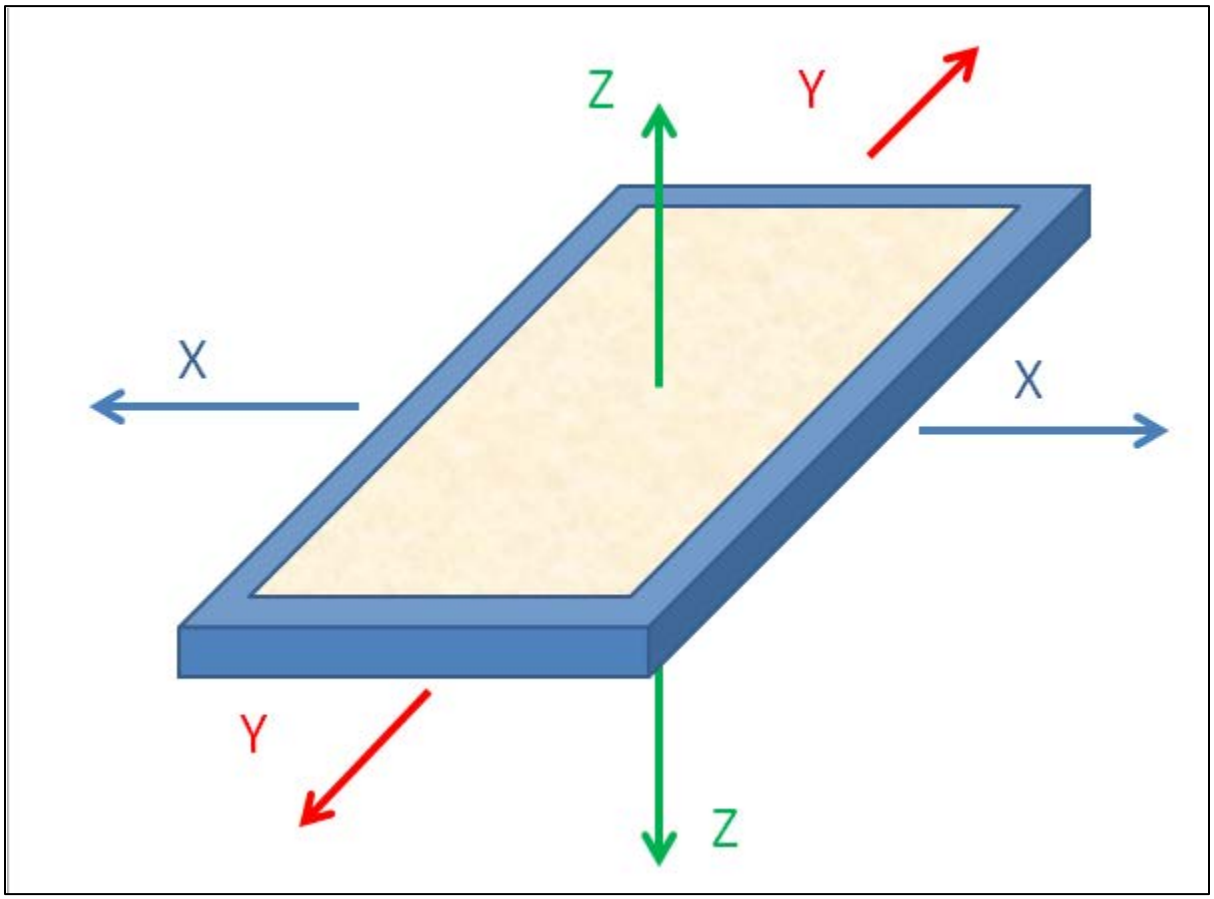
Mobile App Design Project
Pedometer Using Accelerometer Sensor

Description:

The Android Phone has a three direction accelerometer sensor that reads the change in speed along three axis (x, y, and z). Programs using the accelerometer read this information to give the phones orientation in space or the phones change in speed and direction. In addition, the gravity type for the phone can be changed based on gravitational pull on different heavenly bodies (Earth, moon, Mars, Jupiter . . .). Satellite companies have experimented with using Android device based CPU's and programming to control Satellite guidance systems. (http://www.tgdaily.com/mobility-brief/69359-android-in-space-satellite-controlled-using-nexus-one)

Image of Acceleration Values:



This Application will use the Accelerometer to display the X, Y, and Z values and use the Y value to calculate and count the steps a user takes while carrying the phone in their pocket. The App will also have a SeekBar object to set the sensitivity of the change in values on the Y Axis during a step or shake.

