Tab Bar With Custom Center Tab

Tutorial by Jeff Evans (MGoBlue), Based on original code by iDev Recipes

Apps like Instagram, DailyBooth and Path have what looks like a standard UITabBarController, but the center tab bar is raised or colored. How do we recreate this look?



Download images for project: https://dl.dropbox.com/u/76141353/images_for_tab_bar.zip

The following image files are used in the various examples:

capture-button.png	camera_button_take.png
capture-button@2x.png	camera_button_take@2x.png
cameraTabBarItem.png	tabBar_cameraButton_ready_matte.png
cameraTabBarItem@2x.png	tabBar_cameraButton_ready_matte@2x.png

Use these images, or use them as templates to create your own unique buttons.

Drag the appropriate images into your project.

In BT_Layout/BT_rotatingTabBarController.m

Find this section: //after the tabber's view loaded

and directly after [super viewDidLoad];

insert this:

// [self addCenterButtonWithImage:[UIImage imageNamed:@"cameraTabBarItem.png"] highlightImage:nil]; [self addCenterButtonWithImage:[UIImage imageNamed:@"camera_button_take.png"] highlightImage::nil]; // [self addCenterButtonWithImage:[UIImage imageNamed:@"capture-button.png"] highlightImage:nil];

Comment/Uncomment the line you wish to use.

At bottom of file before @end, add this:

Continued...

```
// Create a custom UIButton and add it to the center of our tab bar
-(void) addCenterButtonWithImage:(UIImage*)buttonImage highlightImage:(UIImage*)highlightImage
{
    UIButton* button = [UIButton buttonWithType:UIButtonTypeCustom];
    button.autoresizingMask = UIViewAutoresizingFlexibleRightMargin | UIViewAutoresizingFlexibleLeftMargin
UIViewAutoresizingFlexibleBottomMargin | UIViewAutoresizingFlexibleTopMargin;
    button.frame = CGRectMake(0.0, 0.0, buttonImage.size.width, buttonImage.size.height);
    [button setBackgroundImage:buttonImage forState:UIControlStateNormal];
    [button setBackgroundImage:highlightImage forState:UIControlStateHighlighted];
    [button addTarget:self action:@selector(buttonEvent) forControlEvents:UIControlEventTouchUpInside];
    CGFloat heightDifference = buttonImage.size.height - self.tabBar.frame.size.height;
    CGPoint center = self.tabBar.center;
    center.y = center.y - self.tabBar.frame.origin.y - heightDifference/2.0;
    button.center = center;
    [self.tabBar addSubview:button];
}
- (void) buttonEvent{
    [self setSelectedIndex:2];
3
```

Important: This is tested and works with a tab bar that uses 5 tabs. I have not worked with less than 5 tabs.

<u>Do not specify an icon for tab 3 in your BT Control Panel</u>. The icon you specify in the code is the icon that will display.

The line in the code above starting with "button.autoresizingMask =" is one line. Please make sure to remove the carriage return after "FlexibleLeftMargin"

Note, this does not work with custom colored tab bars.

That's it!

Full Source Code Here: https://github.com/boctor/idev-recipes/tree/master/RaisedCenterTabBar

Based on a tutorial by iDev Recipes found here: http://idevrecipes.com/2010/12/16/raised-center-tab-bar-button/