
NSTextField Class Reference

User Experience: Controls



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NSTextField Class Reference

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Conforms to	NSUserInterfaceValidations (NSTextField) NSAnimatablePropertyContainer (NSView) NSCoding (NSResponder) NSObject (NSObject)
Framework	/System/Library/Frameworks/AppKit.framework
Availability	Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.
Companion guide	Token Field Programming Guide for Cocoa
Declared in	NSTextField.h

Overview

`NSTextField` is a subclass of `NSTextField` that provides tokenized editing similar to the address field in the Mail application.

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

Notes: In Mac OS X v10.4 and earlier, represented objects associated with token fields had to conform to `NSCoding`. Starting with Mac OS X v10.5, they no longer need to.

In Mac OS X v10.4, `NSTextField` trims whitespace around tokens but it does not trim whitespace in Mac OS X versions 10.5.0 and 10.5.1. In Mac OS X v10.5.2, you get whitespace-trimming behavior by either linking against the v10.4 binary or linking against the v10.5 binary and *not* implementing the `textField:representedObjectForEditingString:` method. If you do not want the whitespace-trimming behavior, link against the v10.5 binary and implement this method, returning the editing string if you have no represented object.

Tasks

Configuring the Token Style

- [setTokenStyle:](#) (page 9)
Returns the token style of the receiver.
- [tokenStyle](#) (page 10)
Returns the receiver's token style.

Configuring the Tokenizing Character Set

- [setTokenizingCharacterSet:](#) (page 9)
Sets the receiver's tokenizing character set to *characterSet*.
- [tokenizingCharacterSet](#) (page 9)
Returns the receiver's tokenizing character set.
- + [defaultTokenizingCharacterSet](#) (page 7)
Returns the default tokenizing character set.

Configuring the Completion Delay

- [setCompletionDelay:](#) (page 8)
Sets the receiver's completion delay.
- [completionDelay](#) (page 7)
Returns the receiver's completion delay.
- + [defaultCompletionDelay](#) (page 7)
Returns the default completion delay.

Getting and Setting the Delegate

- [delegate](#) (page 8)
Returns the token field's delegate.

- [setDelegate:](#) (page 8)
Sets the token field's delegate

Class Methods

defaultCompletionDelay

Returns the default completion delay.

```
+ (NSTimeInterval)defaultCompletionDelay
```

Discussion

The default completion delay is 0.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

Declared In

NSTokenField.h

defaultTokenizingCharacterSet

Returns the default tokenizing character set.

```
+ (NSCharacterSet *)defaultTokenizingCharacterSet
```

Discussion

The default tokenizing character set is “;”.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

Declared In

NSTokenField.h

Instance Methods

completionDelay

Returns the receiver's completion delay.

```
- (NSTimeInterval)completionDelay
```

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

See Also

- [setCompletionDelay:](#) (page 8)

+ [defaultCompletionDelay](#) (page 7)

Declared In

NSTextField.h

delegate

Returns the token field's delegate.

```
- (id < NSTextFieldDelegate >)delegate
```

Return Value

The token field's delegate

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.6 and later.

See Also

- [setDelegate:](#) (page 8)

Declared In

NSTextField.h

setCompletionDelay:

Sets the receiver's completion delay.

```
- (void)setCompletionDelay:(NSTimeInterval)delay
```

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

See Also

- [completionDelay](#) (page 7)

Declared In

NSTextField.h

setDelegate:

Sets the token field's delegate

```
- (void)setDelegate:(id < NSTextFieldDelegate >)anObject
```

Parameters

anObject

The delegate for the receiver. The delegate must conform to the NSTextFieldDelegate Protocol protocol.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.6 and later.

See Also

- [delegate](#) (page 8)

Declared In

NSTextField.h

setTokenizingCharacterSet:

Sets the receiver's tokenizing character set to *characterSet*.

- (void)setTokenizingCharacterSet:(NSCharacterSet *)*characterSet*

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

See Also

- [tokenizingCharacterSet](#) (page 9)

Declared In

NSTextField.h

setTokenStyle:

Returns the token style of the receiver.

- (void)setTokenStyle:(NSTokenStyle)*style*

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

See Also

- [tokenStyle](#) (page 10)

Declared In

NSTextField.h

tokenizingCharacterSet

Returns the receiver's tokenizing character set.

- (NSCharacterSet *)tokenizingCharacterSet

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

See Also

- [setTokenizingCharacterSet:](#) (page 9)

+ [defaultTokenizingCharacterSet](#) (page 7)

Declared In

NSTextField.h

tokenStyle

Returns the receiver's token style.

- (NSTokenStyle)tokenStyle

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

See Also

- [setTokenStyle:](#) (page 9)

Declared In

NSTokenField.h

Document Revision History

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

Date	Notes
2009-05-24	Updated for Mac OS X v10.6. Delegate methods moved to NSTextFieldDelegate Protocol Reference.
2008-10-15	Made several minor corrections.
2007-03-07	Formatting changes. Revised task headings.
2006-05-23	First publication of this content as a separate document.

REVISION HISTORY

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