

James F. Kelly

Sams **Teach Yourself**
Samsung
Galaxy Tab™

in **10**
Minutes

SAMS

James Floyd Kelly

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Galaxy Tab™

in **10 Minutes**

SAMS

800 East 96th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240

Sams Teach Yourself Samsung Galaxy Tab™ in 10 Minutes

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About the Author

James Floyd Kelly received an English degree from the University of West Florida and an industrial engineering degree from Florida State University, and has enjoyed using the skills and knowledge from both in various jobs over the years.

He is the author of numerous books, including books on building a CNC machine, building and programming LEGO robotics, and using open source software.

He currently lives with his wife and two sons in Atlanta, Georgia.

Dedication

For Ashley. Thank you for nonstop encouragement and support.

Acknowledgments

I enjoyed writing this book, and my Pearson team made it that much more enjoyable. Special thanks to Laura Norman, for giving me a chance to write for Pearson and having much patience as I learned the ins and outs of the Pearson writing process and special software.

The rest of my team, whose names you can find a few pages back, were so helpful in getting this book done, and I'm indebted to Romny and Seth for helping pull it all together.

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Finally, I want to thank Yvonne Hargrove, for her persistence in helping me procure my Galaxy Tab, and Maris Whetstone, for some technical assistance and testing along the way.

We Want to Hear from You

As the reader of this book, you are our most important critic and commentator. We value your opinion and want to know what we're doing right, what we could do better, what areas you'd like to see us publish in, and any other words of wisdom you're willing to pass our way.

You can email or write me directly to let me know what you did or didn't like about this book—as well as what we can do to make our books stronger.

Please note that I cannot help you with technical problems related to the topic of this book, and that due to the high volume of mail I receive, I might not be able to reply to every message.

When you write, please be sure to include this book's title and author, as well as your name and contact information. I will carefully review your comments and share them with the author and editors who worked on the book.

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Introduction

The Galaxy Tab hit the market with a bang! It's the first 7-inch tablet to become available with the Android operating system (and a 10-inch version is just on the horizon), a popular open source OS that is extremely versatile, stable, and feature packed. Add in the ability for third-party software developers to create new programs (called apps) for consumers, and the Galaxy Tab offers users a wide range of services, games, and capabilities in a portable and lightweight package.

Now, tablet computing is certainly not new—they started appearing in the mid-'90s and typically weighed as much as a laptop! The first attempt at tablets were nothing more than stripped-down laptops with hardware that really wasn't up to the task of running bloated operating systems and gargantuan programs that took forever to open and use. Tablets appeared and disappeared as consumers made their frustrations known, and sales plummeted.

Jump forward a decade and the day of the tablet has come again... but this time the technology appears to have matured. The Galaxy Tab is one of the newest tablets to hit the market, and it brings with it numerous hardware and software features that are sure to impress consumers—and maybe impress you. Whether you already own a Galaxy Tab or are considering purchasing one, this book provides you with information about the device's features and capabilities.

This book is all about getting a Galaxy Tab owner up to speed on using the Galaxy Tab and its most popular features. Lessons are short and quick—readers can get through a lesson in fewer than 10 minutes and then immediately put that new knowledge to work with a Galaxy Tab. The 10 lessons I cover in this book are as follows:

- ▶ Set up your Galaxy Tab using the Setup Wizard
- ▶ Customize your Galaxy Tab using the Settings tool
- ▶ Take photos and videos with the Camera app

- ▶ Browse the Internet and check email
- ▶ Navigate using GPS
- ▶ View photos and videos using the Gallery app
- ▶ Use the Android Market
- ▶ Video chat with the WebCam
- ▶ Take advantage of multimedia with eReader, Music, and YouTube
- ▶ Use custom apps and special features

Along with each lesson, I also provide tips and advice related to that lesson: shortcuts, faster methods, app recommendations, and more.

Who Is This Book For?

This book is for you if

- ▶ You are a new Galaxy Tab owner.
- ▶ You are considering purchasing a Galaxy Tab.
- ▶ You want more information on the built-in features of the Galaxy Tab.
- ▶ You're unfamiliar with how a particular app or hardware feature works.
- ▶ You want to learn about features on the Galaxy Tab not covered in the included user guide.

Conventions Used in This Book

I provide additional material in each lesson that might be useful to some Galaxy Tab users but not everyone. This new information is provided in the form of boxes, as described here:

NOTE: A note presents interesting pieces of information related to the surrounding discussion.

TIP: A tip offers advice or teaches an easier way to do something.

CAUTION: A caution advises you about potential problems and helps you steer clear of disaster.

Screen Captures and Differences

Most of the figures in this book were taken directly from the Galaxy Tab using its built-in screen-capture capability. However, there might be differences in what you see in a figure and what you see on your Galaxy Tab screen. The Galaxy Tab is sold by numerous retailers, including electronics stores and mobile phone companies. I purchased my Galaxy Tab, for example, from Verizon Wireless.

Each company can customize the Galaxy Tab and load it with apps of its own choosing. Some of these apps are trial apps—you can use them for a few days or weeks and then must decide whether you want to purchase the full app. Other apps provide access to specific services offered by a company—the screen shots in this book, for example, are taken from a Galaxy Tab purchased from Verizon Wireless, and many of the apps you see in screenshots are Verizon apps that add additional functionality to the device. I don't cover apps that are specific to a certain retailer; instead, I focus on those apps and features that are useful and available to all Galaxy Tab owners, regardless of where they purchased their Galaxy Tab.

Finally, keep in mind that the Android operating system is an ever-evolving piece of software, and the OS and the many apps that run on Android are constantly being updated and improved. You might find some information in this book has changed for an app or for the Android OS if an update/upgrade has become available to the Galaxy Tab. A great place to search for information about updates to the Galaxy Tab's OS and apps is the Samsung website for the Galaxy Tab, found at <http://www.samsung.com/us/mobile/galaxy-tab>.

LESSON 7

Shop the Android Market

In this lesson, you learn how to search the Android Market for new apps, how to purchase an app (if a fee is required), and how to install an app. You also learn how to manage and delete apps.

The Android Market

You're not limited to just the handful of apps that came preinstalled on your Galaxy Tab. Thousands of apps are available for your Galaxy Tab, many of them free or at a low cost to purchase. To get these apps, though, you need to learn how to access and use the Android Market.

Fortunately, accessing the Android Market is simple: Just open the Applications group and click the **Market app** icon, shown in Figure 7.1.

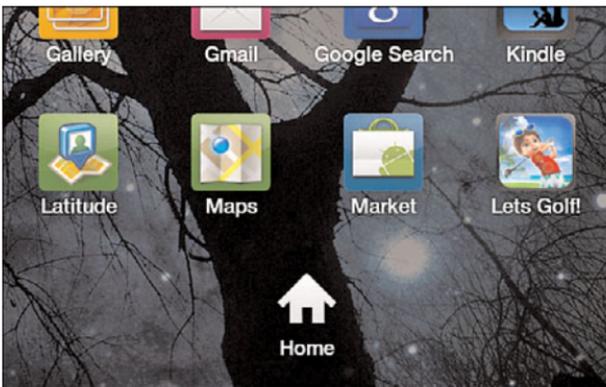


FIGURE 7.1 The Market app gets you to the Android Market.

When the Android Market opens, you see a screen similar to the one in Figure 7.2. Your screen might look slightly different depending on the company you purchased your Galaxy Tab from, but for the most part, the app's search, purchase, and download features should work the same.

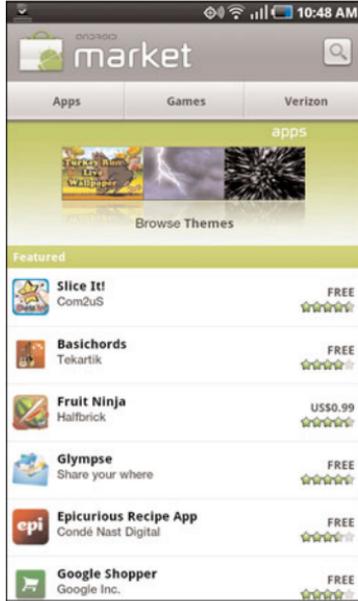


FIGURE 7.2 The Android Market has an easy-to-use interface.

In Figure 7.2, notice the screen is divided into sections. There's a menu bar along the top that offers up an Apps button, a Games button, and possibly a button for carrier-specific apps (in this case, Verizon Wireless apps).

At the bottom of the screen is a scrollable window (up and down) that lists featured apps—these are popular apps that many users are downloading or new apps of interest. This list changes often, so something you see listed today might not be there tomorrow. For that reason, it's best to get used to using the Apps button to view a list of the categories that apps fall under.

If you want to immediately search for an app using keywords, tap the text box in the top-right corner of the screen and enter some keywords to search the entire applications database for apps that fit your search criteria.

Tap the **Apps** button and you see a screen similar to the one in Figure 7.3.

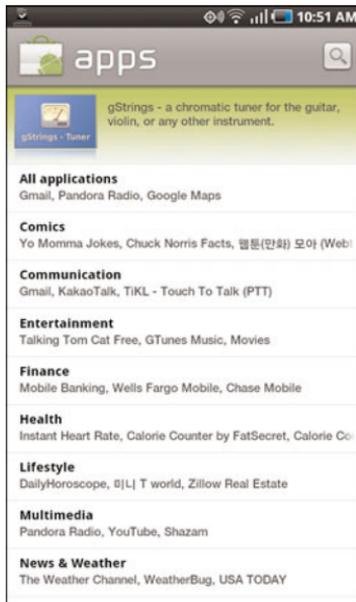


FIGURE 7.3 You can search for apps using a variety of categories.

Category examples include Communication, Productivity, Sports, and Shopping. At the top of the list is the All Applications selection. Although this is useful, you might be overwhelmed by the list of available apps. For this reason, it's best to always tap a category before you begin searching for apps.

Our example is a search for a webcam app, which you can find under the Communication category (see Figure 7.4).

The name of the category displays at the top of the screen along with three buttons: Top Paid, Top Free, and Just In. When you're searching for something particular, though, you can use the Search feature in the top-right corner of the screen. In this case, however, the search is limited to the category you selected.

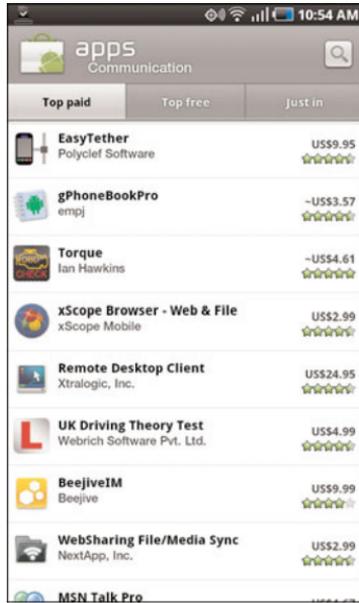


FIGURE 7.4 Searching a category for an app of interest.

Tapping the **Top Paid** button enables you to view a scrollable list of the most popular apps that have been purchased. Likewise, clicking the **Top Free** button provides a scrollable list of the most popular free apps. In both cases, you can see a rating of one to five stars to the right of each app's name. (The price of an app is located above the rating.)

Tapping the **Just In** button provides a scrollable list of new apps, many of them free and others for a price.

TIP: Beware New Ratings

New apps often have few ratings. Because ratings are an average of all reviews, always look over the reviews that have been submitted. An app with a one-star review and a five-star review displays a three-star average review, making it difficult to determine whether an app is really useful. That's when you have to read the current reviews and take a risk.

Examining an App

Using the scrollable list of apps, tap the name of an app to view more details about that app and to read comments. Figure 7.5 shows the details provided for the Skype application.



FIGURE 7.5 View details and comments for an app.

The **About** button displays a scrollable review of the app, including any special information about its functionality. You can also see how many users have downloaded the app and view its version number and size (in megabytes).

Tap the **Comments** button to see a scrollable list of reviews written by those who have downloaded and tested the app. Figure 7.6 shows why the Skype app has an average review of three stars; reviews range from “Poor call quality” to “Love the app” and everything in between.



FIGURE 7.6 Reviews of apps can provide more details.

Downloading a Free App

If you decide to download a free app, tap the **Install** button (refer to Figure 7.5). Some apps immediately begin downloading, but others might provide an alert like the one in Figure 7.7.

As you can see in Figure 7.7, the Skype app accesses a mix of information stored on my Galaxy Tab, including my contact database, the memory card, my network connection, and more.

If you're okay with an app's alerts, tap the **OK** button to continue the install. Otherwise, tap the **Cancel** button to return to the previous screen. Figure 7.8 shows that the application is now being downloaded and installed.

When the download and install is complete, you can check the Notifications screen (see Lesson 2, "Configuration and Notifications") to see a list of alerts as shown in Figure 7.9. (I downloaded the Star Traders RPG game, as well.)

To access the newly downloaded app, open up the Applications group and browse the apps. Figure 7.10 shows my two new apps, Skype and Star Traders, ready to use.

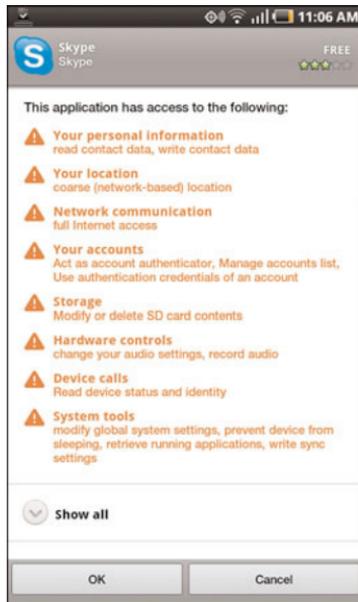


FIGURE 7.7 Read all app alerts before continuing with a download.

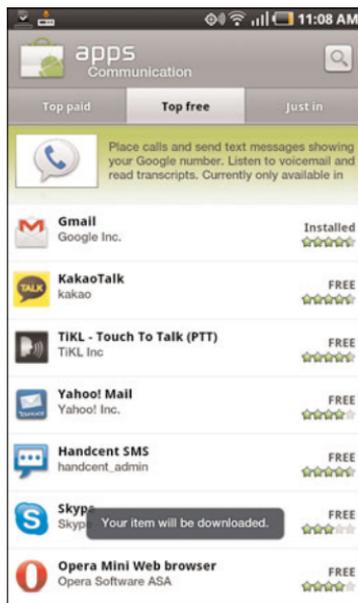


FIGURE 7.8 The download and installation begins.

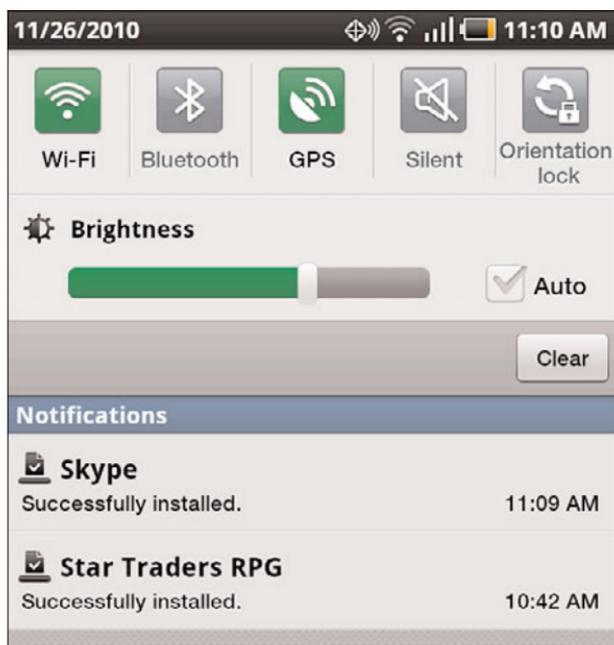


FIGURE 7.9 Download alerts appear on the Notification screen.



FIGURE 7.10 New apps appear in the Applications group.

TIP: Status Bar Download Alerts

Instead of checking the Notification screen, you can also see a small icon in the upper-left corner of the screen in Figure 7.10. Those small check marks indicate a download succeeded.

Purchasing an App

Although a lot of free apps are available for download, sooner or later you're going to find an app that you want that costs money. Fortunately, the price of most apps doesn't match up to the price of software you'd buy in a store. (Most apps can be purchased for less than \$5, and the majority of apps costs only 99 cents.)

Figure 7.11 shows a game that I've found, Heavy Gunner 3D, and it's on sale for only 99 cents! (It was \$4.99 and might have returned to that price by the time you read this.)

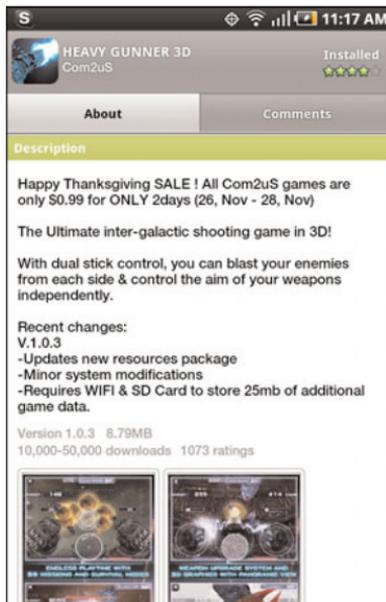


FIGURE 7.11 Locate an app you want to purchase and view its details.

Before you purchase an app, you can find out a bit more about it. If you scroll past the comments, you can view additional details, including screen captures and the developer's website and an email address if you have more specific questions. There might even be a phone number (but this isn't always the case). (See Figure 7.12.)

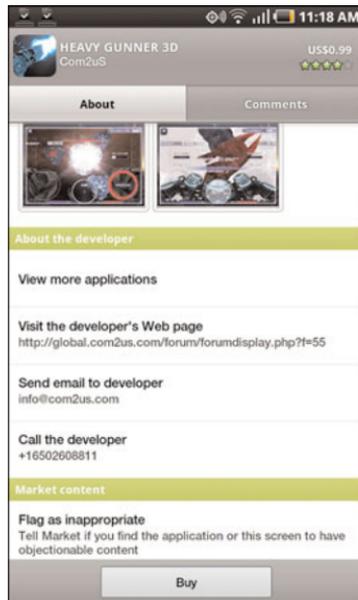


FIGURE 7.12 Contact and web information for an app.

If you decide to make a purchase after reviewing the website for more information, tap the **Buy** button. You should see a warning screen similar to the one in Figure 7.7. Tap the **OK** button to continue. Figure 7.13 shows the type of screen that appears next.

If you have a credit card on file with your Google user account, the last four digits appear (refer to Figure 7.13). Place a check in the box to indicate you agree with the terms of service for making a purchase from the Android Market.

If you want to use a different credit card, tap the down-pointing arrow to the right of your saved credit card and choose to use a different credit card.

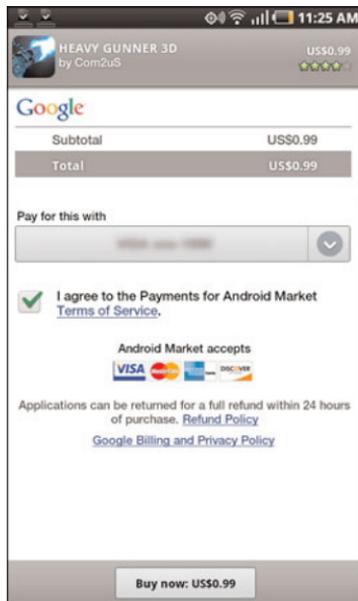


FIGURE 7.13 The purchase summary screen.

When you're ready to purchase, tap the **Buy Now** button at the bottom of the screen. The screen now shows the purchase being authorized and a button at the bottom of the screen that you can use to cancel the download. Figure 7.14 shows the authorization screen.

When the purchase is complete, the download begins. You can view the status of a download on the Notification screen, as shown in Figure 7.15.

Uninstalling Apps

Downloading and installing apps is simple... and it can be addictive. There are so many free apps out there to try, and with the inexpensive nature of Android apps, you can quickly find your Applications group filling up fast with dozens and dozens of apps.

In addition to downloading and installing an app, you need to know how to uninstall apps that you no longer want to have stored on your Galaxy Tab. Here's how to perform this action.

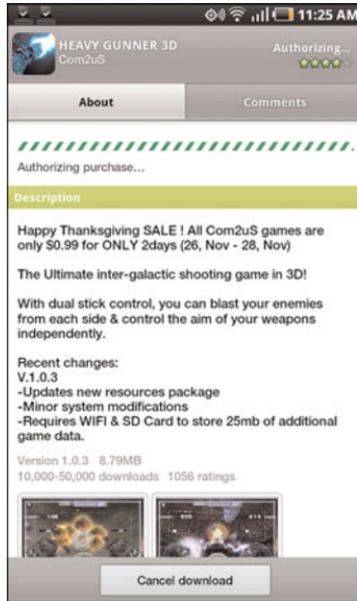


FIGURE 7.14 The purchase must be approved before the download begins.

TIP: Uninstall Versus Delete

For most apps, you don't delete them; you simply uninstall them. When you purchase an app, you own it forever. This enables you to remove an app from your Galaxy Tab and then later reinstall it if you want to have it back.

First, tap the **Menu** button on your Galaxy Tab and choose the **Settings** option (refer to Lesson 2). Scroll down the list of Settings and tap the **Applications** category. Figure 7.16 shows the screen that opens.

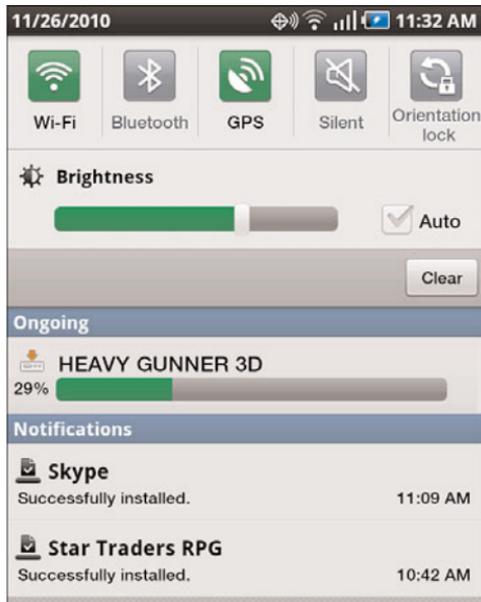


FIGURE 7.15 The application download process can be tracked.

