
NSColorPicker Class Reference

[Cocoa](#) > [User Experience](#)



2007-02-28



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NSColorPicker Class Reference

Inherits from	NSObject
Conforms to	NSColorPickingDefault NSObject (NSObject)
Framework	/System/Library/Frameworks/AppKit.framework
Availability	Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.
Companion guide	Color Programming Topics for Cocoa
Declared in	NSColorPicker.h
Related sample code	MyCustomColorPicker

Overview

The `NSColorPicker` class is an abstract superclass that implements the `NSColorPickingDefault` protocol. The `NSColorPickingDefault` and `NSColorPickingCustom` protocols define a way to add color pickers (custom user interfaces for color selection) to the `NSColorPanel`.

Adopted Protocols

NSColorPickingDefault

- `alphaControlAddedOrRemoved:`
- `attachColorList:`
- `detachColorList:` (page 8)
- `initWithPickerMask:colorPanel:`
- `insertNewButtonImage:in:`
- `provideNewButtonImage`
- `setMode:`
- `viewSizeChanged:` (page 10)

Tasks

Initializing an NSColorPicker Object

- [initWithPickerMask:colorPanel:](#) (page 8)
Initializes the color picker with the specified color panel and color picker mode mask.

Getting the Color Panel

- [colorPanel](#) (page 7)
Returns the NSColorPanel that owns the receiver.

Adding Button Images

- [insertNewButtonImage:in:](#) (page 9)
Sets the image used for the specified button cell.
- [provideNewButtonImage](#) (page 10)
Returns the button image for the receiver.

Setting the Mode

- [setMode:](#) (page 10)
Does nothing. Override to set the color picker's mode.

Managing Color Lists

- [attachColorList:](#) (page 7)
Does nothing. Override to attach a color list to a color picker.
- [detachColorList:](#) (page 8)
Does nothing. Override to detach a color list from a color picker.

Responding to View Changes

- [viewSizeChanged:](#) (page 10)
Does nothing. Override to respond to a size change.

Customizing the Color Picker

- [buttonToolTip](#) (page 7)
Returns the tool tip to be shown when the mouse cursor is over the receiver's button image.

- [minContentSize](#) (page 9)
Returns the minimum content size for the receiver.

Instance Methods

attachColorList:

Does nothing. Override to attach a color list to a color picker.

```
- (void)attachColorList:(NSColorList *)colorList
```

Parameters

colorList

The color list to attach to the color picker.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

See Also

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

Declared In

NSColorPicker.h

buttonToolTip

Returns the tool tip to be shown when the mouse cursor is over the receiver's button image.

```
- (NSString *)buttonToolTip
```

Return Value

A string representing the tool tip.

Discussion

Override this method to provide a custom tool tip. The default implementation of this method returns the name of the receiver's class. If you want the color picker to have no tool tip, return an empty string.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared In

NSColorPicker.h

colorPanel

Returns the NSColorPanel that owns the receiver.

```
- (NSColorPanel *)colorPanel
```

Return Value

The owning color panel.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared In

NSColorPicker.h

detachColorList:

Does nothing. Override to detach a color list from a color picker.

```
- (void)detachColorList:(NSColorList *)colorList
```

Parameters

colorList

The color list to detach.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

See Also

- [attachColorList:](#) (page 7)

Declared In

NSColorPicker.h

initWithPickerMask:colorPanel:

Initializes the color picker with the specified color panel and color picker mode mask.

```
- (id)initWithPickerMask:(NSUInteger)mask colorPanel:(NSColorPanel *)owningColorPanel
```

Parameters

mask

The color picker mask.

owningColorPanel

The NSColorPanel that owns the color picker. This value is cached so it can be returned later by the [colorPanel](#) (page 7) method.

Return Value

An initialized color picker object.

Discussion

Override this method to respond to the values in *mask* or do other custom initialization. If you override this method in a subclass, you should forward the message to *super* as part of the implementation.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

See Also

- [colorPanel](#) (page 7)

Declared In

NSColorPicker.h

insertNewButtonImage:in:

Sets the image used for the specified button cell.

```
- (void)insertNewButtonImage:(NSImage *)newButtonImage in:(NSButtonCell *)buttonCell
```

Parameters*newButtonImage*

The image used for the specified button cell.

buttonCell

The button cell for which to set the image.

Discussion

Called by the color panel to insert a new image into the specified cell by invoking `NSButtonCell`'s `setImage:` method. Override this method to customize *newButtonImage* before insertion in *buttonCell*.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

See Also- [provideNewButtonImage](#) (page 10)**Declared In**

NSColorPicker.h

minContentSize

Returns the minimum content size for the receiver.

```
- (NSSize)minContentSize
```

Return Value

The minimum size of the receiver, an `NSColorPicker` object. The `NSColorPanel` object does not allow the color picker to be made smaller than this size.

Discussion

Override this method to return a minimum size for the color picker's content area. The default implementation of this method obtains the minimum content size from the view-autoresizing behavior specified for the receiver and returns that. You should not have to override this method if you properly set up the color picker's auto-sizing attributes in Interface Builder.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared In

NSColorPicker.h

provideNewButtonImage

Returns the button image for the receiver.

- (NSImage *)provideNewButtonImage

Return Value

The image placed on the mode button the user uses to select this color picker. This is the same image the color panel uses as an argument when sending the `insertNewButtonImage:in:` (page 9) message.) The default implementation looks in the color picker's bundle for a TIFF file named after the color picker's class, with the extension ".tiff".

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

See Also

- [insertNewButtonImage:in:](#) (page 9)

Related Sample Code

MyCustomColorPicker

Declared In

NSColorPicker.h

setMode:

Does nothing. Override to set the color picker's mode.

- (void)setMode:(NSColorPanelMode)mode

Parameters

mode

A constant specifying the color picking mode. These constants are defined in `AppKit/NSColorPanel.h`.

Discussion

In grayscale-alpha, red-green-blue, cyan-magenta-yellow-black, and hue-saturation-brightness modes, the user adjusts colors by manipulating sliders. In the custom palette mode, the user can load an `NSImage` file (TIFF or EPS) into the `NSColorPanel`, then select colors from the image. In custom color list mode, the user can create and load lists of named colors. The two custom modes provide `NSPopUpLists` for loading and saving files. Finally, color wheel mode provides a simplified control for selecting colors.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared In

NSColorPicker.h

viewSizeChanged:

Does nothing. Override to respond to a size change.

- (void)viewSizeChanged:(id)sender

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared In

NSColorPicker.h

Document Revision History

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

Date	Notes
2007-02-28	Updated for Mac OS X version 10.5.
2006-05-23	First publication of this content as a separate document.

REVISION HISTORY

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