
WebHistory Class Reference

[Cocoa](#) > [User Experience](#)



2009-03-04



Apple Inc.
© 2009 Apple Inc.
All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, mechanical, electronic, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without prior written permission of Apple Inc., with the following exceptions: Any person is hereby authorized to store documentation on a single computer for personal use only and to print copies of documentation for personal use provided that the documentation contains Apple's copyright notice.

The Apple logo is a trademark of Apple Inc.

Use of the "keyboard" Apple logo (Option-Shift-K) for commercial purposes without the prior written consent of Apple may constitute trademark infringement and unfair competition in violation of federal and state laws.

No licenses, express or implied, are granted with respect to any of the technology described in this document. Apple retains all intellectual property rights associated with the technology described in this document. This document is intended to assist application developers to develop applications only for Apple-labeled computers.

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this document is accurate. Apple is not responsible for typographical errors.

Apple Inc.
1 Infinite Loop
Cupertino, CA 95014
408-996-1010

Apple, the Apple logo, Cocoa, Mac, Mac OS, Objective-C, and Safari are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the United States and other countries.

Simultaneously published in the United States and Canada.

Even though Apple has reviewed this document, APPLE MAKES NO WARRANTY OR REPRESENTATION, EITHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, WITH RESPECT TO THIS DOCUMENT, ITS QUALITY, ACCURACY, MERCHANTABILITY, OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. AS A RESULT, THIS DOCUMENT IS PROVIDED "AS IS," AND YOU, THE READER, ARE ASSUMING THE ENTIRE RISK AS TO ITS QUALITY AND ACCURACY.

IN NO EVENT WILL APPLE BE LIABLE FOR DIRECT, INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES RESULTING FROM ANY

DEFECT OR INACCURACY IN THIS DOCUMENT, even if advised of the possibility of such damages.

THE WARRANTY AND REMEDIES SET FORTH ABOVE ARE EXCLUSIVE AND IN LIEU OF ALL OTHERS, ORAL OR WRITTEN, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED. No Apple dealer, agent, or employee is authorized to make any modification, extension, or addition to this warranty.

Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of implied warranties or liability for incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

Contents

WebHistory Class Reference 5

Overview	5
Tasks	5
Accessing Shared History Objects	5
Adding and Removing History Items	5
Getting Web History Items	6
Loading and Saving History Information	6
Getting and Setting Attributes	6
Class Methods	6
optionalSharedHistory	6
setOptionalSharedHistory:	7
Instance Methods	7
addItems:	7
historyAgeInDaysLimit	8
historyItemLimit	8
itemForURL:	8
loadFromURL:error:	9
orderedItemsLastVisitedOnDay:	9
orderedLastVisitedDays	10
removeAllItems	10
removeItems:	11
saveToURL:error:	11
setHistoryAgeInDaysLimit:	12
setHistoryItemLimit:	12
Constants	12
Web History Dictionary Keys	12
Notifications	13
WebHistoryAllItemsRemovedNotification	13
WebHistoryItemsAddedNotification	13
WebHistoryItemsRemovedNotification	14
WebHistoryLoadedNotification	14
WebHistorySavedNotification	15

Document Revision History 17

Index 19

WebHistory Class Reference

Inherits from	NSObject
Conforms to	NSObject (NSObject)
Framework	/System/Library/Frameworks/WebKit.framework
Availability	Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later. Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.
Companion guide	WebKit Objective-C Programming Guide
Declared in	WebHistory.h

Overview

`WebHistory` objects are used to maintain the pages visited by users. Visited pages are represented by `WebHistoryItem` objects. You add and remove history items using the [addItem:](#) (page 7) and [removeItems:](#) (page 11) methods. These methods post appropriate notifications when items are added or removed so you can update the display. `WebHistory` organizes the `WebHistoryItem` objects by the day they were visited, ordered from most recent to oldest. You can request all the days that contain history items using the [orderedLastVisitedDays](#) (page 10) method or request the items visited on a particular day using the [orderedItemsLastVisitedOnDay:](#) (page 9) method. `WebHistory` objects can be loaded and saved by specifying a file URL (see [loadFromURL:error:](#) (page 9)).

Tasks

Accessing Shared History Objects

- + [optionalSharedHistory](#) (page 6)
Returns a shared web history object, if one exists.
- + [setOptionalSharedHistory:](#) (page 7)
Sets the web history object to share.

Adding and Removing History Items

- [addItem:](#) (page 7)
Inserts or updates the specified items in the web history.

- [removeItems:](#) (page 11)
Removes the specified items from the web history.
- [removeAllItems](#) (page 10)
Removes all items from the web history.

Getting Web History Items

- [orderedItemsLastVisitedOnDay:](#) (page 9)
Returns web history items that were last visited on the specified date.
- [orderedLastVisitedDays](#) (page 10)
Returns all calendar days represented in the web history.
- [itemForURL:](#) (page 8)
Returns the web history item that corresponds to the specified web location.

