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# Interface Builder Services Reference

[Carbon > User Experience](#)



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# Contents

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## **Interface Builder Services Reference 5**

---

Overview	5
Functions by Task	5
Creating and Disposing of Nib References	5
Unarchiving Menu Bars and Menus	5
Unarchiving Windows	5
Functions	6
CreateMenuBarFromNib	6
CreateMenuFromNib	6
CreateNibReference	7
CreateNibReferenceWithCFBundle	8
CreateWindowFromNib	9
DisposeNibReference	10
SetMenuBarFromNib	10
Data Types	11
IBNibRef	11
Constants	11
Runtime Errors	11

---

## **Document Revision History 13**

---

## **Index 15**

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# Interface Builder Services Reference

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<b>Framework:</b>	Carbon/Carbon.h
<b>Declared in</b>	IBCarbonRuntime.h

## Overview

This reference describes the functions you use to unarchive interface objects you create using Interface Builder.

Carbon supports the Interface Builder APIs.

## Functions by Task

### Creating and Disposing of Nib References

[CreateNibReference](#) (page 7)

Creates a reference to a nib file in the current bundle.

[CreateNibReferenceWithCFBundle](#) (page 8)

Creates a reference to a nib file in the specified bundle.

[DisposeNibReference](#) (page 10)

Disposes of a nib reference.

### Unarchiving Menu Bars and Menus

[CreateMenuBarFromNib](#) (page 6)

Unarchives a menu bar from a nib file.

[SetMenuBarFromNib](#) (page 10)

Unarchives a menu bar from a nib file, then makes the menu bar available in your application.

[CreateMenuFromNib](#) (page 6)

Unarchives a menu from a nib file.

### Unarchiving Windows

[CreateWindowFromNib](#) (page 9)

Unarchives a window from a nib file.

## Functions

### CreateMenuBarFromNib

Unarchives a menu bar from a nib file.

```
OSStatus CreateMenuBarFromNib (
    INibRef inNibRef,
    CFStringRef inName,
    Handle *outMenuBar
);
```

#### Parameters

*inNibRef*

A reference to the nib file that contains the menu bar you want to unarchive. You obtain this reference by calling the function [CreateNibReference](#) (page 7) or [CreateNibReferenceWithCFBundle](#) (page 8).

*inName*

A `CFStringRef` that denotes the menu bar you want to unarchive. This is the name you supplied to the menu bar in the Instances pane of Interface Builder. See the Base Services documentation for a description of the `CFStringRef` data type. You can use the Core Foundation function `CFSTR` to convert a string to a `CFString`.

*outMenuBar*

On output, points to a handle to the menu bar.

#### Return Value

A result code. See [Runtime Errors](#) (page 11).

#### Discussion

You need to call the Menu Manager function `SetMenuBarFromNib` to make the unarchived menu bar available in your application.

#### Availability

Available in CarbonLib 1.1 and later.

Available in Mac OS X 10.0 and later.

Not available to 64-bit applications.

#### Related Sample Code

BSDLLCTest

#### Declared In

IBCarbonRuntime.h

### CreateMenuFromNib

Unarchives a menu from a nib file.

```
OSStatus CreateMenuFromNib (
    INibRef inNibRef,
    CFStringRef inName,
    MenuRef *outMenuRef
);
```

**Parameters***inNibRef*

A reference to the nib file that contains the menu you want to unarchive. You obtain this reference by calling the function [CreateNibReference](#) (page 7) or [CreateNibReferenceWithCFBundle](#) (page 8).

*inName*

A `CFStringRef` that denotes the menu you want to unarchive. This is the name you supplied to the menu in the Instance pane of Interface Builder. See the Base Services documentation for a description of the `CFStringRef` data type. You can use the Core Foundation function `CFSTR` to convert a string to a `CFString`.

*outMenuRef*

On output, points to a menu reference.

**Return Value**

A result code. See [Runtime Errors](#) (page 11).

**Discussion**

After you call the function `CreateMenuFromNib` you need to call the Menu Manager function `InsertMenu` to make the unarchived menu available in your application.

**Availability**

Available in CarbonLib 1.1 and later.

Available in Mac OS X 10.0 and later.

