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# NSDatePicker Class Reference

User Experience: Controls



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# NSDatePicker Class Reference

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<b>Inherits from</b>	NSControl : NSView : NSResponder : NSObject
<b>Conforms to</b>	NSAnimatablePropertyContainer (NSView) NSCoding (NSResponder) NSObject (NSObject)
<b>Framework</b>	/System/Library/Frameworks/AppKit.framework
<b>Availability</b>	Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.
<b>Declared in</b>	NSDatePicker.h
<b>Related sample code</b>	DatePicker Mountains ScriptingBridgeiCal

## Overview

`NSDatePicker` is a subclass of `NSControl` that provides a user interface for displaying and editing an `NSDate` object.

`NSDatePicker` uses an `NSDatePickerCell` to implement much of the control's functionality. `NSDatePicker` provides cover methods for most of `NSDatePickerCell` methods, which invoke the corresponding cell method.

## Tasks

### Configuring Date Pickers

- [isBezeled](#) (page 10)  
Returns whether the receiver has a bezeled border.
- [setBezeled:](#) (page 12)  
Specifies whether the receiver draws a bezeled border.
- [isBordered](#) (page 11)  
Returns whether the receiver has a plain border.
- [setBordered:](#) (page 13)  
Specifies whether the receiver draws a plain border.

- [backgroundColor](#) (page 7)  
Returns the background color of the receiver.
- [setBackgroundcolor:](#) (page 12)  
Sets the receiver's background color.
- [drawsBackground](#) (page 10)  
Returns whether the receiver draws the background.
- [setDrawsBackground:](#) (page 16)  
Specifies whether the receiver draws the background.
- [textColor](#) (page 19)  
Returns the text color of the receiver.
- [setTextColor:](#) (page 17)  
Sets the text color of the receiver.
- [datePickerStyle](#) (page 9)  
Returns the receiver's date picker style.
- [setDatePickerStyle:](#) (page 14)  
Sets the receiver's date picker style.
- [delegate](#) (page 9)  
Returns the delegate of the receiver's date picker cell.
- [setDelegate:](#) (page 15)  
Sets the delegate of the receiver's date picker cell.
- [datePickerElements](#) (page 8)  
Returns a bitmask that indicates which visual elements of the date picker are currently shown, and which won't be usable because they are hidden.
- [setDatePickerElements:](#) (page 14)  
Sets a bitmask that indicates which visual elements of the date picker are currently shown, and which won't be usable because they are hidden.

## Controlling Date Picker Range and Mode

- [calendar](#) (page 8)  
Returns the calendar used by the receiver.
- [setCalendar:](#) (page 13)  
Sets the receiver's calendar.
- [locale](#) (page 11)  
Returns the receiver's locale.
- [setLocale:](#) (page 16)  
Sets the receiver's locale.
- [datePickerMode](#) (page 8)  
Returns the receiver's date picker mode.
- [setDatePickerMode:](#) (page 14)  
Sets the receiver's date picker mode.
- [timeZone](#) (page 19)  
Returns the receiver's time zone.

- [setTimeZone:](#) (page 18)  
Sets the receiver's time zone.

## Accessing Object Values

- [dateValue](#) (page 9)  
Returns the receiver's date.
- [startDateValue:](#) (page 15)  
Sets the receiver's date to a new starting value.
- [timeInterval](#) (page 19)  
Returns the time interval that represents the date range.
- [setTimeInterval:](#) (page 18)  
Sets the time interval of the date range.

## Constraining the Displayable/Selectable Range

- [minDate](#) (page 12)  
Returns the minimum date value the receiver allows as input.
- [setMinDate:](#) (page 17)  
Sets the minimum date allowed as input by the receiver.
- [maxDate](#) (page 11)  
Returns the maximum date value the receiver allows as input.
- [setMaxDate:](#) (page 17)  
Sets the maximum date allowed as input by the receiver.

## Instance Methods

### backgroundColor

Returns the background color of the receiver.

- (NSColor \*)backgroundColor

#### Return Value

The background color of the receiver.

#### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

#### See Also

- [setBackground-color:](#) (page 12)

#### Declared In

NSDatePicker.h

## calendar

Returns the calendar used by the receiver.

- (NSCalendar \*)calendar

### Return Value

The calendar used by the receiver.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

### See Also

- [setCalendar:](#) (page 13)

### Declared In

NSDatePicker.h

## datePickerElements

Returns a bitmask that indicates which visual elements of the date picker are currently shown, and which won't be usable because they are hidden.

- (NSDatePickerElementFlags)datePickerElements

### Return Value

A bitmask that specifies the date picker elements displayed by the receiver. See “Constants” in `NSDatePickerCell` for a description of the possible values.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

### See Also

- [setDatePickerElements:](#) (page 14)

### Related Sample Code

DatePicker

### Declared In

NSDatePicker.h

## datePickerMode

Returns the receiver's date picker mode.