Loading and Saving History Information

- [loadFromURL:error:](#) (page 9)
Loads the contents of the specified web history file.
- [saveToURL:error:](#) (page 11)
Saves the web history to the specified file.

Getting and Setting Attributes

- [historyAgeInDaysLimit](#) (page 8)
Returns the maximum age of web history items that can be retrieved.
- [setHistoryAgeInDaysLimit:](#) (page 12)
Sets the maximum age of web history items that can be retrieved.
- [historyItemLimit](#) (page 8)
Returns the maximum number of web history items that can be stored.
- [setHistoryItemLimit:](#) (page 12)
Sets the maximum number of web history items to store.

Class Methods

optionalSharedHistory

Returns a shared web history object, if one exists.

```
+ (WebHistory *)optionalSharedHistory
```

Return Value

A shared web history object initialized with the default web history file, or `nil` if one was not previously specified using the [setOptionalSharedHistory:](#) (page 7) method.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

See Also

- [loadFromURL:error:](#) (page 9)

Declared In

WebHistory.h

setOptionalSharedHistory:

Sets the web history object to share.

```
+ (void)setOptionalSharedHistory:(WebHistory *)history
```

Parameters

history

The web history object to share.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

See Also

+ [optionalSharedHistory](#) (page 6)

- [loadFromURL:error:](#) (page 9)

Declared In

WebHistory.h

Instance Methods

addItem:

Inserts or updates the specified items in the web history.

```
- (void)addItem:(NSArray *)newItems
```

Parameters

newItems

An array of web history items to add. If an item in the array already exists in the web history this method replaces the existing item, so that the last-visited date for the item is updated.

Discussion

When successful, this method posts a notification ([WebHistoryItemsAddedNotification](#) (page 13)).

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

See Also

- [removeAllItems](#) (page 10)
- [removeItems:](#) (page 11)

Declared In

WebHistory.h

historyAgeInDaysLimit

Returns the maximum age of web history items that can be retrieved.

- (int)historyAgeInDaysLimit

Return Value

The maximum age, in days, of web history items that can be retrieved.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.3.9 and later.

See Also

- [setHistoryAgeInDaysLimit:](#) (page 12)
- [historyItemLimit](#) (page 8)

Declared In

WebHistory.h

historyItemLimit

Returns the maximum number of web history items that can be stored.

- (int)historyItemLimit

Return Value

The maximum number of web history items that can be stored.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.3.9 and later.

See Also

- [setHistoryItemLimit:](#) (page 12)
- [historyAgeInDaysLimit](#) (page 8)

Declared In

WebHistory.h

itemForURL:

Returns the web history item that corresponds to the specified web location.

- (WebHistoryItem *)itemForURL:(NSURL *)URL

Parameters*URL*

The location, as a URL, of the webpage that was visited.

Return Value

The web history item that represents visits to the specified URL, or `nil` if none was found.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

Declared In

WebHistory.h

loadFromURL:error:

Loads the contents of the specified web history file.

```
- (BOOL)loadFromURL:(NSURL *)URL error:(NSError **)error
```

Parameters*URL*

The URL of the file to load. The file should have been created previously by a web history object. Note that the file's format is private and should not be edited directly.

error

On output, `nil` if the load was successful; otherwise, *error*, contains details of the failure.

Return Value

YES if successful; otherwise, NO.

Discussion

When successful, this method posts a notification ([WebHistoryLoadedNotification](#) (page 14)).

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

See Also

- [saveToURL:error:](#) (page 11)
- + [setOptionalSharedHistory:](#) (page 7)
- + [optionalSharedHistory](#) (page 6)

Declared In

WebHistory.h

orderedItemsLastVisitedOnDay:

Returns web history items that were last visited on the specified date.

```
- (NSArray *)orderedItemsLastVisitedOnDay:(NSDate *)calendarDate
```

Parameters

calendarDate

The date on which the web history items were last visited.

Return Value

An array of web history items that were last visited on the specified date.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

See Also

- [orderedLastVisitedDays](#) (page 10)

Declared In

WebHistory.h

orderedLastVisitedDays

Returns all calendar days represented in the web history.

- (NSArray *)orderedLastVisitedDays

Return Value

An array of calendar days, in order from most recent to oldest. Each calendar day is associated with at least one web history item.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

See Also

- [orderedItemsLastVisitedOnDay:](#) (page 9)

Declared In

WebHistory.h

removeAllItems

Removes all items from the web history.

- (void)removeAllItems

Discussion

When successful, this method posts a notification ([WebHistoryAllItemsRemovedNotification](#) (page 13)).

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

See Also

- [addItem:](#) (page 7)

- [removeItems:](#) (page 11)

Declared In

WebHistory.h

removeItems:

Removes the specified items from the web history.

```
- (void)removeItems:(NSArray *)items
```

Parameters

items

An array of web history items to remove.

Discussion

When successful, this method posts a notification ([WebHistoryItemsRemovedNotification](#) (page 14)).