Phase 1: Create the App Project

Process:

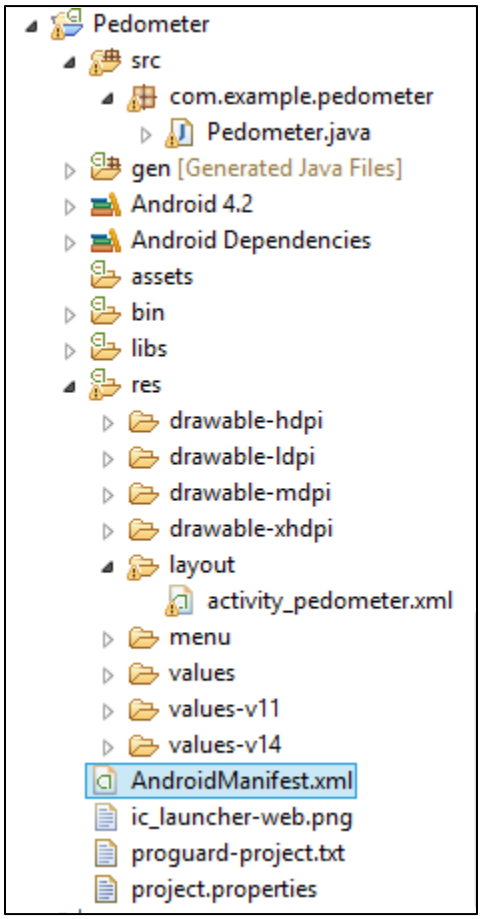
1. Start Eclipse and select New Project -> “Android Application Project”
2. Fill out the fields with the following:
    a. Application Name: Pedometer
    b. Project name: Pedometer
    c. Package name: com.example.pedometer
3. Click Next
4. Click Next at the Configure Project Screen
5. Click Next at the Configure Launcher Screen
6. Click Next at the Create Activity Screen
7. Fill out the following fields in the New Blank Activity Screen
    a. Activity Name: Pedometer
    b. LayoutName: activity_pedometer
    c. Navigation Type: None
8. Click “Finish”

Phase 2: Android Manifest XML and the XML user interface design

Because we will be shaking and moving the phone – we need to 'freeze' the phone's screen orientation in the Portrait mode. This is accomplished by adding a line of code to the Android Manifest. Then we will build the User Interface on the activity_pedometer.xml file.

Process:

