
NSTextFieldCell Class Reference

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



2009-01-06



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NSTextFieldCell Class Reference

Inherits from	NSActionCell : NSCell : NSObject
Conforms to	NSCoding (NSCell) NSCopying (NSCell) NSObject (NSObject)
Framework	/System/Library/Frameworks/AppKit.framework
Availability	Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.
Companion guide	Text Fields
Declared in	NSTextFieldCell.h
Related sample code	EnhancedDataBurn ImageBackground QTKitMovieShuffler QTSSInspector

Overview

The `NSTextFieldCell` class adds to the text display capabilities of the `NSCell` class by allowing you to set the color of both the text and its background. You can also specify whether the cell draws its background at all.

All of the methods declared by this class are also declared by the `NSTextField` class, which uses `NSTextFieldCell` objects to draw and edit text. These `NSTextField` cover methods call the corresponding `NSTextFieldCell` methods.

Placeholder strings, set using [setPlaceholderString:](#) (page 11) or [setPlaceholderAttributedString:](#) (page 11), now appear in the text field cell if the actual string is `nil` or `@"`". They are drawn in grey on the cell and are not archived in the "pre-10.2" nib format.

Tasks

Setting the Text Color

- [setTextColor:](#) (page 12)
Sets the color used to draw the receiver's text.

- [textColor](#) (page 13)
Returns the color used to draw the receiver's text.

Setting the Bezel Style

- [setBezelStyle:](#) (page 10)
Sets the receiver's bezel style.
- [bezelStyle](#) (page 8)
Returns the receiver's bezel style.

Controlling the Background

- [setBackgroundcolor:](#) (page 10)
Sets the color of the background that the receiver draws behind the text.
- [backgroundColor](#) (page 7)
Returns the color of the background the receiver draws behind the text.
- [setDrawsBackground:](#) (page 10)
Controls whether the receiver draws its background color behind its text.
- [drawsBackground](#) (page 8)
Returns a Boolean value that indicates whether the receiver draws its background color.

Managing the Field Editor

- [setUpFieldEditorAttributes:](#) (page 12)
Sets up the field editor. You never invoke this method directly; by overriding it, however, you can customize the field editor.
- [setWantsNotificationForMarkedText:](#) (page 13)
Directs the cell's associated field editor to post text change notifications.

Managing Placeholder Strings

- [setPlaceholderString:](#) (page 11)
Sets the placeholder of the cell as a plain text string.
- [placeholderString](#) (page 9)
Returns the cell's plain text placeholder string.
- [setPlaceholderAttributedString:](#) (page 11)
Sets the placeholder of the cell as an attributed string.
- [placeholderAttributedString](#) (page 8)
Returns the cell's attributed placeholder string.

Accessing Input Source Locales

- [allowedInputSourceLocales](#) (page 7)
Returns an array of locale identifiers representing input sources that are allowed to be enabled when the receiver has the keyboard focus.
- [setAllowedInputSourceLocales:](#) (page 9)
Sets an array of locale identifiers representing input sources that are allowed to be enabled when the receiver has the keyboard focus.

Instance Methods

allowedInputSourceLocales

Returns an array of locale identifiers representing input sources that are allowed to be enabled when the receiver has the keyboard focus.

- (NSArray *)allowedInputSourceLocales

Return Value

The locale identifiers of allowed input sources.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

See Also

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

Declared In

NSTextFieldCell.h

backgroundColor

Returns the color of the background the receiver draws behind the text.

- (NSColor *)backgroundColor

Return Value

The background color of the text field cell.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

See Also

- [drawsBackground](#) (page 8)
- [backgroundColor](#) (NSTextField)
- [setBackground-color:](#) (page 10)

Declared In

NSTextFieldCell.h

bezelStyle

Returns the receiver's bezel style.

- (NSTextFieldBezelStyle)bezelStyle

Return Value

A constant indicating the bezel style of the text field cell. See [NSTextFieldBezelStyle](#) (page 13).

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

See Also

- [setBezelStyle:](#) (page 10)

Declared In

NSTextFieldCell.h

drawsBackground

Returns a Boolean value that indicates whether the receiver draws its background color.

- (BOOL)drawsBackground

Return Value

YES if the receiver draws its background color behind its text, NO if it draws no background.

Discussion

In order to prevent inconsistent rendering, background color rendering is disabled for rounded-bezel text fields.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

See Also

- [backgroundColor](#) (page 7)
- [drawsBackground](#) (NSTextField)
- [setDrawsBackground:](#) (page 10)

Related Sample Code

EnhancedDataBurn
ImageBackground
QTKitMovieShuffler
QTSSInspector

Declared In

NSTextFieldCell.h

placeholderAttributedString

Returns the cell's attributed placeholder string.

- (NSAttributedString *)placeholderAttributedString

Return Value

The attributed string used as the cell's placeholder.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

See Also

- [setPlaceholderAttributedString:](#) (page 11)
- [placeholderString](#) (page 9)

Declared In

NSTextFieldCell.h

placeholderString

Returns the cell's plain text placeholder string.

- (NSString *)placeholderString

Return Value

The cell's placeholder string.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

See Also

- [setPlaceholderString:](#) (page 11)
- [placeholderAttributedString](#) (page 8)

Declared In

NSTextFieldCell.h

setAllowedInputSourceLocales:

Sets an array of locale identifiers representing input sources that are allowed to be enabled when the receiver has the keyboard focus.