- (NSDatePickerMode)datePickerMode

### Return Value

The receiver's date picker mode.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**See Also**

- [setDatePickerMode:](#) (page 14)

**Declared In**

NSDatePicker.h

## datePickerStyle

Returns the receiver's date picker style.

- (NSDatePickerStyle)datePickerStyle

**Return Value**

The receiver's date picker style.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**See Also**

- [setDatePickerStyle:](#) (page 14)

**Related Sample Code**

DatePicker

**Declared In**

NSDatePicker.h

## dateValue

Returns the receiver's date.

- (NSDate \*)dateValue

**Return Value**

The receiver's date.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**See Also**

- [setDateValue:](#) (page 15)

**Related Sample Code**

DatePicker

ScriptingBridgeiCal

**Declared In**

NSDatePicker.h

## delegate

Returns the delegate of the receiver's date picker cell.

- (id)delegate

**Return Value**

The delegate of the receiver's date picker cell.

**Discussion**

The date picker's NSDatePickerCell instance handles all delegate methods.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**See Also**

- [setDelegate:](#) (page 15)

**Declared In**

NSDatePicker.h

## drawsBackground

Returns whether the receiver draws the background.

- (BOOL)drawsBackground

**Return Value**

TRUE if the receiver draws the background, FALSE otherwise.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**See Also**

- [setDrawsBackground:](#) (page 16)

**Declared In**

NSDatePicker.h

## isBezeled

Returns whether the receiver has a bezeled border.

- (BOOL)isBezeled

**Return Value**

TRUE if the receiver has a bezeled border, FALSE otherwise.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**See Also**

- [setBezeled:](#) (page 12)

**Declared In**

NSDatePicker.h

## isBordered

Returns whether the receiver has a plain border.

- (BOOL)isBordered

### Return Value

TRUE if the receiver has a plain border, FALSE otherwise.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

### See Also

- [setBordered:](#) (page 13)

### Declared In

NSDatePicker.h

## locale

Returns the receiver's locale.

- (NSLocale \*)locale

### Return Value

The receiver's locale.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

### See Also

- [setLocale:](#) (page 16)

### Declared In

NSDatePicker.h

## maxDate

Returns the maximum date value the receiver allows as input.

- (NSDate \*)maxDate

### Return Value

The maximum date value the receiver allows as input. nil indicates no maximum date.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

### See Also

- [setMaxDate:](#) (page 17)

### Declared In

NSDatePicker.h

## minDate

Returns the minimum date value the receiver allows as input.

- (NSDate \*)minDate

### Return Value

The minimum date value the receiver allows as input. `nil` indicates no minimum date.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

### See Also

- [setMinDate:](#) (page 17)

### Declared In

NSDatePicker.h

## setBackgroundColor:

Sets the receiver's background color.

- (void)setBackgroundColor:(NSColor \*)color

### Parameters

*color*

The new background color.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

### See Also

- [backgroundColor](#) (page 7)

### Related Sample Code

DatePicker

### Declared In

NSDatePicker.h

## setBezeled:

Specifies whether the receiver draws a bezeled border.

- (void)setBezeled:(BOOL)flag

### Parameters

*flag*

TRUE if the receiver has a bezeled border, FALSE otherwise.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**See Also**

- [isBezeled](#) (page 10)

**Related Sample Code**

DatePicker

**Declared In**

NSDatePicker.h

**setBordered:**

Specifies whether the receiver draws a plain border.

- (void)setBordered:(BOOL)flag

**Parameters**

*flag*

TRUE if the receiver has a plain border, FALSE otherwise.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**See Also**

- [isBordered](#) (page 11)

**Related Sample Code**

DatePicker

**Declared In**

NSDatePicker.h

**setCalendar:**

Sets the receiver's calendar.

- (void)setCalendar:(NSCalendar \*)newCalendar

**Parameters**

*newCalendar*

The new calendar.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**See Also**

- [calendar](#) (page 8)

**Declared In**

NSDatePicker.h

**setDatePickerElements:**

Sets a bitmask that indicates which visual elements of the date picker are currently shown, and which won't be usable because they are hidden.

```
- (void)setDatePickerElements:(NSDatePickerElementFlags)elementFlags
```

**Parameters**

*elementFlags*

A bitmask that specifies the date picker elements displayed by the receiver. See “Constants” in `NSDatePickerCell` for a description of the possible values.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**See Also**

- [datePickerElements](#) (page 8)

**Related Sample Code**

DatePicker

**Declared In**

`NSDatePicker.h`

**setDatePickerMode:**

Sets the receiver's date picker mode.

```
- (void)setDatePickerMode:(NSDatePickerMode)newMode
```

