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# NSForm Class Reference

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



2006-05-23



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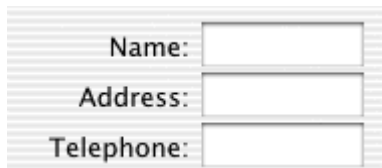
# NSForm Class Reference

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<b>Inherits from</b>	NSMatrix : NSControl : NSView : NSResponder : NSObject
<b>Conforms to</b>	NSUserInterfaceValidations (NSMatrix) NSAnimatablePropertyContainer (NSView) NSCoding (NSResponder) NSObject (NSObject)
<b>Framework</b>	/System/Library/Frameworks/AppKit.framework
<b>Availability</b>	Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.
<b>Declared in</b>	NSForm.h
<b>Companion guides</b>	Forms Matrix Programming Guide for Cocoa

## Overview

An `NSForm` object is a vertical matrix of `NSFormCell` objects. Here's an example:



The image shows a vertical matrix of three rows. Each row consists of a text label on the left and a rectangular input field on the right. The labels are "Name:", "Address:", and "Telephone:" from top to bottom. The input fields are empty.

An `NSForm` object uses `NSFormCell` to implement its user interface.

## Tasks

### Adding and Removing Entries

- [addEntry:](#) (page 7)  
Adds a new entry to the end of the receiver and gives it the specified title.
- [insertEntry:atIndex:](#) (page 9)  
Inserts an entry with the specified title into the receiver.

- [removeEntryAtIndex:](#) (page 9)  
Removes and releases the entry at the specified index.

## Changing the Appearance of All the Entries

- [setBezeled:](#) (page 10)  
Sets whether the receiver's entries should display a bezel around their editable text.
- [setBordered:](#) (page 10)  
Sets whether the receiver's entries should display a border around their editable text fields.
- [setEntryWidth:](#) (page 11)  
Sets the width of all the entries in the receiver.
- [setFrameSize:](#) (page 11)  
Sets the size of the receiver's frame size to the specified value.
- [setInterlineSpacing:](#) (page 12)  
Sets the spacing between entries
- [setTitleAlignment:](#) (page 13)  
Sets the alignment for all of the entry titles.
- [setTitleBaseWritingDirection:](#) (page 13)  
Sets the writing direction for the title of every control embedded in the form.
- [setTextAlignment:](#) (page 12)  
Sets the alignment for all of the receiver's editable text.
- [setTextBaseWritingDirection:](#) (page 12)  
Sets the writing direction for the text content of every control embedded in the form.
- [setTitleFont:](#) (page 14)  
Sets the font for all of the entry titles.
- [setFont:](#) (page 13)  
Sets the font for all of the receiver's editable text fields

## Getting Cells and Indices

- [indexOfCellWithTag:](#) (page 8)  
Returns the index of the entry whose tag is *tag*.
- [indexOfSelectedItem:](#) (page 9)  
Returns the index of the selected entry.
- [cellAtIndex:](#) (page 7)  
Returns the entry at the specified index.

## Displaying a Cell

- [drawCellAtIndex:](#) (page 8)  
Displays the entry at the specified index.

## Editing Text

- [selectTextAtIndex:](#) (page 10)  
Selects the entry at the specified index.

## Instance Methods

### addEntry:

Adds a new entry to the end of the receiver and gives it the specified title.

```
- (NSFormCell *)addEntry:(NSString *)title
```

#### Parameters

*title*

The title for the new form entry.

#### Return Value

The form cell object that was created for the entry.

#### Discussion

The new entry has no tag, target, or action, but is enabled and editable.

#### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

#### See Also

- [insertEntryAtIndex:](#) (page 9)
- `setEditable:` (NSCell)
- `setTag:` (NSActionCell)
- `setTarget:` (NSActionCell)
- `setAction:` (NSActionCell)
- `setEnabled:` (NSActionCell)

#### Declared In

NSForm.h

### cellAtIndex:

Returns the entry at the specified index.

```
- (id)cellAtIndex:(NSInteger)entryIndex
```

#### Parameters

*entryIndex*

The index of the desired entry.

#### Return Value

The form cell object at the specified index.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

### See Also

- [indexOfCellWithTag](#): (page 8)
- [indexOfSelectedItem](#) (page 9)

### Declared In

NSForm.h

## drawCellAtIndex:

Displays the entry at the specified index.

- (void)drawCellAtIndex:(NSInteger)entryIndex

### Parameters

*entryIndex*

The index of the entry to draw.

### Discussion

Because this method is called automatically whenever a cell needs drawing, you never need to invoke it explicitly. It is included in the API so you can override it if you subclass `NSFormCell`.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

### See Also

- [indexOfCellWithTag](#): (page 8)
- [indexOfSelectedItem](#) (page 9)

### Declared In

NSForm.h

## indexOfCellWithTag:

Returns the index of the entry whose tag is *tag*.

- (NSInteger)indexOfCellWithTag:(NSInteger)tag

### Parameters

*tag*

The tag of the desired entry.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

### See Also

- [tag](#) (NSCell)

### Declared In

NSForm.h



## indexOfSelectedItem

Returns the index of the selected entry.

- (NSInteger)indexOfSelectedItem

### Return Value

The index of the selected entry, or -1 if no entry is selected.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

### Declared In

NSForm.h

## insertEntryAtIndex:

Inserts an entry with the specified title into the receiver.

