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# NSAnimationContext Class Reference

[Cocoa](#) > [Graphics & Imaging](#)



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# NSAnimationContext Class Reference

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<b>Inherits from</b>	NSObject
<b>Conforms to</b>	NSObject (NSObject)
<b>Framework</b>	/System/Library/Frameworks/AppKit.framework
<b>Availability</b>	Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.
<b>Declared in</b>	NSAnimationContext.h
<b>Related sample code</b>	BasicCocoaAnimations LayerBackedOpenGLView MethodReplacement TrackBall

## Overview

`NSAnimationContext` is analogous to `CATransaction` and are similar in overall concept to `NSGraphicsContext`. Each thread maintains its own stack of nestable `NSAnimationContext` instances, with each new instance initialized as a copy of the instance below (so, inheriting its current properties).

Multiple `NSAnimationContext` instances can be nested, allowing a given block of code to initiate animations using its own specified duration without affecting animations initiated by surrounding code.

```
[NSAnimationContext beginGrouping];
// Animate enclosed operations with a duration of 1 second
[[NSAnimationContext currentContext] setDuration:1.0];
[[aView animator] setFrame:newFrame];
...
    [NSAnimationContext beginGrouping];
    // Animate alpha fades with half-second duration
    [[NSAnimationContext currentContext] setDuration:0.5];
    [[aView animator] setAlphaValue:0.75];
    [[bView animator] setAlphaValue:0.75];
    [NSAnimationContext endGrouping];
...
// Will animate with a duration of 1 second
[[bView animator] setFrame:secondFrame];
[NSAnimationContext endGrouping];
```

## Tasks

### Grouping Transactions

- + [beginGrouping](#) (page 6)  
Creates a new animation grouping.
- + [endGrouping](#) (page 7)  
Ends the current animation grouping.

### Getting the Current Animation Context

- + [currentContext](#) (page 7)  
Returns the current animation context.

### Modifying the Animation Duration

- [setDuration:](#) (page 8)  
Sets the duration used by animations created as a result of setting new values for an animatable property.
- [duration](#) (page 7)  
Returns the duration used when animating object properties that support animation.

## Class Methods

### **beginGrouping**

Creates a new animation grouping.

```
+ (void)beginGrouping
```

#### **Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

#### **Related Sample Code**

BasicCocoaAnimations  
LayerBackedOpenGLView  
MethodReplacement  
TrackBall

#### **Declared In**

NSAnimationContext.h

## currentContext

Returns the current animation context.

```
+ (NSAnimationContext *)currentContext
```

### Return Value

The current animation context.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

### Related Sample Code

BasicCocoaAnimations

LayerBackedOpenGLView

MethodReplacement

TrackBall

### Declared In

NSAnimationContext.h

## endGrouping

Ends the current animation grouping.

```
+ (void)endGrouping
```

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

### Related Sample Code

BasicCocoaAnimations

LayerBackedOpenGLView

MethodReplacement

TrackBall

### Declared In

NSAnimationContext.h

## Instance Methods

### duration

Returns the duration used when animating object properties that support animation.

```
- (NSTimeInterval)duration
```

### Return Value

The duration in seconds.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

**Declared In**

NSAnimationContext.h

**setDuration:**

Sets the duration used by animations created as a result of setting new values for an animatable property.

- (void)setDuration:(NSTimeInterval)*duration*

**Parameters**

*duration*

The duration in seconds.

**Discussion**

Any animations that occur as a result of setting the values of animatable properties in the current context will run for this duration.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

**Related Sample Code**

BasicCocoaAnimations

LayerBackedOpenGLView

MethodReplacement

TrackBall

**Declared In**

NSAnimationContext.h



# Document Revision History

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

Date	Notes
2008-02-08	Corrected typos.
2006-07-13	New document that describes the class that provides nested transaction support for animating views.

**REVISION HISTORY**

Document Revision History

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