**Parameters**

*newMode*

The new date picker mode.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**See Also**

- [datePickerMode](#) (page 8)

**Related Sample Code**

DatePicker

**Declared In**

`NSDatePicker.h`

**setDatePickerStyle:**

Sets the receiver's date picker style.

```
- (void)setDatePickerStyle:(NSDatePickerStyle)newStyle
```

### Parameters

*newStyle*

The new date picker style.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

### See Also

- [datePickerStyle](#) (page 9)

### Related Sample Code

DatePicker

### Declared In

NSDatePicker.h

## setValue:

Sets the receiver's date to a new starting value.

```
- (void)setValue:(NSDate *)newStartDate
```

### Parameters

*newStartDate*

The new starting date.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

### See Also

- [dateValue](#) (page 9)

### Related Sample Code

DatePicker

### Declared In

NSDatePicker.h

## setDelegate:

Sets the delegate of the receiver's date picker cell.

```
- (void)setDelegate:(id)anObject
```

### Parameters

*anObject*

The new delegate.

### Discussion

The date picker's `NSDatePickerCell` instance handles all delegate methods.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**See Also**

- [delegate](#) (page 9)

**Related Sample Code**

DatePicker

**Declared In**

NSDatePicker.h

## setDrawsBackground:

Specifies whether the receiver draws the background.

- (void)setDrawsBackground:(BOOL)*flag*

**Parameters**

*flag*

TRUE if the receiver draws the background, FALSE otherwise.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**See Also**

- [drawsBackground](#) (page 10)

**Related Sample Code**

DatePicker

**Declared In**

NSDatePicker.h

## setLocale:

Sets the receiver's locale.

- (void)setLocale:(NSLocale \*)*newLocale*

**Parameters**

*newLocale*

The new locale.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**See Also**

- [locale](#) (page 11)

**Declared In**

NSDatePicker.h

**setMaxDate:**

Sets the maximum date allowed as input by the receiver.

```
- (void)setMaxDate:(NSDate *)date
```

**Parameters**

*date*

The maximum date allowed as input by the receiver. `nil` indicates no maximum date.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**See Also**

- [maxDate](#) (page 11)

**Related Sample Code**

DatePicker

**Declared In**

NSDatePicker.h

**setMinDate:**

Sets the minimum date allowed as input by the receiver.

```
- (void)setMinDate:(NSDate *)date
```

**Parameters**

*date*

The minimum date allowed as input by the receiver. `nil` indicates no minimum date.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**See Also**

- [minDate](#) (page 12)

**Related Sample Code**

DatePicker

**Declared In**

NSDatePicker.h

**setTextColor:**

Sets the text color of the receiver.

```
- (void)setTextColor:(NSColor *)color
```

**Parameters**

*color*

The new text color.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

### See Also

- [textColor](#) (page 19)

### Related Sample Code

DatePicker

### Declared In

NSDatePicker.h

## setTimeInterval:

Sets the time interval of the date range.

```
- (void)setTimeInterval:(NSTimeInterval)newTimeInterval
```

### Parameters

*newTimeInterval*

The new time interval.

### Discussion

The time interval only applies when the receiver is in the `NSRangeDateMode` mode.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

### See Also

- [timeInterval](#) (page 19)

### Declared In

NSDatePicker.h

## setTimeZone:

Sets the receiver's time zone.

```
- (void)setTimeZone:(NSTimeZone *)newTimeZone
```

### Parameters

*newTimeZone*

The new time zone.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

### See Also

- [timeZone](#) (page 19)

### Declared In

NSDatePicker.h

## textColor

Returns the text color of the receiver.

- (NSColor \*)textColor

### Return Value

The text color of the receiver.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

### See Also

- [setTextColor:](#) (page 17)

### Declared In

NSDatePicker.h

## timeInterval

Returns the time interval that represents the date range.

- (NSTimeInterval)timeInterval

### Return Value

The time interval that represents the receiver's date range. The date range begins at the date returned by [dateValue](#) (page 9). This method returns 0 when the receiver is not in the `NSRangeDateMode` mode.

### Special Considerations

Prior to Mac OS X v 10.5, this method always returned 0.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

### See Also

- [setTimeInterval:](#) (page 18)

### Declared In

NSDatePicker.h

## timeZone

Returns the receiver's time zone.

- (NSTimeZone \*)timeZone

### Return Value

The receiver's time zone.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

### See Also

- [setTimeZone:](#) (page 18)

**Declared In**

NSDatePicker.h

# Document Revision History

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This table describes the changes to *NSDatePicker Class Reference*.

Date	Notes
2008-06-09	Added a reference to NSDatePickerCell in the delegate and setDelegate: methods.
2007-02-06	Added link to NSDatePickerCell.
2006-05-23	First publication of this content as a separate document.
	First publication of this content as a separate document.

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