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org.apache.commons.beanutils

## Class BeanComparator<T>

* [java.lang.Object](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true)
  + org.apache.commons.beanutils.BeanComparator<T>
* Type Parameters: T - the type of beans to be compared by this Comparator All Implemented Interfaces: [Serializable](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/io/Serializable.html?is-external=true), [Comparator](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true)<T>  
    
  public class BeanComparator<T>  
  extends [Object](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true)  
  implements [Comparator](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true)<T>, [Serializable](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/io/Serializable.html?is-external=true)  
  This comparator compares two beans by the specified bean property. It is also possible to compare beans based on nested, indexed, combined, mapped bean properties. Please see the [PropertyUtilsBean](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/PropertyUtilsBean.html) documentation for all property name possibilities.  
  **Note:** The BeanComparator passes the values of the specified bean property to a ComparableComparator, if no comparator is specified in the constructor. If you are comparing two beans based on a property that could contain "null" values, a suitable Comparator or ComparatorChain should be supplied in the constructor. Note that the passed in Comparator must be able to handle the passed in objects. Because the type of the property to be compared is not known at compile time no type checks can be performed by the compiler. Thus ClassCastException exceptions can be thrown if unexpected property values occur.Version: $Id$ See Also: [Serialized Form](http://docs.google.com/serialized-form.html#org.apache.commons.beanutils.BeanComparator)

### Constructor SummaryConstructors

|  |
| --- |
| * + Constructor and Description |
| * + [BeanComparator](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/BeanComparator.html#BeanComparator--)() Constructs a Bean Comparator without a property set. |
| * + [BeanComparator](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/BeanComparator.html#BeanComparator-java.lang.String-)([String](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/String.html?is-external=true) property) Constructs a property-based comparator for beans. |
| * + [BeanComparator](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/BeanComparator.html#BeanComparator-java.lang.String-java.util.Comparator-)([String](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/String.html?is-external=true) property, [Comparator](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true)<?> comparator) Constructs a property-based comparator for beans. |

### Method SummaryAll Methods Instance Methods Concrete Methods

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * + Modifier and Type | * + Method and Description |
| * + int | * + [compare](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/BeanComparator.html#compare-T-T-)([T](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/BeanComparator.html) o1, [T](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/BeanComparator.html) o2) Compare two JavaBeans by their shared property. |
| * + boolean | * + [equals](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/BeanComparator.html#equals-java.lang.Object-)([Object](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true) o) Two BeanComparator's are equals if and only if the wrapped comparators and the property names to be compared are equal. |
| * + [Comparator](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true)<?> | * + [getComparator](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/BeanComparator.html#getComparator--)() Gets the Comparator being used to compare beans. |
| * + [String](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/String.html?is-external=true) | * + [getProperty](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/BeanComparator.html#getProperty--)() Gets the property attribute of the BeanComparator |
| * + int | * + [hashCode](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/BeanComparator.html#hashCode--)() Hashcode compatible with equals. |
| * + void | * + [setProperty](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/BeanComparator.html#setProperty-java.lang.String-)([String](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/String.html?is-external=true) property) Sets the method to be called to compare two JavaBeans |

### Methods inherited from class java.lang.[**Object**](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true)[clone](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true#clone--), [finalize](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true#finalize--), [getClass](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true#getClass--), [notify](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true#notify--), [notifyAll](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true#notifyAll--), [toString](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true#toString--), [wait](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true#wait--), [wait](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true#wait-long-), [wait](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true#wait-long-int-)

