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# NSHTTPCookieStorage Class Reference

[Cocoa](#) > [Networking](#)



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# NSHTTPCookieStorage Class Reference

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<b>Inherits from</b>	NSObject
<b>Conforms to</b>	NSObject (NSObject)
<b>Framework</b>	/System/Library/Frameworks/Foundation.framework
<b>Availability</b>	Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 installed. Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.
<b>Companion guide</b>	URL Loading System
<b>Declared in</b>	NSHTTPCookieStorage.h

## Overview

`NSHTTPCookieStorage` implements a singleton object (shared instance) that manages the shared cookie storage. These cookies are shared among all applications and are kept in sync cross-process.

**Note:** Changes made to the cookie accept policy will affect all currently running applications using the cookie storage.

## Tasks

### Getting the Shared Cookie Storage Object

- + [sharedHTTPCookieStorage](#) (page 6)  
Returns the shared cookie storage instance.

### Getting and Setting the Cookie Accept Policy

- [cookieAcceptPolicy](#) (page 6)  
Returns the receiver's cookie accept policy.
- [setCookieAcceptPolicy:](#) (page 8)  
Sets the cookie accept policy of the receiver

## Adding and Removing Cookies

- [cookies](#) (page 7)  
Returns the receiver's cookies.
- [cookiesForURL:](#) (page 7)  
Returns all the receiver's cookies that will be sent to a specified URL.
- [deleteCookie:](#) (page 8)  
Deletes the specified cookie from the receiver.
- [setCookie:](#) (page 8)  
Stores a specified cookie in the receiver if the receiver's cookie accept policy permits.
- [setCookies:forURL:mainDocumentURL:](#) (page 9)  
Adds an array of cookies to the receiver if the receiver's cookie acceptance policy permits.

## Class Methods

### sharedHTTPCookieStorage

Returns the shared cookie storage instance.

```
+ (NSHTTPCookieStorage *)sharedHTTPCookieStorage
```

#### Return Value

The shared cookie storage instance.

#### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 installed.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

#### Declared In

NSHTTPCookieStorage.h

## Instance Methods

### cookieAcceptPolicy

Returns the receiver's cookie accept policy.

```
- (NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicy)cookieAcceptPolicy
```

#### Return Value

The receiver's cookie accept policy. The default cookie accept policy is `NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicyAlways`.

#### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 installed.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

**See Also**

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

**Declared In**

NSHTTPCookieStorage.h

## cookies

Returns the receiver's cookies.

- (NSArray \*)cookies

**Return Value**

An array containing all of the receiver's cookies.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 installed.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

**See Also**

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

**Declared In**

NSHTTPCookieStorage.h

## cookiesForURL:

Returns all the receiver's cookies that will be sent to a specified URL.

- (NSArray \*)cookiesForURL:(NSURL \*)theURL

**Parameters**

*theURL*

The URL to filter on.

**Return Value**

An array of cookies whose URL matches the provided URL.

**Discussion**

An application can use NSHTTPCookie's `requestHeaderFieldsWithCookies:` method to turn this array into a set of header fields to add to an `NSMutableURLRequest` object.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 installed.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

**See Also**

- [cookies](#) (page 7)

**Declared In**

NSHTTPCookieStorage.h

## deleteCookie:

Deletes the specified cookie from the receiver.

```
- (void)deleteCookie:(NSHTTPCookie *)aCookie
```

### Parameters

*aCookie*

The cookie to delete.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 installed.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

### Declared In

NSHTTPCookieStorage.h

## setCookie:

Stores a specified cookie in the receiver if the receiver's cookie accept policy permits.

```
- (void)setCookie:(NSHTTPCookie *)aCookie
```

### Parameters

*aCookie*

The cookie to store.

### Discussion

The cookie will replace an existing cookie with the same name, domain and path, if one exists in the cookie storage. This method will accept the cookie only if the receiver's cookie accept policy is

NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicyAlways or NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicyOnlyFromMainDocumentDomain.

The cookie will be ignored if the receiver's cookie accept policy is NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicyNever.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 installed.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

### Declared In

NSHTTPCookieStorage.h

## setCookieAcceptPolicy:

Sets the cookie accept policy of the receiver

```
- (void)setCookieAcceptPolicy:(NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicy)aPolicy
```

### Parameters

*aPolicy*

The new cookie accept policy.

### Discussion

The default cookie accept policy is NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicyAlways. Changing the cookie policy will affect all currently running applications using the cookie storage.



**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 installed.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

**See Also**

- [cookieAcceptPolicy](#) (page 6)

**Declared In**

NSHTTPCookieStorage.h

**setCookies:forURL:mainDocumentURL:**

Adds an array of cookies to the receiver if the receiver's cookie acceptance policy permits.

```
- (void)setCookies:(NSArray *)cookies forURL:(NSURL *)theURL mainDocumentURL:(NSURL *)mainDocumentURL
```

**Parameters**

*cookies*

The cookies to add.

*theURL*

The URL associated with the added cookies.

*mainDocumentURL*

The URL of the main HTML document for the top-level frame, if known. Can be `nil`. This URL is used to determine if the cookie should be accepted if the cookie accept policy is `NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicyOnlyFromMainDocumentDomain`.

**Discussion**

The cookies will replace existing cookies with the same name, domain, and path, if one exists in the cookie storage. The cookie will be ignored if the receiver's cookie accept policy is `NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicyNever`.

To store cookies from a set of response headers, an application can use `cookiesWithResponseHeaderFields:forURL:` passing a header field dictionary and then use this method to store the resulting cookies in accordance with the receiver's cookie acceptance policy.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 installed.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

**Declared In**

NSHTTPCookieStorage.h

## Constants

**NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicy**

`NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicy` specifies the cookie acceptance policies implemented by the `NSHTTPCookieStorage` class.

```
typedef enum {
    NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicyAlways,
    NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicyNever,
    NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicyOnlyFromMainDocumentDomain
} NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicy;
```

**Constants**

NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicyAlways

Accept all cookies. This is the default cookie accept policy.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in NSHTTPCookieStorage.h.

NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicyNever

Reject all cookies.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in NSHTTPCookieStorage.h.

NSHTTPCookieAcceptPolicyOnlyFromMainDocumentDomain

Accept cookies only from the main document domain.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in NSHTTPCookieStorage.h.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 installed.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

**Declared In**

NSHTTPCookieStorage.h

## Notifications

### NSHTTPCookieManagerCookiesChangedNotification

This notification is posted when the cookies stored in the NSHTTPCookieStorage instance have changed. Since cookies are shared among applications, this notification can be sent in response to another application's actions.

The notification object is the NSHTTPCookieStorage instance. This notification does not contain a userInfo dictionary.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 installed.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

**Declared In**

NSHTTPCookieStorage.h

### NSHTTPCookieManagerAcceptPolicyChangedNotification

This notification is posted when the acceptance policy of the NSHTTPCookieStorage instance has changed. Since cookies are shared among applications, this notification can be sent in response to another application's actions.

The notification object is the `NSHTTPCookieStorage` instance. This notification does not contain a `userInfo` dictionary.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 installed.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

**Declared In**

`NSHTTPCookieStorage.h`



# Document Revision History

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

Date	Notes
2006-05-23	Expanded description of <code>setCookies:forURL:mainDocumentURL:.</code>
	Expanded description of <code>setCookies:forURL:mainDocumentURL:.</code>
	First publication of this content as a separate document.

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