NSMenuValidation Protocol Reference

Cocoa > User Experience

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Apple Inc.
1 Infinite Loop
Cupertino, CA 95014
408-996-1010

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Contents

NSMenuValidation Protocol Reference 5

Overview 5
Tasks 5
  Validating Menu Items 5
Instance Methods 5
  validateMenuItem: 5

Document Revision History 7

Index 9

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NSMenuValidation Protocol Reference

(informal protocol)

Framework	/System/Library/Frameworks/AppKit.framework
Companion guide	Application Menu and Pop-up List Programming Topics for Cocoa
Declared in	NSMenu.h

Overview

This informal protocol allows your application to update the enabled or disabled status of an `NSMenuItem` object. It declares only one method, `validateMenuItem:` (page 5).

Tasks

Validating Menu Items

`- validateMenuItem:` (page 5)
Implemented to override the default action of enabling or disabling a specific menu item.

Instance Methods

validateMenuItem:

Implemented to override the default action of enabling or disabling a specific menu item.

```
- (BOOL)validateMenuItem:(NSMenuItem *)menuItem
```

Parameters

menuItem
An NSMenuItem object that represents the menu item.

Return Value
`YES` to enable *menuItem*, `NO` to disable it.

Discussion
The object implementing this method must be the target of *menuItem*.You can determine which menu item *menuItem* is by querying it for its tag or action.

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The following example disables the menu item associated with the `nextRecord` action method when the selected line in a table view is the last one; conversely, it disables the menu item with `priorRecord` as its action method when the selected row is the first one in the table view. (The `countryKeys` array contains names that appear in the table view.)

```
- (BOOL)validateMenuItem:(NSMenuItem *)item {
    int row = [tableView selectedRow];
    if ([item action] == @selector(nextRecord) &&
        (row == [countryKeys indexOfObject:[countryKeys lastObject]])) {
        return NO;
    }
    if ([item action] == @selector(priorRecord) && row == 0) {
        return NO;
    }
    return YES;
}
```

Availability
Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared In
`NSMenu.h`

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Document Revision History

This table describes the changes to *NSMenuValidation Protocol Reference*.

Date	Notes
2007-03-02	Changed reference to deprecated NSMenuItem protocol to NSMenuItem class.
2006-05-23	First publication of this content as a separate document.

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Document Revision History

2007-03-02 | © 2007 Apple Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Index

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`validateMenuItem:` <NSObject> instance method 5

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