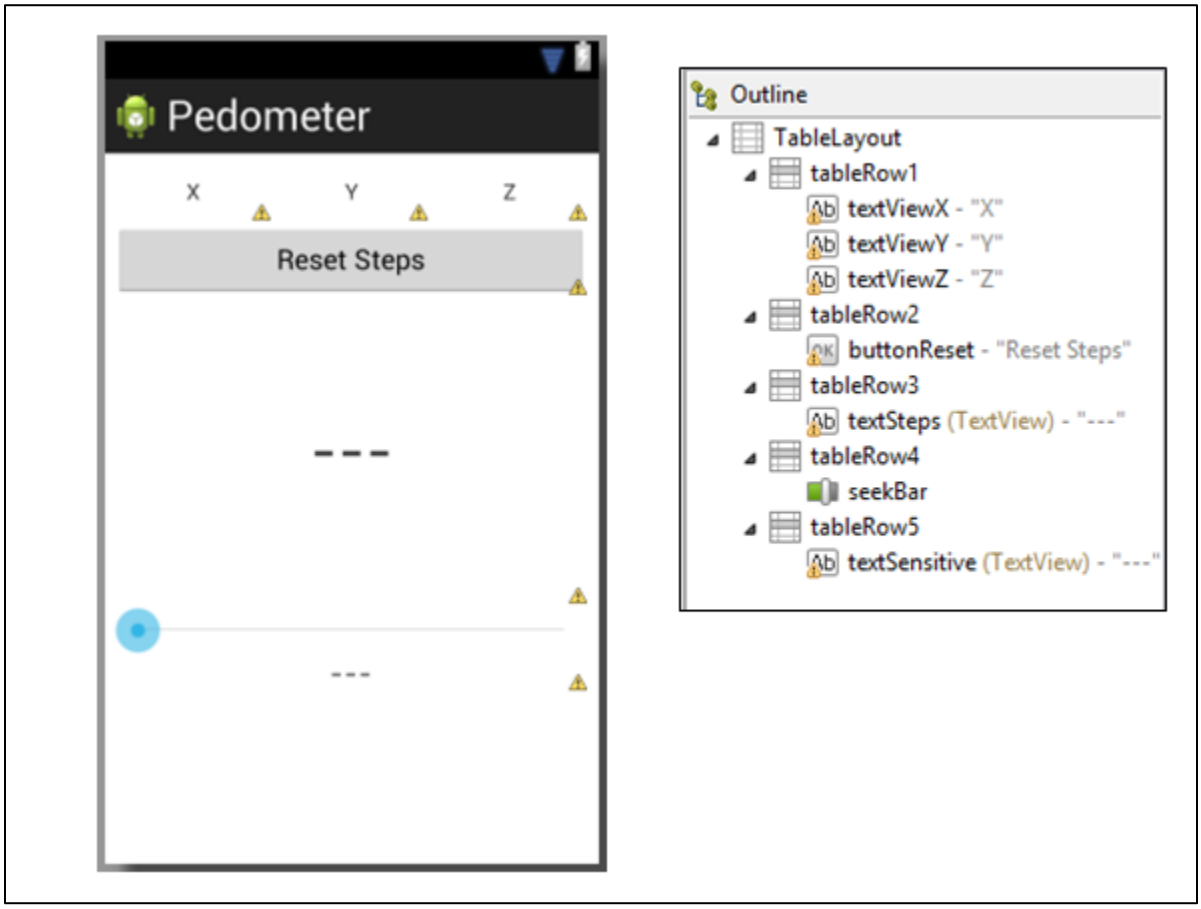
1. Open the Android Manifest.xml file



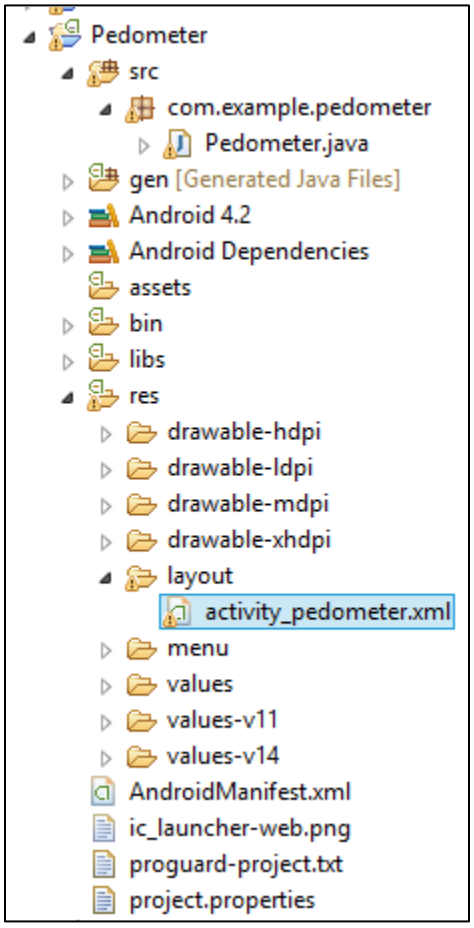
2. Modify the existing code and insert the screen orientation setting at Line 19 inside the <activity tag with the code: `android:screenOrientation = "portrait"`

```
1  <?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
2  <manifest xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
3      package="com.example.pedometer"
4      android:versionCode="1"
5      android:versionName="1.0" >
6
7      <uses-sdk
8          android:minSdkVersion="8"
9          android:targetSdkVersion="16" />
10
11     <application
12         android:allowBackup="true"
13         android:icon="@drawable/ic_launcher"
14         android:label="@string/app_name"
15         android:theme="@style/AppTheme" >
16         <activity
17             android:name="com.example.pedometer.Pedometer"
18             android:label="@string/app_name"
19             android:screenOrientation = "portrait" >
20             <intent-filter>
21                 <action android:name="android.intent.action.MAIN" />
22
23                 <category android:name="android.intent.category.LAUNCHER" />
24             </intent-filter>
25         </activity>
26     </application>
27
28 </manifest>
```

3. We will now design the User interface. The objects and locations within the user interface are shown below:



4. Open the activity_pedometer.xml file



5. Start the XML file with a Table Layout Tag:

```
1  <TableLayout xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android"
2      xmlns:tools="http://schemas.android.com/tools"
3      android:layout_width="match_parent"
4      android:layout_height="match_parent"
5      android:padding="5dp"
6      android:stretchColumns="1,2,3"
7      tools:context=".Main" >
8
```