- (NSFormCell \*)insertEntry:(NSString \*)*title* atIndex:(NSInteger)*entryIndex*

### Parameters

*title*

The title for the new form entry.

*entryIndex*

The zero-based index at which to insert the entry.

### Return Value

The form cell object that was created for the entry.

### Discussion

The new entry has no tag, target, or action, but is enabled and editable.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

### See Also

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

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

### Declared In

NSForm.h

## removeEntryAtIndex:

Removes and releases the entry at the specified index.

- (void)removeEntryAtIndex:(NSInteger)*entryIndex*

### Parameters

*entryIndex*

The zero-based index identifying the desired entry.

**Discussion**

If the specified index is invalid, this method does nothing.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

**Declared In**

NSForm.h

**selectTextAtIndex:**

Selects the entry at the specified index.

```
- (void)selectTextAtIndex:(NSInteger)entryIndex
```

**Parameters**

*entryIndex*

The index of the entry to select. If the specified index is invalid, this method does nothing.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

**Declared In**

NSForm.h

**setBezeled:**

Sets whether the receiver's entries should display a bezel around their editable text.

```
- (void)setBezeled:(BOOL)flag
```

**Parameters**

*flag*

YES to display a bezel around all entries; otherwise, NO to show no bezel around all entries.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

**See Also**

- [setBordered:](#) (page 10)
- [isBezeled](#) (NSCell)

**Declared In**

NSForm.h

**setBordered:**

Sets whether the receiver's entries should display a border around their editable text fields.

```
- (void)setBordered:(BOOL)flag
```

**Parameters***flag*

YES to display a border around all entries; otherwise, NO to show no border around all entries.

**Discussion**

The border is drawn as a thin line around the editable text field. An entry can have a border or a bezel, but not both.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

**See Also**

- [setBezel](#): (page 10)
- `isBordered` (NSCell)

**Declared In**

NSForm.h

**setEntryWidth:**

Sets the width of all the entries in the receiver.

```
- (void)setEntryWidth:(CGFloat)width
```

**Parameters***width*

The width of all entries, measured in points in the user coordinate space. This value represents the width of both the title and the text field.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

**Declared In**

NSForm.h

**setFrameSize:**

Sets the size of the receiver's frame size to the specified value.

```
- (void)setFrameSize:(NSSize)newSize
```

**Parameters***newSize*

The new size of the form.

**Discussion**

The width of `NSFormCell` objects always match the width of their encompassing `NSForm` object. The cell width is always changed to match the view regardless of the value returned by `autosizesCells`.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

**Declared In**

NSForm.h

**setInterlineSpacing:**

Sets the spacing between entries

- (void)setInterlineSpacing:(CGFloat)*spacing*

**Parameters**

*spacing*

The spacing between entries, measured in points in the user coordinate space.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

**Declared In**

NSForm.h

**setTextAlignment:**

Sets the alignment for all of the receiver's editable text.

- (void)setTextAlignment:(NSInteger)*alignment*

**Parameters**

*alignment*

The alignment can be one of the following constants: NSRightTextAlignment, NSCenterTextAlignment, or NSLeftTextAlignment.

**Discussion**

The default alignment is NSLeftTextAlignment.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

**See Also**

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

**Declared In**

NSForm.h

**setTextBaseWritingDirection:**

Sets the writing direction for the text content of every control embedded in the form.

- (void)setTextBaseWritingDirection:(NSWritingDirection)*writingDirection*

**Parameters**

*writingDirection*

This value can be one of the following constants: NSWritingDirectionNatural, NSWritingDirectionLeftToRight, or NSWritingDirectionRightToLeft.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**See Also**

- [baseWritingDirection](#) (NSControl)

**Declared In**

NSForm.h

**setTextFont:**

Sets the font for all of the receiver's editable text fields

- (void)setTextFont:(NSFont \*)*font*

**Parameters**

*font*

The font to use for all editable text fields.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

**See Also**

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

**Declared In**

NSForm.h

**setTitleAlignment:**

Sets the alignment for all of the entry titles.

- (void)setTitleAlignment:(NSTextAlignment)*alignment*

**Parameters**

*alignment*

The alignment can be one of the following constants: `NSRightTextAlignment`, `NSCenterTextAlignment`, or `NSLeftTextAlignment`.

**Discussion**

The default alignment is `NSRightTextAlignment`.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

**See Also**

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

**Declared In**

NSForm.h

**setTitleBaseWritingDirection:**

Sets the writing direction for the title of every control embedded in the form.

- (void)setTitleBaseWritingDirection:(NSWritingDirection)*writingDirection*

**Parameters**

*writingDirection*

This value can be one of the following constants: `NSWritingDirectionNatural`, `NSWritingDirectionLeftToRight`, or `NSWritingDirectionRightToLeft`.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

**Declared In**

NSForm.h

**setTitleFont:**

Sets the font for all of the entry titles.

- (void)setTitleFont:(NSFont \*)*font*

**Parameters**

*font*

The font to use for all entry titles.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

**See Also**

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

**Declared In**

NSForm.h

# Document Revision History

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

Date	Notes
2006-05-23	First publication of this content as a separate document.

**REVISION HISTORY**

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