

Objective C static code analysis: Keywords should be used before arguments

2 minutes

It may seem cleaner to omit keywords from your method declarations, but this is one time you should err on the side of verbosity. Omitting keywords in a declaration necessarily means that they'll be omitted from calls too. What results is code that will be impenetrable to maintainers. That's why it's considered best practice to always use keywords. This applies both to Objective-C-style parameters without keywords, and to C-style parameter declarations, which are deprecated.

Noncompliant Code Example

```
@interface MyAction
- (void)sendAction:(int)anAction :(int)flag; // Noncompliant
- (void)seekAction:(int)anAction, int flag; // Noncompliant; hard on
maintainers AND deprecated
@end

void test(MyAction* myAction) {
    [myAction sendAction:1 :1];
    [myAction sendAction:1 forAllCells:1]; // warning: 'MyAction' may
not respond to 'sendAction:forAllCells:'
    [myAction seekAction:1 :1];
}
```

Compliant Solution

```
@interface MyAction
- (void)sendAction:(int)anAction forAllCells:(int)flag;
- (void)seekAction:(int)anAction forAllCells:(int)flag;
@end

void test(MyAction* myAction) {
    [myAction sendAction:1 forAllCells:1];
    [myAction seekAction:1 forAllCells:1];
}
```

See

- [Coding Guidelines for Cocoa](#) - Naming Methods

Available In: