

Making an Android app for Superman

I wanted to make an app for Superman rather than using the web browser on the phone for several reasons. I prefer to force the view to landscape which looks better without making a global choice of layout. You don't have to mess with tabs or bookmarks. And, interestingly, when you select a command, the app does not pop open another window. It "feels" more natural to use as an app.

So after you have Superman configured and running with the ports forwarded (basically once your phone can access Superman from outside of your network), you can go to AppsGeyser and configure your app.

- 1 create an account at <https://www.appsgeyser.com>
- 2 upper right corner: Create App
- 3 under "search for a template" I chose Website
- 4 at "Enter URL to create mobile version of your Website"
These are examples, your addresses will absolutely be different
<http://my.home.ip:40980/supermon/link.php?nodes=42583> to use outside (where I already made a forward from 42583->80 to 192.168.1.30 in my router)
-OR-
<http://192.168.1.130/supermon/link.php?nodes=42583> for an app that works inside the house (see the important note below)
Click GO when you entered the URL. Disregard the error "Cannot connect to the site"
- 5 Give the app a name. Next... Create...
- 6 Back at the dashboard, edit the app- Advanced... Screen Orientation, change from "Auto" to "Horizontal"... submit
- 7 Rebuild app
- 8 back to Dashboard- look on the right for "Download your app". There are a number of ways to get the install file ("apk") but I used the barcode (and a barcode reader app)
- 9 when it's downloaded follow the installation prompts on your phone. If you haven't already, enable apps from outside sources in your Android security section.
- 10 At this point the app should be ready to run, It will open and look like Superman except it will be its own app in the task list.

IMPORTANT NOTE: I had to make two apps. One for inside, and one for outside my network. The difference is shown in the examples in step 4. The site may have trouble creating an app when the link does not work (the site won't be searching for Superman from inside). So I made an app starting out for outside use but manually edited the URL to be the one I use inside.

I'm looking forward to playing with this and maybe adding a Radio Reference streaming audio player embedded into the app.