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

## **javax.tools**

Interface FileObject

**All Known Subinterfaces:** [JavaFileObject](http://docs.google.com/javax/tools/JavaFileObject.html) **All Known Implementing Classes:** [ForwardingFileObject](http://docs.google.com/javax/tools/ForwardingFileObject.html), [ForwardingJavaFileObject](http://docs.google.com/javax/tools/ForwardingJavaFileObject.html), [SimpleJavaFileObject](http://docs.google.com/javax/tools/SimpleJavaFileObject.html)

public interface **FileObject**

File abstraction for tools. In this context, *file* means an abstraction of regular files and other sources of data. For example, a file object can be used to represent regular files, memory cache, or data in databases.

All methods in this interface might throw a SecurityException if a security exception occurs.

Unless explicitly allowed, all methods in this interface might throw a NullPointerException if given a null argument.

**Since:** 1.6

| **Method Summary** | |
| --- | --- |
| boolean | [**delete**](http://docs.google.com/javax/tools/FileObject.html#delete())()            Deletes this file object. |
| [CharSequence](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/CharSequence.html) | [**getCharContent**](http://docs.google.com/javax/tools/FileObject.html#getCharContent(boolean))(boolean ignoreEncodingErrors)            Gets the character content of this file object, if available. |
| long | [**getLastModified**](http://docs.google.com/javax/tools/FileObject.html#getLastModified())()            Gets the time this file object was last modified. |
| [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) | [**getName**](http://docs.google.com/javax/tools/FileObject.html#getName())()            Gets a user-friendly name for this file object. |
| [InputStream](http://docs.google.com/java/io/InputStream.html) | [**openInputStream**](http://docs.google.com/javax/tools/FileObject.html#openInputStream())()            Gets an InputStream for this file object. |
| [OutputStream](http://docs.google.com/java/io/OutputStream.html) | [**openOutputStream**](http://docs.google.com/javax/tools/FileObject.html#openOutputStream())()            Gets an OutputStream for this file object. |
| [Reader](http://docs.google.com/java/io/Reader.html) | [**openReader**](http://docs.google.com/javax/tools/FileObject.html#openReader(boolean))(boolean ignoreEncodingErrors)            Gets a reader for this object. |
| [Writer](http://docs.google.com/java/io/Writer.html) | [**openWriter**](http://docs.google.com/javax/tools/FileObject.html#openWriter())()            Gets a Writer for this file object. |
| [URI](http://docs.google.com/java/net/URI.html) | [**toUri**](http://docs.google.com/javax/tools/FileObject.html#toUri())()            Returns a URI identifying this file object. |

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

### toUri

[URI](http://docs.google.com/java/net/URI.html) **toUri**()

Returns a URI identifying this file object.

**Returns:**a URI

### getName

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

Gets a user-friendly name for this file object. The exact value returned is not specified but implementations should take care to preserve names as given by the user. For example, if the user writes the filename "BobsApp\Test.java" on the command line, this method should return "BobsApp\Test.java" whereas the [toUri](http://docs.google.com/javax/tools/FileObject.html#toUri()) method might return file:///C:/Documents%20and%20Settings/UncleBob/BobsApp/Test.java.

**Returns:**a user-friendly name

### openInputStream

[InputStream](http://docs.google.com/java/io/InputStream.html) **openInputStream**()  
 throws [IOException](http://docs.google.com/java/io/IOException.html)

Gets an InputStream for this file object.

**Returns:**an InputStream **Throws:** [IllegalStateException](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/IllegalStateException.html) - if this file object was opened for writing and does not support reading [UnsupportedOperationException](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/UnsupportedOperationException.html) - if this kind of file object does not support byte access [IOException](http://docs.google.com/java/io/IOException.html) - if an I/O error occurred

### openOutputStream

[OutputStream](http://docs.google.com/java/io/OutputStream.html) **openOutputStream**()  
 throws [IOException](http://docs.google.com/java/io/IOException.html)

Gets an OutputStream for this file object.

**Returns:**an OutputStream **Throws:** [IllegalStateException](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/IllegalStateException.html) - if this file object was opened for reading and does not support writing [UnsupportedOperationException](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/UnsupportedOperationException.html) - if this kind of file object does not support byte access [IOException](http://docs.google.com/java/io/IOException.html) - if an I/O error occurred

### openReader

[Reader](http://docs.google.com/java/io/Reader.html) **openReader**(boolean ignoreEncodingErrors)  
 throws [IOException](http://docs.google.com/java/io/IOException.html)

Gets a reader for this object. The returned reader will replace bytes that cannot be decoded with the default translation character. In addition, the reader may report a diagnostic unless ignoreEncodingErrors is true.

**Parameters:**ignoreEncodingErrors - ignore encoding errors if true **Returns:**a Reader **Throws:** [IllegalStateException](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/IllegalStateException.html) - if this file object was opened for writing and does not support reading [UnsupportedOperationException](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/UnsupportedOperationException.html) - if this kind of file object does not support character access [IOException](http://docs.google.com/java/io/IOException.html) - if an I/O error occurred

### getCharContent

[CharSequence](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/CharSequence.html) **getCharContent**(boolean ignoreEncodingErrors)  
 throws [IOException](http://docs.google.com/java/io/IOException.html)

Gets the character content of this file object, if available. Any byte that cannot be decoded will be replaced by the default translation character. In addition, a diagnostic may be reported unless ignoreEncodingErrors is true.

**Parameters:**ignoreEncodingErrors - ignore encoding errors if true **Returns:**a CharSequence if available; null otherwise **Throws:** [IllegalStateException](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/IllegalStateException.html) - if this file object was opened for writing and does not support reading [UnsupportedOperationException](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/UnsupportedOperationException.html) - if this kind of file object does not support character access [IOException](http://docs.google.com/java/io/IOException.html) - if an I/O error occurred

### openWriter

[Writer](http://docs.google.com/java/io/Writer.html) **openWriter**()  
 throws [IOException](http://docs.google.com/java/io/IOException.html)

Gets a Writer for this file object.

**Returns:**a Writer **Throws:** [IllegalStateException](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/IllegalStateException.html) - if this file object was opened for reading and does not support writing [UnsupportedOperationException](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/UnsupportedOperationException.html) - if this kind of file object does not support character access [IOException](http://docs.google.com/java/io/IOException.html) - if an I/O error occurred

### getLastModified

long **getLastModified**()

Gets the time this file object was last modified. The time is measured in milliseconds since the epoch (00:00:00 GMT, January 1, 1970).

**Returns:**the time this file object was last modified; or 0 if the file object does not exist, if an I/O error occurred, or if the operation is not supported

### delete

boolean **delete**()

Deletes this file object. In case of errors, returns false.

**Returns:**true if and only if this file object is successfully deleted; false otherwise

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