6. In Table Row 1 we will have three TextView objects to display the X, Y, and Z values from the Accelerometer Sensor. Write the code for TableRow 1

```
        <TableRow
            android:id="@+id/tableRow1"
            android:layout_width="wrap_content"
            android:layout_height="wrap_content" >

            <TextView
                android:id="@+id/textViewX"
                android:layout_width="wrap_content"
                android:layout_height="40dp"
                android:gravity = "center"
                android:layout_column = "1"
                android:text="X" />

            <TextView
                android:id="@+id/textViewY"
                android:layout_width="wrap_content"
                android:layout_height="40dp"
                android:gravity = "center"
                android:layout_column = "2"
                android:text="Y" />

            <TextView
                android:id="@+id/textViewZ"
                android:layout_width="wrap_content"
                android:layout_height="40dp"
                android:gravity = "center"
                android:layout_column = "3"
                android:text="Z" />

        </TableRow>

```

7. In Table Row 2 we will place the Reset Button that will call the method ‘resetSteps’ to reset the step counter.

```
39
40          <TableRow
41              android:id="@+id/tableRow2"
42              android:layout_width="wrap_content"
43              android:layout_height="wrap_content" >
44
45              <Button
46                  android:id="@+id/buttonReset"
47                  android:layout_width="wrap_content"
48                  android:layout_height="wrap_content"
49                  android:layout_span = "4"
50                  android:onClick = "resetSteps"
51                  android:text="Reset Steps" />
52
53          </TableRow>
54
```

8. In Table Row Three we will have a Large TextView object that will display the Steps Centered horizontally, vertically, and in a large font size.

```
54
55          <TableRow
56              android:id="@+id/tableRow3"
57              android:layout_width="wrap_content"
58              android:layout_height="wrap_content" >
59
60              <TextView
61                  android:id="@+id/textSteps"
62                  android:layout_width="wrap_content"
63                  android:layout_height="200dp"
64                  android:layout_span="4"
65                  android:gravity="center_vertical|center_horizontal"
66                  android:text="---"
67                  android:textSize="40sp" />
68
69          </TableRow>
70
```

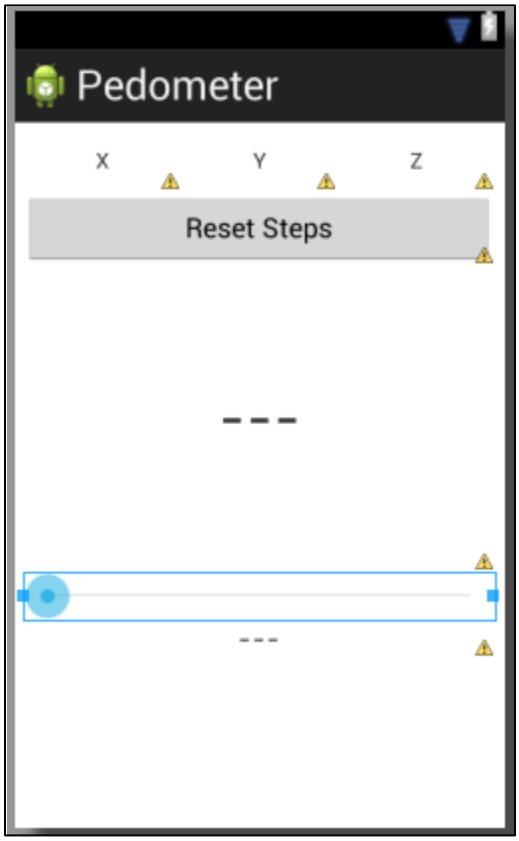
9. In Table Row Four we will have a SeekBar object that we will use to set the threshold value

```
70
71          <TableRow
72              android:id="@+id/tableRow4"
73              android:layout_width="wrap_content"
74              android:layout_height="wrap_content" >
75
76              <SeekBar
77                  android:id="@+id/seekBar"
78                  android:layout_width="match_parent"
79                  android:layout_height="wrap_content"
80                  android:max = "20"
81                  android:layout_span = "4" />
82
83          </TableRow>
84
```

