| | [**Overview**](http://docs.google.com/overview-summary.html) | [**Package**](http://docs.google.com/package-summary.html) | **Class** | [**Use**](http://docs.google.com/class-use/FeatureDescriptor.html) | [**Tree**](http://docs.google.com/package-tree.html) | [**Deprecated**](http://docs.google.com/deprecated-list.html) | [**Index**](http://docs.google.com/index-files/index-1.html) | [**Help**](http://docs.google.com/help-doc.html) | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | | ***Java™ Platform***  ***Standard Ed. 6*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [**PREV CLASS**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/Expression.html)   [**NEXT CLASS**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/IndexedPropertyChangeEvent.html) | [**FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/index.html?java/beans/FeatureDescriptor.html)    [**NO FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/FeatureDescriptor.html)     [**All Classes**](http://docs.google.com/allclasses-noframe.html) |
| SUMMARY: NESTED | FIELD | [CONSTR](#3znysh7) | [METHOD](#2et92p0) | DETAIL: FIELD | [CONSTR](#3dy6vkm) | [METHOD](#4d34og8) |

## **java.beans**

Class FeatureDescriptor

[java.lang.Object](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html)  
 **java.beans.FeatureDescriptor**

**Direct Known Subclasses:** [BeanDescriptor](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/BeanDescriptor.html), [EventSetDescriptor](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/EventSetDescriptor.html), [MethodDescriptor](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/MethodDescriptor.html), [ParameterDescriptor](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/ParameterDescriptor.html), [PropertyDescriptor](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/PropertyDescriptor.html)

public class **FeatureDescriptor**extends [Object](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html)

The FeatureDescriptor class is the common baseclass for PropertyDescriptor, EventSetDescriptor, and MethodDescriptor, etc.

It supports some common information that can be set and retrieved for any of the introspection descriptors.

In addition it provides an extension mechanism so that arbitrary attribute/value pairs can be associated with a design feature.

| **Constructor Summary** | |
| --- | --- |
| [**FeatureDescriptor**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/FeatureDescriptor.html#FeatureDescriptor())()            Constructs a FeatureDescriptor. |

| **Method Summary** | |
| --- | --- |
| [Enumeration](http://docs.google.com/java/util/Enumeration.html)<[String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html)> | [**attributeNames**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/FeatureDescriptor.html#attributeNames())()            Gets an enumeration of the locale-independent names of this feature. |
| [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) | [**getDisplayName**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/FeatureDescriptor.html#getDisplayName())()            Gets the localized display name of this feature. |
| [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) | [**getName**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/FeatureDescriptor.html#getName())()            Gets the programmatic name of this feature. |
| [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) | [**getShortDescription**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/FeatureDescriptor.html#getShortDescription())()            Gets the short description of this feature. |
| [Object](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html) | [**getValue**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/FeatureDescriptor.html#getValue(java.lang.String))([String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) attributeName)            Retrieve a named attribute with this feature. |
| boolean | [**isExpert**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/FeatureDescriptor.html#isExpert())()            The "expert" flag is used to distinguish between those features that are intended for expert users from those that are intended for normal users. |
| boolean | [**isHidden**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/FeatureDescriptor.html#isHidden())()            The "hidden" flag is used to identify features that are intended only for tool use, and which should not be exposed to humans. |
| boolean | [**isPreferred**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/FeatureDescriptor.html#isPreferred())()            The "preferred" flag is used to identify features that are particularly important for presenting to humans. |
| void | [**setDisplayName**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/FeatureDescriptor.html#setDisplayName(java.lang.String))([String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) displayName)            Sets the localized display name of this feature. |
| void | [**setExpert**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/FeatureDescriptor.html#setExpert(boolean))(boolean expert)            The "expert" flag is used to distinguish between features that are intended for expert users from those that are intended for normal users. |
| void | [**setHidden**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/FeatureDescriptor.html#setHidden(boolean))(boolean hidden)            The "hidden" flag is used to identify features that are intended only for tool use, and which should not be exposed to humans. |
| void | [**setName**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/FeatureDescriptor.html#setName(java.lang.String))([String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) name)            Sets the programmatic name of this feature. |
| void | [**setPreferred**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/FeatureDescriptor.html#setPreferred(boolean))(boolean preferred)            The "preferred" flag is used to identify features that are particularly important for presenting to humans. |
| void | [**setShortDescription**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/FeatureDescriptor.html#setShortDescription(java.lang.String))([String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) text)            You can associate a short descriptive string with a feature. |
| void | [**setValue**](http://docs.google.com/java/beans/FeatureDescriptor.html#setValue(java.lang.String,%20java.lang.Object))([String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) attributeName, [Object](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html) value)            Associate a named attribute with this feature. |

| **Methods inherited from class java.lang.**[**Object**](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html) |
| --- |
| [clone](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#clone()), [equals](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#equals(java.lang.Object)), [finalize](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#finalize()), [getClass](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#getClass()), [hashCode](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#hashCode()), [notify](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#notify()), [notifyAll](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#notifyAll()), [toString](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#toString()), [wait](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#wait()), [wait](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#wait(long)), [wait](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#wait(long,%20int)) |

| **Constructor Detail** |
| --- |

### FeatureDescriptor

public **FeatureDescriptor**()