Not available to 64-bit applications.

**Related Sample Code**

QTCarbonShell

**Declared In**

IBCarbonRuntime.h

**CreateNibReference**

Creates a reference to a nib file in the current bundle.

```
OSStatus CreateNibReference (
    CFStringRef inNibName,
    INibRef *outNibRef
);
```

**Parameters***inNibName*

A `CFStringRef` that represents the name of a nib file you created for your application, but without the nib extension. See the Base Services documentation for a description of the `CFStringRef` data type. You can use the Core Foundation function `CFSTR` to convert a string to a `CFString`.

*outNibRef*

On output, points to a nib reference. You pass the nib reference to Interface Builder Services functions that unarchive objects from a nib file.

#### Return Value

A result code. See [Runtime Errors](#) (page 11).

#### Discussion

Use this function if the nib file is located in the current bundle. Use the function [CreateNibReferenceWithCFBundle](#) (page 8) if the nib file is located in a framework or other bundle that is not the current bundle.

#### Availability

Available in CarbonLib 1.1 and later.

Available in Mac OS X 10.0 and later.

Not available to 64-bit applications.

#### Related Sample Code

BSDLLCTest

HID Config Save

HID Explorer

QTCarbonShell

QTMetaData

#### Declared In

IBCarbonRuntime.h

## CreateNibReferenceWithCFBundle

Creates a reference to a nib file in the specified bundle.

```
OSStatus CreateNibReferenceWithCFBundle (
    CFBundleRef inBundle,
    CFStringRef inNibName,
    IBNibRef *outNibRef
);
```

#### Parameters

*inBundle*

A `CFBundleRef` to your application's bundle. See the Bundle Services documentation for a description of the `CFBundleRef` data type. You can get this reference by calling the appropriate Core Foundation Bundle Services functions.

*inNibName*

A `CFStringRef` that represents the name of a nib file you created for your application, but without the nib extension. See the Base Services documentation for a description of the `CFStringRef` data type. You can use the Core Foundation function `CFSTR` to convert a string to a `CFString`.

*outNibRef*

On output, points to a nib reference. You pass the nib reference to Interface Builder Services functions that unarchive objects from a nib file.

#### Return Value

A result code. See [Runtime Errors](#) (page 11).



**Discussion**

Use this function if the nib file is located in a framework or other bundle that is not the current bundle. Use the function [CreateNibReference](#) (page 7) if the nib file is located in the current bundle.

**Availability**

Available in CarbonLib 1.1 and later.

Available in Mac OS X 10.0 and later.

Not available to 64-bit applications.

**Declared In**

IBCarbonRuntime.h

**CreateWindowFromNib**

Unarchives a window from a nib file.

```
OSStatus CreateWindowFromNib (
    INibRef inNibRef,
    CFStringRef inName,
    WindowRef *outWindow
);
```

**Parameters**

*inNibRef*

A reference to the nib file that contains the window you want to unarchive. You obtain this reference by calling the function [CreateNibReference](#) (page 7) or [CreateNibReferenceWithCFBundle](#) (page 8).

*inName*

A `CFStringRef` that denotes the window you want to unarchive. This is the name you supplied to the window in the Instances pane of Interface Builder. See the Base Services documentation for a description of the `CFStringRef` data type. You can use the Core Foundation function `CFSTR` to convert a string to a `CFString`.

*outWindow*

On output, points to the window unarchived from the nib file.

**Return Value**

A result code. See [Runtime Errors](#) (page 11).

**Discussion**

You need to call the Window Manager function `ShowWindow` to make the unarchived window visible.

**Availability**

Available in CarbonLib 1.1 and later.

Available in Mac OS X 10.0 and later.

Not available to 64-bit applications.

**Related Sample Code**

BSDLLCTest

CarbonSketch

HID Config Save

HID Explorer

QTCarbonShell

**Declared In**

IBCarbonRuntime.h

**DisposeNibReference**

Disposes of a nib reference.

```
void DisposeNibReference (
    INibRef inNibRef
);
```

**Parameters***inNibRef*

A nib reference you created by calling the function [CreateNibReference](#) (page 7) or [CreateNibReferenceWithCFBundle](#) (page 8).

