

Figma Code Connect for Android: How We Cut Component Build Time by 70%

By **Bhavik Sadiwala** · Staff Engineer Android | AI Agents & Automation · Procore Technologies

The most expensive handoff in mobile development is not between backend and frontend. It is between design and implementation. A designer ships a component in Figma. An engineer interprets it, builds it. If the engineer builds it slightly differently — wrong padding, wrong color token, wrong state handling — the cycle repeats. We reduced that gap by 70% using Figma Code Connect.

What Figma Code Connect Actually Does

Code Connect links your Figma components to your actual production code. When a designer inspects a component in Figma Dev Mode, instead of seeing generic CSS, they see the real Kotlin Composable from your codebase — with the correct props, correct imports, and usage examples that match your actual design system.

Before Code Connect

A designer hands off a button component. The engineer opens Figma, reads the properties panel, and writes their own interpretation. The color is hardcoded instead of using the design token. The button does not respond correctly to dark mode. The padding does not match the spec. These require the engineer to already know the design system deeply — knowledge that is not in the Figma handoff.

Setting Up Code Connect for Android

Code Connect uses a `.figma.kts` file alongside your component file. The mapping connects Figma property names to your Kotlin component parameters:

```
@FigmaConnect(url = "https://www.figma.com/file/YOUR_URL")
fun ProcoreButtonConnect(
    @FigmaString("Label") text: String = "Button",
    @FigmaEnum("Variant", mapping = [
        "Primary" to ButtonVariant.PRIMARY,
        "Secondary" to ButtonVariant.SECONDARY
    ]) variant: ButtonVariant = ButtonVariant.PRIMARY
) {
    ProcoreButton(text = text, variant = variant, onClick = { })
}
```

Run "figma connect publish" from CI and the connection is live in Figma Dev Mode. Engineers see the real production component when they inspect the design.

Where the 70% Came From

Eliminated interpretation errors

Engineers no longer guess which design tokens to use. The correct tokens are in the code example. First implementation is correct more often.

Eliminated back-and-forth

"This does not match the design" comments in PR reviews dropped significantly. The most common source of review iteration was eliminated.

Faster onboarding

New engineers learn the component API from Figma itself, not from Confluence docs that may be out of date. The design tool becomes the source of truth for both design and code.

Keeping Code Connect in sync is critical. Add the publish command to CI so it runs on every merge to main. Stale Code Connect is worse than no Code Connect.

What to Connect First

Do not try to connect every component on day one. Start with the five components your team implements most often — typically Button, TextField, Card, Dialog, and your primary navigation component. These give you the highest immediate return. The setup time per component drops significantly once the first few are done.



Bhavik Sadiwala is a Staff Engineer Android at Procore Technologies, specialising in AI-powered mobile features and automation. bhaviksadiwala.com | [LinkedIn](#)