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# NSSpecifierTest Class Reference

Interapplication Communication



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# NSSpecifierTest Class Reference

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<b>Inherits from</b>	NSScriptWhoseTest : NSObject
<b>Conforms to</b>	NSCoding (NSScriptWhoseTest) NSObject (NSObject)
<b>Framework</b>	/System/Library/Frameworks/Foundation.framework
<b>Availability</b>	Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.
<b>Companion guide</b>	Cocoa Scripting Guide
<b>Declared in</b>	NSScriptWhoseTests.h

## Overview

Instances of this class represent a Boolean expression; they evaluate an object specifier and compare the resulting object to another object using a given comparison method. For more information on `NSSpecifierTest`, see the method description for its sole public method, its initializer, [initWithObjectSpecifier:comparisonOperator:testObject:](#) (page 6).

When an `NSSpecifierTest` object is properly initialized, it holds two objects:

- A “value” or “test” object used as the basis of the comparison; this object can be a regular object or object specifier (such as “blue” in “words whose color is blue”).
- An object specifier evaluating to the container (“words”).

The instance also encapsulates a selector identifying the method performing this comparison. The informal protocol `NSComparisonMethods` defines a set of comparison methods useful for this purpose, while `NSScriptingComparisonMethods` describes additional methods you may need to use for scripting.

The test object is compared, using the selector, against each object in the container. Specifiers in these tests usually have `containerIsObjectBeingTested` invoked on their topmost container.

You should rarely need to subclass `NSSpecifierTest`.

## Tasks

### Initializing a Specifier Test

- [initWithObjectSpecifier:comparisonOperator:testObject:](#) (page 6)  
Returns a specifier test initialized to evaluate a test object against an object specified by an object specifier using a given comparison operation.

## Instance Methods

### **initWithObjectSpecifier:comparisonOperator:testObject:**

Returns a specifier test initialized to evaluate a test object against an object specified by an object specifier using a given comparison operation.

```
- (id)initWithObjectSpecifier:(NSScriptObjectSpecifier *)obj1
    comparisonOperator:(NSTestComparisonOperation)compOp testObject:(id)obj2
```

#### Parameters

*obj1*

An object specifier.

*compOp*

The comparison operation.

*obj2*

The object against which to evaluate the object specified by *obj1*.

#### Return Value

A specifier test initialized to evaluate (*obj2*) against an object specified by *obj1* using the comparison operation *compOp*.

#### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

#### Declared In

NSScriptWhoseTests.h

## Constants

### **NSTestComparisonOperation**

These are passed to [initWithObjectSpecifier:comparisonOperator:testObject:](#) (page 6) to specify the comparison operator.

```
typedef enum {
    NSEqualToComparison = 0,
    NSLessThanOrEqualToComparison,
    NSLessThanComparison,
    NSGreaterThanEqualToComparison,
    NSGreaterThanComparison,
    NSBeginsWithComparison,
    NSEndsWithComparison,
    NSContainsComparison
} NSTestComparisonOperation;
```

### Constants

`NSEqualToComparison`

Binary comparison operator that results in YES if the two objects are equal.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `NSScriptWhoseTests.h`.

`NSLessThanOrEqualToComparison`

Binary comparison operator that results in YES if the value of the test object is equal to or less than the value of the other object.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `NSScriptWhoseTests.h`.

`NSLessThanComparison`

Binary comparison operator that results in YES if the value of the test object is less than the value of the other object.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `NSScriptWhoseTests.h`.

`NSGreaterThanEqualToComparison`

Binary comparison operator that results in YES if the value of the test object is greater than or equal to the value of the other object.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `NSScriptWhoseTests.h`.

`NSGreaterThanComparison`

Binary comparison operator that results in YES if the value of the test object is greater than the value of the other object.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `NSScriptWhoseTests.h`.

`NSBeginsWithComparison`

Binary containment operator that results in YES if the test object is a list or string that matches the beginning of the other object (which is also a list or string).

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `NSScriptWhoseTests.h`.

`NSEndsWithComparison`

Binary containment operator that results in YES if the test object is a list or string that matches the end of the other object (which is also a list or string).

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `NSScriptWhoseTests.h`.

`NSContainsComparison`

Binary containment operator that results in YES if the test object is a list or string that matches the other object (which is also a list or string) at any location.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `NSScriptWhoseTests.h`.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

**Declared In**

`NSScriptWhoseTests.h`

# Document Revision History

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

Date	Notes
2006-06-28	Updated the Constants section to conform to reference consistency guidelines.
2006-05-23	First publication of this content as a separate document.

**REVISION HISTORY**

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