**Return Value****Discussion**

You should call the function `DisposeNibReference` immediately after you have finished unarchiving objects (windows, menus, menu bar, and so forth) from the nib file associated with the nib reference.

**Availability**

Available in CarbonLib 1.1 and later.

Available in Mac OS X 10.0 and later.

Not available to 64-bit applications.

**Related Sample Code**

BSDLLCTest

CarbonSketch

HID Config Save

HID Explorer

QTMetaData

**Declared In**

IBCarbonRuntime.h

**SetMenuBarFromNib**

Unarchives a menu bar from a nib file, then makes the menu bar available in your application.

```
OSStatus SetMenuBarFromNib (
    INibRef inNibRef,
    CFStringRef inName
);
```

**Parameters***inNibRef*

A reference to the nib file that contains the menu bar you want to unarchive. You obtain this reference by calling the function [CreateNibReference](#) (page 7) or [CreateNibReferenceWithCFBundle](#) (page 8).

*inName*

A `CFStringRef` that denotes the menu bar you want to unarchive. This is the name you supplied to the menu bar in the Instances pane of Interface Builder. (The default name is “MainMenu.”) See the Base Services documentation for a description of the `CFStringRef` data type. You can use the Core Foundation function `CFSTR` to convert a string to a `CFString`.

**Return Value**

A result code. See [Runtime Errors](#) (page 11).

**Discussion**

The function `SetMenuBarFromNib` makes the menu bar visible and selectable by the user when your application opens. If you don’t want the menu bar to be visible and selectable when it is unarchived, use the function `CreateMenuBarFromNib` (page 6).

**Availability**

Available in CarbonLib 1.1 and later.

Available in Mac OS X 10.0 and later.

Not available to 64-bit applications.

**Related Sample Code**

CarbonCocoa\_PictureCursor

HID Config Save

HID Explorer

QTCarbonShell

QTMetaData

**Declared In**

`IBCarbonRuntime.h`

## Data Types

**IBNibRef**

A reference to a nib file.

```
typedef struct OpaqueIBNibRef * IBNibRef;
```

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

**Declared In**

`IBCarbonRuntime.h`

## Constants

**Runtime Errors**

Specify a problem that occurs when Interface Builder Services tries to load nib files or objects.

```
enum {  
    kIBCarbonRuntimeCantFindNibFile = -10960,  
    kIBCarbonRuntimeObjectNotOfRequestedType = -10961,  
    kIBCarbonRuntimeCantFindObject = -10962  
};
```

### Constants

**kIBCarbonRuntimeCantFindNibFile**  
Indicates the `CFStringRef` supplied for a nib file does not match the name of a nib file.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.  
Declared in `IBCarbonRuntime.h`.

**kIBCarbonRuntimeObjectNotOfRequestedType**  
Indicates the window, menu, or menu bar you want to unarchive isn't what you specified.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.  
Declared in `IBCarbonRuntime.h`.

**kIBCarbonRuntimeCantFindObject**  
Indicates the window, menu, or menu bar wasn't found.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.  
Declared in `IBCarbonRuntime.h`.

# Document Revision History

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This table describes the changes to *Interface Builder Services Reference*.

Date	Notes
2004-02-17	Changed <code>SetMenu</code> to <code>InsertMenu</code> in the discussion of the function <code>CreateMenuFromNib</code> .
2002-12-10	Updated formatting.
2001-07-17	First version of this document.

## REVISION HISTORY

### Document Revision History

# Index

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## C

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CreateMenuBarFromNib **function** [6](#)  
CreateMenuFromNib **function** [6](#)  
CreateNibReference **function** [7](#)  
CreateNibReferenceWithCFBundle **function** [8](#)  
CreateWindowFromNib **function** [9](#)

## D

---

DisposeNibReference **function** [10](#)

## I

---

IBNibRef **data type** [11](#)

## K

---

kIBCarbonRuntimeCantFindNibFile **constant** [12](#)  
kIBCarbonRuntimeCantFindObject **constant** [12](#)  
kIBCarbonRuntimeObjectNotOfRequestedType  
**constant** [12](#)

## R

---

Runtime Errors [11](#)

## S

---

SetMenuBarFromNib **function** [10](#)