### Methods inherited from interface java.util.[**Comparator**](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true)[comparing](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#comparing-java.util.function.Function-), [comparing](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#comparing-java.util.function.Function-java.util.Comparator-), [comparingDouble](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#comparingDouble-java.util.function.ToDoubleFunction-), [comparingInt](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#comparingInt-java.util.function.ToIntFunction-), [comparingLong](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#comparingLong-java.util.function.ToLongFunction-), [naturalOrder](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#naturalOrder--), [nullsFirst](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#nullsFirst-java.util.Comparator-), [nullsLast](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#nullsLast-java.util.Comparator-), [reversed](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#reversed--), [reverseOrder](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#reverseOrder--), [thenComparing](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#thenComparing-java.util.Comparator-), [thenComparing](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#thenComparing-java.util.function.Function-), [thenComparing](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#thenComparing-java.util.function.Function-java.util.Comparator-), [thenComparingDouble](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#thenComparingDouble-java.util.function.ToDoubleFunction-), [thenComparingInt](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#thenComparingInt-java.util.function.ToIntFunction-), [thenComparingLong](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#thenComparingLong-java.util.function.ToLongFunction-)

### Constructor Detail

#### BeanComparator public BeanComparator() Constructs a Bean Comparator without a property set. **Note** that this is intended to be used only in bean-centric environments. Until [setProperty(java.lang.String)](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/BeanComparator.html#setProperty-java.lang.String-) is called with a non-null value. this comparator will compare the Objects only.

#### BeanComparator public BeanComparator([String](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/String.html?is-external=true) property) Constructs a property-based comparator for beans. This compares two beans by the property specified in the property parameter. This constructor creates a BeanComparator that uses a ComparableComparator to compare the property values. Passing "null" to this constructor will cause the BeanComparator to compare objects based on natural order, that is java.lang.Comparable.Parameters: property - String Name of a bean property, which may contain the name of a simple, nested, indexed, mapped, or combined property. See [PropertyUtilsBean](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/PropertyUtilsBean.html) for property query language syntax. If the property passed in is null then the actual objects will be compared

#### BeanComparator public BeanComparator([String](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/String.html?is-external=true) property, [Comparator](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true)<?> comparator) Constructs a property-based comparator for beans. This constructor creates a BeanComparator that uses the supplied Comparator to compare the property values.Parameters: property - Name of a bean property, can contain the name of a simple, nested, indexed, mapped, or combined property. See [PropertyUtilsBean](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/PropertyUtilsBean.html) for property query language syntax. comparator - BeanComparator will pass the values of the specified bean property to this Comparator. If your bean property is not a comparable or contains null values, a suitable comparator may be supplied in this constructor.

### Method Detail

#### setProperty public void setProperty([String](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/String.html?is-external=true) property) Sets the method to be called to compare two JavaBeansParameters: property - String method name to call to compare If the property passed in is null then the actual objects will be compared

#### getProperty public [String](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/String.html?is-external=true) getProperty() Gets the property attribute of the BeanComparatorReturns: String method name to call to compare. A null value indicates that the actual objects will be compared

#### getComparator public [Comparator](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true)<?> getComparator() Gets the Comparator being used to compare beans.Returns: the Comparator being used to compare beans

#### compare public int compare([T](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/BeanComparator.html) o1, [T](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/BeanComparator.html) o2) Compare two JavaBeans by their shared property. If [getProperty()](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/BeanComparator.html#getProperty--) is null then the actual objects will be compared.Specified by: [compare](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#compare-T-T-) in interface [Comparator](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true)<[T](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/BeanComparator.html)> Parameters: o1 - Object The first bean to get data from to compare against o2 - Object The second bean to get data from to compare Returns: int negative or positive based on order

#### equals public boolean equals([Object](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true) o) Two BeanComparator's are equals if and only if the wrapped comparators and the property names to be compared are equal.Specified by: [equals](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true#equals-java.lang.Object-) in interface [Comparator](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Comparator.html?is-external=true)<[T](http://docs.google.com/org/apache/commons/beanutils/BeanComparator.html)> Overrides: [equals](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true#equals-java.lang.Object-) in class [Object](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true) Parameters: o - Comparator to compare to Returns: whether the the comparators are equal or not

#### hashCode public int hashCode() Hashcode compatible with equals.Overrides: [hashCode](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true#hashCode--) in class [Object](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/Object.html?is-external=true) Returns: the hash code for this comparator

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