- (void)setAllowedInputSourceLocales:(NSArray *)*localeIdentifiers*

Parameters

localeIdentifiers

The new locale identifiers of allowed input sources.

Discussion

You can use the meta-locale identifier, `NSAllRomanInputSourcesLocaleIdentifier`, to specify input sources that are limited for Roman script editing.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

See Also

- [allowedInputSourceLocales](#) (page 7)

Declared In

NSTextFieldCell.h

setBackground-color:

Sets the color of the background that the receiver draws behind the text.

- (void)setBackgroundColor:(NSColor *)*aColor***Parameters***aColor*

The background color of the text field cell.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

See Also

- [setDrawsBackground:](#) (page 10)
- [setBackgroundColor:](#) (NSTextField)
- [backgroundColor](#) (page 7)

Declared In

NSTextFieldCell.h

setBezelStyle:

Sets the receiver's bezel style.

- (void)setBezelStyle:(NSTextFieldBezelStyle)*style***Parameters***style*A constant specifying the bezel style of the text field cell. See [NSTextFieldBezelStyle](#) (page 13).**Discussion**To set the bezel style, you must have already sent `setBezeled:` with an argument of YES.**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

See Also

- [bezelStyle](#) (page 8)

Declared In

NSTextFieldCell.h

setDrawsBackground:

Controls whether the receiver draws its background color behind its text.

- (void)setDrawsBackground:(BOOL)*flag*

Parameters*flag*

If YES, the receiver draws its background; if NO it draws nothing behind its text.

Discussion

In order to prevent inconsistent rendering, background color rendering is disabled for rounded-bezel text fields.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

See Also

- [setBackground-color:](#) (page 10)
- [setDrawsBackground:](#) (NSTextField)
- [drawsBackground](#) (page 8)

Declared In

NSTextFieldCell.h

setPlaceholderAttributedString:

Sets the placeholder of the cell as an attributed string.

- (void)setPlaceholderAttributedString:(NSAttributedString *)*string*

Return Value

The attributed string to use as a placeholder.

Discussion

Note that invoking this successfully will clear out any plain text string set by [setPlaceholderString:](#) (page 11).

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

See Also

- [placeholderAttributedString](#) (page 8)
- [setPlaceholderString:](#) (page 11)

Declared In

NSTextFieldCell.h

setPlaceholderString:

Sets the placeholder of the cell as a plain text string.

- (void)setPlaceholderString:(NSString *)*string*

Parameters*string*

The placeholder string.

Discussion

Note that invoking this successfully will clear out any attributed string set by [setPlaceholderAttributedString:](#) (page 11).

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

See Also

- [placeholderString](#) (page 9)
- [setPlaceholderAttributedString:](#) (page 11)

Declared In

NSTextFieldCell.h

setTextColor:

Sets the color used to draw the receiver's text.

```
- (void)setTextColor:(NSColor *)aColor
```

Parameters

aColor

The color used to draw the text.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

See Also

- [setBackground-color:](#) (page 10)
- [setText-color:](#) (NSTextField)
- [text-color](#) (page 13)

Declared In

NSTextFieldCell.h

setUpFieldEditorAttributes:

Sets up the field editor. You never invoke this method directly; by overriding it, however, you can customize the field editor.

```
- (NSText *)setUpFieldEditorAttributes:(NSText *)textObj
```

Discussion

When you override this method, you should generally invoke the implementation of `super` and return the *textObj* argument. For information on field editors, see “Using the Window’s Field Editor”.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared In

NSTextFieldCell.h

setWantsNotificationForMarkedText:

Directs the cell's associated field editor to post text change notifications.

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

Parameters

flag

If YES, the field editor posts text change notifications (NSTextDidChangeNotification) while editing marked text; if NO, notifications are delayed until the marked text confirmation.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared In

NSTextFieldCell.h

textColor

Returns the color used to draw the receiver's text.

```
- (NSColor *)textColor
```

Return Value

The color used to draw the text.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

See Also

- [backgroundColor](#) (page 7)
- [textColor](#) (NSTextField)
- [setTextColor:](#) (page 12)

Declared In

NSTextFieldCell.h

Constants

NSTextFieldBezelStyle

Specify the bezel style of the text field cell.

```
typedef enum {  
    NSTextFieldSquareBezel = 0,  
    NSTextFieldRoundedBezel = 1  
} NSTextFieldBezelStyle;
```

Constants

NSTextFieldSquareBezel

Corners are square.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in NSTextFieldCell.h.

NSTextFieldRoundedBezel

Corners are rounded.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in NSTextFieldCell.h.

Discussion

The bezel style of a text field is set using the [bezelStyle](#) (page 8) and [setBezelStyle:](#) (page 10) methods.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared In

NSTextFieldCell.h

Document Revision History

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

Date	Notes
2009-01-06	Added note that background color rendering is disabled for rounded-bezel text fields. Revised description of <code>setUpFieldEditorAttributes</code> : because it no longer supports replacing the field editor.
2007-04-16	Documented methods added in Mac OS X v10.5.
2006-05-23	First publication of this content as a separate document.

REVISION HISTORY

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