

Advanced Swing

Custom Data Models and Cell Renderers

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Taught by the author of *Core Servlets and JSP*, *More Servlets and JSP*, and this tutorial. Available at public venues, or customized versions can be held on-site at <u>your</u> organization. Contact hall@coreservlets.com for details.

Agenda

- Building a simple static JList
- Adding and removing entries from a JList at runtime
- Making a custom data model
 - Telling JList how to extract data from existing objects
- Making a custom cell renderer
 - Telling JList what GUI component to use for each of the data cells

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MVC Architecture

Custom data models

Changing the way the GUI control obtains the data.
 Instead of copying data from an existing object into a GUI control, simply tell the GUI control how to get at the existing data.

Custom cell renderers

Changing the way the GUI control displays data values.
 Instead of changing the data values, simply tell the GUI control how to build a Swing component that represents each data value.

Main applicable components

- JList
- JTable
- JTree

JList with Fixed Set of Choices

Build JList: pass strings to constructor

 The simplest way to use a JList is to supply an array of strings to the JList constructor. Cannot add or remove elements once the JList is created.

```
String options = { "Option 1", ..., "Option N"};
JList optionList = new JList(options);
```

Set visible rows

- Call setVisibleRowCount and drop JList into JScrollPane
 optionList.setVisibleRowCount(4);
 JScrollPane optionPane =
 new JScrollPane(optionList);
 someContainer.add(optionPane);

Handle events

Attach ListSelectionListener and use valueChanged

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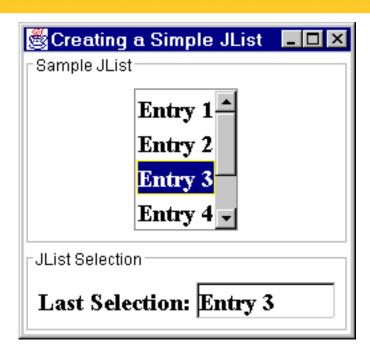
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Simple JList: Example Code

Simple JList: Example Code (Continued)

```
private class ValueReporter implements ListSelectionListener {
  /** You get three events in many cases -- one for the
      deselection of the originally selected entry, one
      indicating the selection is moving, and one for the
      selection of the new entry. In the first two cases,
   * getValueIsAdjusting returns true; thus, the test
   * below since only the third case is of interest.
   */
 public void valueChanged(ListSelectionEvent event) {
    if (!event.getValueIsAdjusting()) {
      Object value = sampleJList.getSelectedValue();
      if (value != null) {
        valueField.setText(value.toString());
  }
}
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```

Simple JList: Example Output



JList with Changeable Choices

• Build JList:

- Create a DefaultListModel, add data, pass to constructor
 string choices = { "Choice 1", ..., "Choice N"};
 DefaultListModel sampleModel = new DefaultListModel();
 for(int i=0; i<choices.length; i++) {
 sampleModel.addElement(choices[i]);
 }
 JList optionList = new JList(sampleModel);</pre>

Set visible rows

Same: Use setVisibleRowCount and a JScrollPane

Handle events

Same: attach ListSelectionListener and use valueChanged

Add/remove elements

- Use the model, not the JList directly

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Changeable JList: Example Code

Changeable JList: Example Code (Continued)

```
private class ItemAdder implements ActionListener {
  /** Add an entry to the ListModel whenever the user
   * presses the button. Note that since the new entries
      may be wider than the old ones (e.g., "Entry 10" vs.
   * "Entry 9"), you need to rerun the layout manager.
   * You need to do this <I>before</I> trying to scroll
   * to make the index visible.
   */
  public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent event) {
    int index = sampleModel.getSize();
    sampleModel.addElement("Entry " + (index+1));
    ((JComponent)getContentPane()).revalidate();
    sampleJList.setSelectedIndex(index);
    sampleJList.ensureIndexIsVisible(index);
}
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```

Changeable JList: Example Output



JList with Custom Data Model

- Build JList
 - Have existing data implement ListModel interface
 - getElementAt
 - Given an index, returns data element
 - getSize
 - Tells JList how many entries are in list
 - addListDataListener
 - Lets user add listeners that should be notified when an item is selected or deselected.
 - removeListDataListener
 - Pass model to JList constructor
- Set visible rows & handle events: as before
- Add/remove items: use the model

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Custom Model: Example Code

Actual Data

- JavaLocation has toString plus 3 fields
 - Country, comment, flag file

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JList with Custom Model: Example Code

```
JavaLocationCollection collection =
   new JavaLocationCollection();
JavaLocationListModel listModel =
   new JavaLocationListModel(collection);
JList sampleJList = new JList(listModel);
Font displayFont =
   new Font("Serif", Font.BOLD, 18);
sampleJList.setFont(displayFont);
content.add(sampleJList);
```

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JList with Custom Model: Example Output



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JList with Custom Cell Renderer

Idea

- Instead of predetermining how the JList will draw the list elements, Swing lets you specify what graphical component to use for the various entries.
 Attach a ListCellRenderer that has a getListCellRendererComponent method that determines the GUI component used for each cell.
- Arguments to getListCellRendererComponent
 - JList: the list itself
 - Object: the value of the current cell
 - int: the index of the current cell
 - boolean: is the current cell selected?

Custom Renderer: Example Code

```
public class JavaLocationRenderer extends
                                   DefaultListCellRenderer {
  private Hashtable iconTable = new Hashtable();
  public Component getListCellRendererComponent
                 (JList list, Object value, int index,
                 boolean isSelected, boolean hasFocus) {
    JLabel label = (JLabel)super.getListCellRendererComponent
                       (list, value, index, isSelected, hasFocus);
    if (value instanceof JavaLocation) {
      JavaLocation location = (JavaLocation)value;
      ImageIcon icon = (ImageIcon)iconTable.get(value);
      if (icon == null) {
        icon = new ImageIcon(location.getFlagFile());
        iconTable.put(value, icon);
      label.setIcon(icon);
    return(label);
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```

Custom Renderer: Example Output



Summary

Simple static JList

- Pass array of strings to JList constructor

Simple changeable JList

 Pass DefaultListModel to JList constructor. Add/remove data to/from the model, not the JList.

Custom data model

- Have real data implement ListModel interface.
- Pass real data to JList constructor.

Custom cell renderer

- Assign a ListCellRenderer
- ListCellRenderer has a method that determines the Component to be used for each cell

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Questions?

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