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

See Also

- [addItem:](#) (page 7)

- [removeAllItems](#) (page 10)

Declared In

WebHistory.h

saveToURL:error:

Saves the web history to the specified file.

```
- (BOOL)saveToURL:(NSURL *)URL error:(NSError **)error
```

Parameters

URL

The URL of the file to contain the web history information. The file must be user-writable, but its format is private and should not be edited directly.

error

On output, `nil` if the load was successful; otherwise, *error*, which contains details of the failure.

Return Value

YES if successful; otherwise, NO

Discussion

When successful, this method posts a notification ([WebHistorySavedNotification](#) (page 15)).

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

See Also

- [loadFromURL:error:](#) (page 9)

Declared In

WebHistory.h

setHistoryAgeInDaysLimit:

Sets the maximum age of web history items that can be retrieved.

```
- (void)setHistoryAgeInDaysLimit:(int)limit
```

Parameters

limit

The maximum age, in days, of retrievable web history items.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.3.9 and later.

See Also

- [historyAgeInDaysLimit](#) (page 8)

Declared In

WebHistory.h

setHistoryItemLimit:

Sets the maximum number of web history items to store.

```
- (void)setHistoryItemLimit:(int)limit
```

Parameters

limit

The maximum number of web history items to store.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.3.9 and later.

See Also

- [historyItemLimit](#) (page 8)

Declared In

WebHistory.h

Constants

Web History Dictionary Keys

The key for accessing the web history items stored in a notification's user information dictionary.

```
extern NSString *WebHistoryItemsKey;
```

Constants

`WebHistoryItemsKey`

The key to access an array containing the added or removed web history items.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `WebHistory.h`.

Discussion

This string is used as the key in the `userInfo` dictionary passed as the argument to the [WebHistoryAllItemsRemovedNotification](#) (page 13), [WebHistoryItemsAddedNotification](#) (page 13), and [WebHistoryItemsRemovedNotification](#) (page 14) notifications.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

Declared In

`WebHistory.h`

Notifications

WebHistoryAllItemsRemovedNotification

Posted when all history items have been removed from the web history.

The notification object is the web history from which the history items were removed. The `userInfo` dictionary contains the following information:

Key	Value
@ <code>"WebHistoryItemsKey"</code>	An <code>NSArray</code> object containing the removed items.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

See Also

- [removeAllItems](#) (page 10)

Declared In

`WebHistory.h`

WebHistoryItemsAddedNotification

Posted when history items have been added to a web history.

The notification object is the web history to which the items were added. The `userInfo` dictionary contains the following information:

Key	Value
@“WebHistoryItemsKey”	An <code>NSArray</code> object containing the added items.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

See Also

– [addItem:](#) (page 7)

Declared In

WebHistory.h

WebHistoryItemsRemovedNotification

Posted when items have been removed from the web history.

The notification object is the web history from which the history items were removed. The `userInfo` dictionary contains the following information:

Key	Value
@“WebHistoryItemsKey”	An <code>NSArray</code> object containing the removed items.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

See Also

– [removeItems:](#) (page 11)

Declared In

WebHistory.h

WebHistoryLoadedNotification

Posted when web history items have been loaded from a URL.

The notification object is the web history that loaded the history items. This notification does not contain a `userInfo` dictionary.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

See Also

– [loadFromURL:error:](#) (page 9)

Declared In

WebHistory.h

WebHistorySavedNotification

Posted when web history items have been saved to a URL.

The notification object is the web history that saved the history items. This notification does not contain a `userInfo` dictionary.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

See Also

– [saveToURL:error:](#) (page 11)

Declared In

WebHistory.h

Document Revision History

This table describes the changes to *WebHistory Class Reference*.

Date	Notes
2009-03-04	Added separate parameter and return-value descriptions.
2006-05-23	First publication of this content as a separate document.

Index

A

`addItem`: [instance method 7](#)

H

`historyAgeInDaysLimit` [instance method 8](#)
`historyItemLimit` [instance method 8](#)

I

`itemForURL`: [instance method 8](#)

L

`loadFromURL:error`: [instance method 9](#)

O

`optionalSharedHistory` [class method 6](#)
`orderedItemsLastVisitedOnDay`: [instance method 9](#)
`orderedLastVisitedDays` [instance method 10](#)

R

`removeAllItems` [instance method 10](#)
`removeItems`: [instance method 11](#)

S

`saveToURL:error`: [instance method 11](#)

`setHistoryAgeInDaysLimit`: [instance method 12](#)
`setHistoryItemLimit`: [instance method 12](#)
`setOptionalSharedHistory`: [class method 7](#)

W

Web History Dictionary Keys [12](#)

`WebHistoryAllItemsRemovedNotification`
[notification 13](#)

`WebHistoryItemsAddedNotification` [notification 13](#)

`WebHistoryItemsKey` [constant 13](#)

`WebHistoryItemsRemovedNotification` [notification 14](#)

`WebHistoryLoadedNotification` [notification 14](#)

`WebHistorySavedNotification` [notification 15](#)