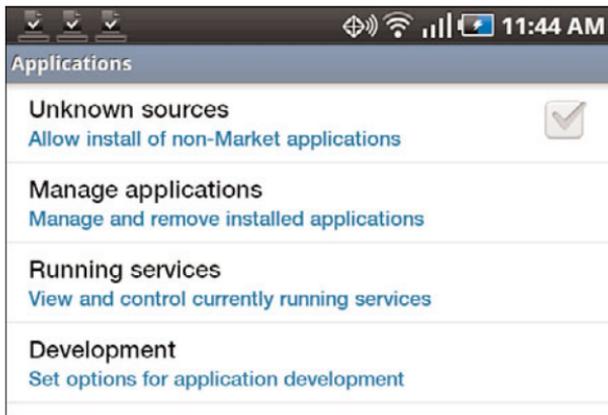


FIGURE 7.16 The Applications Settings screen.

Next, tap the **Manage Applications** option. You see a screen similar to the one in Figure 7.17.

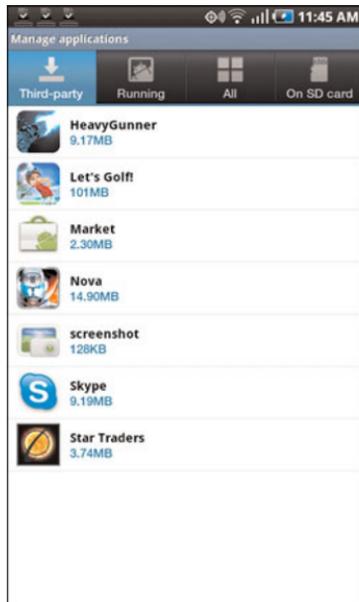


FIGURE 7.17 View only third-party apps on the Manage Applications screen.

Along the top of the screen are four buttons: Third Party, Running, All, and On SD Card.

The Third Party button shows all the apps that are not provided with the basic Android operating system. Notice in Figure 7.17 that the Let's Golf and Nova games were provided by my carrier (Verizon Wireless) and might not come with your Galaxy Tab. You can also see the four apps that I've downloaded (free or purchased): HeavyGunner, Screenshot, Skype, and Star Traders.

Tap the **All** button to see every app installed on your Galaxy Tab. Figure 7.18 shows the All button selected and the scrollable list of apps.

To uninstall an app, select it from the scrollable list. Figure 7.19 shows the application info for a selected app, which includes an Uninstall button at the top of the screen.

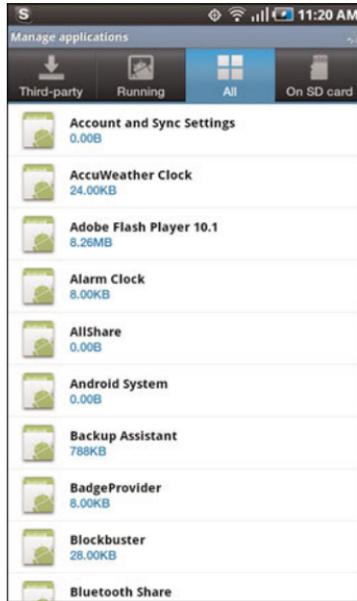


FIGURE 7.18 View all apps on the Manage Applications screen.



FIGURE 7.19 Uninstall an app by selecting it in the Manage Applications listing.

Tap the **Uninstall** button. You are given an opportunity to cancel the operation. If you want to continue, tap the **OK** button. The uninstall doesn't take long, and when it's finished you see a screen that tells you the uninstall was successful, like the one in Figure 7.20.



FIGURE 7.20 A successfully uninstalled app.

You are returned to the Manage Applications screen and can select more apps to be uninstalled. When you have finished uninstalling apps, tap the **Home** button to check the Applications group and verify that the uninstalled apps have had their icons removed.

Summary

In this lesson you learned how to use the Android Market. You also learned how to search for desired apps, purchase and download free and non-free apps, and install and uninstall apps.

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