| | [**Overview**](http://docs.google.com/overview-summary.html) | [**Package**](http://docs.google.com/package-summary.html) | **Class** | [**Use**](http://docs.google.com/class-use/FileTypeMap.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/javax/activation/FileDataSource.html)   [**NEXT CLASS**](http://docs.google.com/javax/activation/MailcapCommandMap.html) | [**FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/index.html?javax/activation/FileTypeMap.html)    [**NO FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/FileTypeMap.html)     [**All Classes**](http://docs.google.com/allclasses-noframe.html) |
| SUMMARY: NESTED | FIELD | [CONSTR](#3znysh7) | [METHOD](#2et92p0) | DETAIL: FIELD | [CONSTR](#3dy6vkm) | [METHOD](#4d34og8) |

## **javax.activation**

Class FileTypeMap

[java.lang.Object](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html)  
 **javax.activation.FileTypeMap**

**Direct Known Subclasses:** [MimetypesFileTypeMap](http://docs.google.com/javax/activation/MimetypesFileTypeMap.html)

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

The FileTypeMap is an abstract class that provides a data typing interface for files. Implementations of this class will implement the getContentType methods which will derive a content type from a file name or a File object. FileTypeMaps could use any scheme to determine the data type, from examining the file extension of a file (like the MimetypesFileTypeMap) to opening the file and trying to derive its type from the contents of the file. The FileDataSource class uses the default FileTypeMap (a MimetypesFileTypeMap unless changed) to determine the content type of files.

**Since:** 1.6 **See Also:**[FileTypeMap](http://docs.google.com/javax/activation/FileTypeMap.html), [FileDataSource](http://docs.google.com/javax/activation/FileDataSource.html), [MimetypesFileTypeMap](http://docs.google.com/javax/activation/MimetypesFileTypeMap.html)

| **Constructor Summary** | |
| --- | --- |
| [**FileTypeMap**](http://docs.google.com/javax/activation/FileTypeMap.html#FileTypeMap())()            The default constructor. |

| **Method Summary** | |
| --- | --- |
| abstract  [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) | [**getContentType**](http://docs.google.com/javax/activation/FileTypeMap.html#getContentType(java.io.File))([File](http://docs.google.com/java/io/File.html) file)            Return the type of the file object. |
| abstract  [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) | [**getContentType**](http://docs.google.com/javax/activation/FileTypeMap.html#getContentType(java.lang.String))([String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) filename)            Return the type of the file passed in. |
| static [FileTypeMap](http://docs.google.com/javax/activation/FileTypeMap.html) | [**getDefaultFileTypeMap**](http://docs.google.com/javax/activation/FileTypeMap.html#getDefaultFileTypeMap())()            Return the default FileTypeMap for the system. |
| static void | [**setDefaultFileTypeMap**](http://docs.google.com/javax/activation/FileTypeMap.html#setDefaultFileTypeMap(javax.activation.FileTypeMap))([FileTypeMap](http://docs.google.com/javax/activation/FileTypeMap.html) map)            Sets the default FileTypeMap for the system. |

| **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** |
| --- |

### FileTypeMap

public **FileTypeMap**()

The default constructor.

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

### getContentType

public abstract [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) **getContentType**([File](http://docs.google.com/java/io/File.html) file)

Return the type of the file object. This method should always return a valid MIME type.

**Parameters:**file - A file to be typed. **Returns:**The content type.

### getContentType

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

Return the type of the file passed in. This method should always return a valid MIME type.

**Parameters:**filename - the pathname of the file. **Returns:**The content type.

### setDefaultFileTypeMap

public static void **setDefaultFileTypeMap**([FileTypeMap](http://docs.google.com/javax/activation/FileTypeMap.html) map)

Sets the default FileTypeMap for the system. This instance will be returned to callers of getDefaultFileTypeMap.

**Parameters:**map - The FileTypeMap. **Throws:** [SecurityException](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/SecurityException.html) - if the caller doesn't have permission to change the default

### getDefaultFileTypeMap

public static [FileTypeMap](http://docs.google.com/javax/activation/FileTypeMap.html) **getDefaultFileTypeMap**()

Return the default FileTypeMap for the system. If setDefaultFileTypeMap was called, return that instance, otherwise return an instance of MimetypesFileTypeMap.

**Returns:**The default FileTypeMap**See Also:**[setDefaultFileTypeMap(javax.activation.FileTypeMap)](http://docs.google.com/javax/activation/FileTypeMap.html#setDefaultFileTypeMap(javax.activation.FileTypeMap))

| | [**Overview**](http://docs.google.com/overview-summary.html) | [**Package**](http://docs.google.com/package-summary.html) | **Class** | [**Use**](http://docs.google.com/class-use/FileTypeMap.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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