10. In Table Row 5 we will have a TextView object to display the threshold. We will also close out the TableLayout object and finish the XML

```
84
85          <TableRow
86              android:id="@+id/tableRow5"
87              android:layout_width="wrap_content"
88              android:layout_height="wrap_content" >
89
90              <TextView
91                  android:id="@+id/textSensitive"
92                  android:layout_width="wrap_content"
93                  android:layout_height="wrap_content"
94                  android:layout_span="4"
95                  android:gravity="center_vertical|center_horizontal"
96                  android:text="---"
97                  android:textSize="20dp" />
98
99          </TableRow>
100
101 </TableLayout>
102
```

11. The User Interface should look like this:



Phase 3: Writing the Code for the Pedometer Class

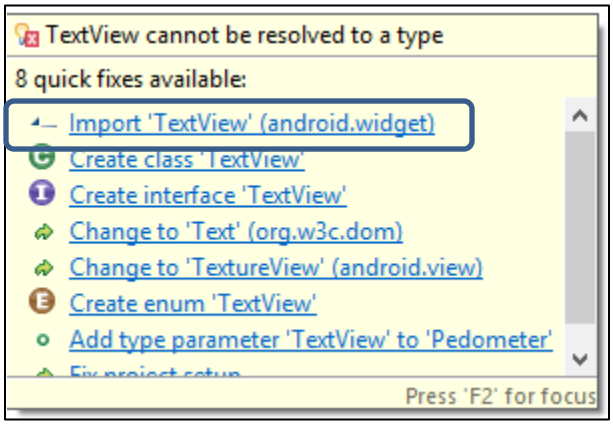
The Pedometer Class will create the model to display the accelerometer X, Y, and Z data, have a Sensor Listener to read the Accelerometer, and have the algorithm to detect steps using the threshold value.

Process:

1. Write the import statements for the Android Classes used within the Pedometer Class

```
1  package com.example.pedometer;
2
3  import android.hardware.Sensor;
4  import android.hardware.SensorEvent;
5  import android.hardware.SensorEventListener;
6  import android.hardware.SensorManager;
7  import android.os.Bundle;
8  import android.app.Activity;
9  import android.content.Context;
10 import android.view.Menu;
11 import android.view.View;
12 import android.widget.Button;
13 import android.widget.SeekBar;
14 import android.widget.SeekBar.OnSeekBarChangeListener;
15 import android.widget.TextView;
16
```

Note! You can skip this step and 'include' the imports as you write the code. When an error occurs, hover over the error and select 'Import ' (Usually the first suggestion from Eclipse)



2. Define the Fields for the Pedometer Class

```
16
17 public class Pedometer extends Activity {
18
19     // Display Fields for Accelerometer
20     private TextView textViewX;
21     private TextView textViewY;
22     private TextView textViewZ;
23
24     // Display Field for Sensitivity
25     private TextView textSensitive;
26
27     //Display for Steps
28     private TextView textViewSteps;
29
30     // Reset Button
31     private Button buttonReset;
32
33     // Sensor Manager
34     private SensorManager sensorManager;
35     private float acceleration;
36
37     // Values to Calculate Number of Steps
38     private float previousY;
39     private float currentY;
40     private int numSteps;
41
42     // SeekBar Fields
43     private SeekBar seekBar;
44     private int threshold; // Point at which we want to trigger a 'step'
45
```

3. Start the onCreate() method by attaching the fields to the XML User Interface objects

```
45
46      @Override
47      protected void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {
48          super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);
49          setContentView(R.layout.activity_pedometer);
50
51          // Attach objects to XML View
52          textViewX = (TextView)findViewById(R.id.textViewX);
53          textViewY = (TextView)findViewById(R.id.textViewY);
54          textViewZ = (TextView)findViewById(R.id.textViewZ);
55
56          // Attach Step and Sensitive View Objects to XML
57          textViewSteps = (TextView)findViewById(R.id.textSteps);
58          textSensitive = (TextView)findViewById(R.id.textSensitive);
59
60          // Attach the resetButton to XML
61          buttonReset = (Button)findViewById(R.id.buttonReset);
62
63          // Attach the seekBar to XML
64          seekBar = (SeekBar)findViewById(R.id.seekBar);
65
```

4. Finish writing the onCreate() method by initializing the values for the seekBar, threshold, and the values used to calculate the steps

```
65
66          // Set the Values on the seekBar, threshold, and threshold display
67          seekBar.setProgress(10);
68          seekBar.setOnSeekBarChangeListener(seekBarListener);
69          threshold = 10;
70          textSensitive.setText(String.valueOf(threshold));
71
72          // Initialize Values
73          previousY = 0;
74          currentY = 0;
75          numSteps = 0;
76
77          // initialize acceleration Values
78          acceleration = 0.00f;
79
80          // Enable the listener - We will write this later in the class
81          enableAccelerometerListening();
82
83      } // End Method onCreate()
84
```

