
ABSearchElement Class Objective-C Reference

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ABSearchElement Class Objective-C Reference

Inherits from	NSObject
Conforms to	NSObject (NSObject)
Framework	/System/Library/Frameworks/AddressBook.framework
Availability	Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.
Companion guide	Address Book Programming Guide for Mac OS X
Declared in	ABSearchElement.h ABTypeDefs.h
Related sample code	AddressBookCocoa Birthdays

Overview

ABSearchElement is used to specify a search query for records in the Address Book database.

You can create a simple query by creating an ABSearchElement object using either the `ABGroup searchElementForProperty:label:key:value:comparison:` or `ABPerson searchElementForProperty:label:key:value:comparison:` methods. Then you use the `ABAddressBook recordsMatchingSearchElement:` method, passing the ABSearchElement as the argument, to query the database.

ABSearchElement also provides a method for creating compound queries. Use the `searchElementForConjunction:children:` (page 6) method to combine two simple or complex queries into a compound query using either the `kABSearchAnd` or `kABSearchOr` conjunction constants.

Use the `matchesRecord:` (page 6) function to test whether a specific record matches a query.

The ABSearchElement class is “toll-free bridged” with its procedural C, opaque type, counterpart. This means that the `ABSearchElementRef` type is interchangeable in function or method calls with instances of the ABSearchElement class.

Tasks

Searching

+ `searchElementForConjunction:children:` (page 6)

Matching

- `matchesRecord:` (page 6)

Class Methods

`searchElementForConjunction:children:`

```
+ (ABSearchElement *)searchElementForConjunction:(ABSearchConjunction)conjunction
  children:(NSArray *)children
```

Discussion

Returns a compound search element created by combining the search elements in an array with the given conjunction. The objects in the *children* array must be `ABSearchElement` objects. The conjunction can be `kABSearchAnd` or `kABSearchOr`. If *children* is `nil` or empty, this method raises an exception.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

See Also

```
+ searchElementForProperty:label:key:value:comparison: (ABPerson)
+ searchElementForProperty:label:key:value:comparison: (ABGroup)
- recordsMatchingSearchElement: (ABAddressBook)
```

Declared In

`ABSearchElement.h`

Instance Methods

`matchesRecord:`

```
- (BOOL)matchesRecord:(ABRecord *)record
```

Discussion

Tests whether or not a record matches a search element. Returns `YES` if the `record` argument satisfies the conditions in the search element, `NO` otherwise. If `record` is `nil`, this method raises an exception.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

See Also

- + `searchElementForProperty:label:key:value:comparison:` (`ABPerson`)
- + `searchElementForProperty:label:key:value:comparison:` (`ABGroup`)
- + `searchElementForConjunction:children:` (page 6)

Declared In

`ABSearchElement.h`

Constants

These constants are of the type `ABSearchConjunction` and are used by `searchElementForConjunction:children:` (page 6).

Constant	Description
<code>kABSearchAnd</code>	Join the search elements together with the AND operand. Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later. Declared in <code>ABTypedefs.h</code> .
<code>kABSearchOr</code>	Join the search elements together with the OR operand. Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later. Declared in <code>ABTypedefs.h</code> .

These constants are of the type `ABSearchComparison` and are used by the `ABPerson` method `searchElementForProperty:label:key:value:comparison:` and the `ABGroup` method `searchElementForProperty:label:key:value:comparison:`.

Constant	Description
<code>kABEqual</code>	Search for elements that are equal to the value. Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later. Declared in <code>ABTypedefs.h</code> .
<code>kABNotEqual</code>	Search for elements that are not equal to the value. Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later. Declared in <code>ABTypedefs.h</code> .
<code>kABNotEqualCase-Insensitive</code>	Search for elements that are not equal to the value, ignoring case. (Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.) Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later. Declared in <code>ABTypedefs.h</code> .

Constant	Description
kABLessThan	Search for elements that are less than the value. Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later. Declared in ABTypedefs.h.
kABLessThanOrEqual	Search for elements that are less than or equal to the value. Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later. Declared in ABTypedefs.h.
kABGreaterThan	Search for elements that are greater than the value. Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later. Declared in ABTypedefs.h.
kABGreaterThanOrEqual	Search for elements that are greater than or equal to the value. Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later. Declared in ABTypedefs.h.
kABEqualCaseInsensitive	Search for elements that are equal to the value, ignoring case. Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later. Declared in ABTypedefs.h.
kABContainsSubString	Search for elements that contain the value. Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later. Declared in ABTypedefs.h.
kABContainsSubString-CaseInsensitive	Search for elements that contain the value, ignoring case. Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later. Declared in ABTypedefs.h.
kABPrefixMatch	Search for elements that begin with the value. Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later. Declared in ABTypedefs.h.
kABPrefixMatchCase-Insensitive	Search for elements that begin with the value, ignoring case. Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later. Declared in ABTypedefs.h.
kABSuffixMatch	Search for elements that end with the value. (Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.) Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later. Declared in ABTypedefs.h.
kABSuffixMatchCase-Insensitive	Search for elements that end with the value, ignoring case. (Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.) Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later. Declared in ABTypedefs.h.

Constant	Description
<code>kABBitsInBitFieldMatch</code>	Search for elements that match the bits in <code>ABPersonFlags</code> . (Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.) Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later. Declared in <code>ABTypedefs.h</code> .
<code>kABDoesNotContain-SubString</code>	Search for elements that do not contain the value. (Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.) Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later. Declared in <code>ABTypedefs.h</code> .
<code>kABDoesNotContain-SubStringCaseInsensitive</code>	Search for elements that do not contain the value, ignoring case. (Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.) Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later. Declared in <code>ABTypedefs.h</code> .
<code>kABWithinInterval-AroundToday</code>	Search for elements that are within a time interval (in seconds) forward or backward from today. (Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.) Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later. Declared in <code>ABTypedefs.h</code> .
<code>kABWithinInterval-AroundTodayYearless</code>	Search for elements that are within a time interval (in seconds) forward or backward from this day in any year. (Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.) Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later. Declared in <code>ABTypedefs.h</code> .
<code>kABNotWithinInterval-AroundToday</code>	Search for elements that are <i>not</i> within a time interval (in seconds) forward or backward from today. (Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.) Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later. Declared in <code>ABTypedefs.h</code> .
<code>kABNotWithinInterval-AroundTodayYearless</code>	Search for elements that are <i>not</i> within a time interval (in seconds) forward or backward from this day in any year. (Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.) Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later. Declared in <code>ABTypedefs.h</code> .
<code>kABWithinInterval-FromToday</code>	Search for elements that are within a time interval (in seconds) forward from today. (Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.) Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later. Declared in <code>ABTypedefs.h</code> .
<code>kABWithinInterval-FromTodayYearless</code>	Search for elements that are within a time interval (in seconds) forward from this day in any year. (Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.) Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later. Declared in <code>ABTypedefs.h</code> .

Constant	Description
<code>kABNotWithinInterval-FromToday</code>	Search for elements that are <i>not</i> within a time interval (in seconds) forward from today. (Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.) Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later. Declared in <code>ABTypedefs.h</code> .
<code>kABNotWithinInterval-FromTodayYearless</code>	Search for elements that are <i>not</i> within a time interval (in seconds) forward from this day in any year. (Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.) Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later. Declared in <code>ABTypedefs.h</code> .

Document Revision History

This table describes the changes to *ABSearchElement Class Objective-C Reference*.

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

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