Constructs a FeatureDescriptor.

| **Method Detail** |
| --- |

### getName

public [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) **getName**()

Gets the programmatic name of this feature.

**Returns:**The programmatic name of the property/method/event

### setName

public void **setName**([String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) name)

Sets the programmatic name of this feature.

**Parameters:**name - The programmatic name of the property/method/event

### getDisplayName

public [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) **getDisplayName**()

Gets the localized display name of this feature.

**Returns:**The localized display name for the property/method/event. This defaults to the same as its programmatic name from getName.

### setDisplayName

public void **setDisplayName**([String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) displayName)

Sets the localized display name of this feature.

**Parameters:**displayName - The localized display name for the property/method/event.

### isExpert

public boolean **isExpert**()

The "expert" flag is used to distinguish between those features that are intended for expert users from those that are intended for normal users.

**Returns:**True if this feature is intended for use by experts only.

### setExpert

public void **setExpert**(boolean expert)

The "expert" flag is used to distinguish between features that are intended for expert users from those that are intended for normal users.

**Parameters:**expert - True if this feature is intended for use by experts only.

### isHidden

public boolean **isHidden**()

The "hidden" flag is used to identify features that are intended only for tool use, and which should not be exposed to humans.

**Returns:**True if this feature should be hidden from human users.

### setHidden

public void **setHidden**(boolean hidden)

The "hidden" flag is used to identify features that are intended only for tool use, and which should not be exposed to humans.

**Parameters:**hidden - True if this feature should be hidden from human users.

### isPreferred

public boolean **isPreferred**()

The "preferred" flag is used to identify features that are particularly important for presenting to humans.

**Returns:**True if this feature should be preferentially shown to human users.

### setPreferred

public void **setPreferred**(boolean preferred)

The "preferred" flag is used to identify features that are particularly important for presenting to humans.

**Parameters:**preferred - True if this feature should be preferentially shown to human users.

### getShortDescription

public [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) **getShortDescription**()

Gets the short description of this feature.

**Returns:**A localized short description associated with this property/method/event. This defaults to be the display name.

### setShortDescription

public void **setShortDescription**([String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) text)

You can associate a short descriptive string with a feature. Normally these descriptive strings should be less than about 40 characters.

**Parameters:**text - A (localized) short description to be associated with this property/method/event.

### setValue

public void **setValue**([String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) attributeName,  
 [Object](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html) value)

Associate a named attribute with this feature.

**Parameters:**attributeName - The locale-independent name of the attributevalue - The value.

### getValue

public [Object](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html) **getValue**([String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) attributeName)

Retrieve a named attribute with this feature.

**Parameters:**attributeName - The locale-independent name of the attribute **Returns:**The value of the attribute. May be null if the attribute is unknown.

### attributeNames

public [Enumeration](http://docs.google.com/java/util/Enumeration.html)<[String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html)> **attributeNames**()

Gets an enumeration of the locale-independent names of this feature.

**Returns:**An enumeration of the locale-independent names of any attributes that have been registered with setValue.

| | [**Overview**](http://docs.google.com/overview-summary.html) | [**Package**](http://docs.google.com/package-summary.html) | **Class** | [**Use**](http://docs.google.com/class-use/FeatureDescriptor.html) | [**Tree**](http://docs.google.com/package-tree.html) | [**Deprecated**](http://docs.google.com/deprecated-list.html) | [**Index**](http://docs.google.com/index-files/index-1.html) | [**Help**](http://docs.google.com/help-doc.html) | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | | ***Java™ Platform***  ***Standard Ed. 6*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
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[Submit a bug or feature](http://bugs.sun.com/services/bugreport/index.jsp)

For further API reference and developer documentation, see [Java SE Developer Documentation](http://docs.google.com/webnotes/devdocs-vs-specs.html). That documentation contains more detailed, developer-targeted descriptions, with conceptual overviews, definitions of terms, workarounds, and working code examples.

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