5. The onCreateOptionsMenu is included by default. Leave this method as written by Eclipse.

```
84
85      @Override
86      public boolean onCreateOptionsMenu(Menu menu) {
87          // Inflate the menu; this adds items to the action bar if it is present.
88          getMenuInflater().inflate(R.menu.activity_pedometer, menu);
89          return true;
90      } // end Method onCreateOptionsMenu
91
```

6. Write the enableAccelerometerListening() function to enable Accelerometer and register the listener.

```
91
92      private void enableAccelerometerListening() {
93          // Initialize the Sensor Manager
94          sensorManager = (SensorManager) getSystemService(Context.SENSOR_SERVICE);
95          sensorManager.registerListener(sensorEventListener, sensorManager.getDefaultSensor(Sensor.TYPE_ACCELEROMETER),
96                  SensorManager.SENSOR_DELAY_NORMAL);
97      }
98
```

7. Begin the Event handler for the Accelerometer. This is an inner class

```
 97
 98      // Event handler for accelerometer events
 99      private SensorEventListener sensorEventListener =
100              new SensorEventListener()
101              {
102
```

8. Write the onSensorChanged method. This holds the majority of the logic and flow for the App. The values are gathered from the event object and displayed. A conditional statement compared the previous and current acceleration to the threshold to count the steps.

```
102
103                 // Listens for Change in Acceleration, Displays, and Computes the Steps
104                 public void onSensorChanged(SensorEvent event)
105                 {
106                     // Gather the values from accelerometer
107                     float x = event.values[0];
108                     float y = event.values[1];
109                     float z = event.values[2];
110
111                     // Fetch the current y
112                     currentY = y;
113
114                     // Measure if a step is taken
115                     if ( Math.abs(currentY - previousY) > threshold ) {
116                         numSteps++;
117                         textViewSteps.setText(String.valueOf(numSteps));
118                     } // end if
119
120                     // Display the Values
121                     textViewX.setText(String.valueOf(x));
122                     textViewY.setText(String.valueOf(y));
123                     textViewZ.setText(String.valueOf(z));
124
125                     // Store the previous Y
126                     previousY = y;
127
128                 } // end onSensorChanged
129
```

9. Finish the SensorEventListener with a required method and close with a bracket and semicolon

```
129
130                 public void onAccuracyChanged(Sensor sensor, int accuracy)
131                 {
132                     // Empty - required by Class
133                 } // end onAccuracy Changed
134
135             }; // ends private inner class sensorEventListener
136
```

10. Write the resetSteps() method. The resetButton calls this method when clicked to reset the step counter and the display.

```
136
137     // Called by the resetButton to set the Steps count to 0 and reset the Display
138     public void resetSteps(View v) {
139         numSteps = 0;
140         textViewSteps.setText(String.valueOf(numSteps));
141     } // End method resetSteps
142
```

11. Finish the Pedometer class with a private class OnSeekBarChangeListener. This Listener reacted to changes to the SeekBar, adjusting the threshold value used by the SensorEventListener. The Pedometer class is finished with a bracket at line 163.

```
142
143     // the inner class for the seekBarListener
144     private OnSeekBarChangeListener seekBarListener =
145             new OnSeekBarChangeListener()
146     {
147         public void onProgressChanged(SeekBar seekBar, int progress, boolean fromUser) {
148             // Change the threshold
149             threshold = seekBar.getProgress();
150             // Write to the TextView
151             textSensitive.setText(String.valueOf(threshold));
152         } // End Method onProgressChanged()
153
154         public void onStartTrackingTouch(SeekBar seekBar) {
155             // TODO Auto-generated method stub
156         } // End Method onStartTrackingTouch()
157
158         public void onStopTrackingTouch(SeekBar seekBar) {
159             // TODO Auto-generated method stub
160         } // end Method onStopTrackingTouch(0
161     };
162
163 } // end class Pedometer
164
```

12. Save and Test your App! Experiment to see how accurate the App counts steps.

13. Improvements you can make!
    a. Add sounds to the App to give an aural cue every time a step is recorded.
    b. Change the User interface to add more colors and interest.
    c. Create a better algorithm to count steps more accurately.
    d. Combine with the GPS Sensor to record distance traveled.
    e. Add a function to Count Calories based on Number of steps and weight of User.