AppKit / Documents, Data, and Pasteboard

API Collection

Documents, Data, and Pasteboard

Organize your app's data and preferences, and share that data on the pasteboard or in iCloud.

Topics

Documents

`{}` Developing a Document-Based App

Write an app that creates, manages, edits, and saves text documents.

`class` `NSDocument`

An abstract class that defines the interface for macOS documents.

`class` `NSDocumentController`

An object that manages an app's documents.

`class` `NSPersistentDocument`

A document object that can integrate with Core Data.

User Preferences

`class` `NSUserDefaultsController`

A controller that accesses user preference information for your app from the user's defaults database.

`class` `NSUbiquitousKeyValueStore`

An iCloud-based container of key-value pairs you use to share data among instances of your app running on a user's connected devices.

Pasteboard

`class` `NSPasteboard`

An object that transfers data to and from the pasteboard server.

`class` `NSPasteboardItem`

An item on a pasteboard.

`protocol` `NSPasteboardReading`

A set of methods that defines the interface for initializing an object from a pasteboard.

`protocol` `NSPasteboardWriting`

A set of methods that defines the interface for retrieving a representation of an object that can be written to a pasteboard.

`protocol` `NSPasteboardItemDataProvider`

A set of methods implemented by the data provider of a pasteboard item to provide the data for a particular UTI type.

`struct` `ContentsOptions`

Options for preparing the pasteboard.

`protocol` `NSPasteboardTypeOwner`

An object that serves as a data provider for data types that use lazy data fulfillment from a pasteboard request.

File Promises

File promises support UTI-based drag and drop functions, including drag flocking. When possible, they're pasteboard compliant and file coordinated.

`{}` Supporting Drag and Drop Through File Promises

Receive and provide file promises to support dragged app files and pasteboard operations.

`{}` Supporting Table View Drag and Drop Through File Promises

Share data between macOS apps during drag and drop by using an item provider.

`{}` Supporting Collection View Drag and Drop Through File Promises

Share data between macOS apps during drag and drop by using an item provider.

`class` `NSFilePromiseProvider`

An object that provides a promise for the pasteboard.

`protocol NSFilePromiseProviderDelegate`

A set of methods that provides the name of the promised file and writes the file to the destination directory when the file promise is fulfilled.

`class NSFilePromiseReceiver`

An object that receives a file promise from the pasteboard.

Object Editing

`protocol NSEditor`

`protocol NSEditorRegistration`

A set of methods that controllers can implement to enable an editor view to inform the controller when it has uncommitted changes.

See Also

App Structure

☰ App and Environment

Learn about the objects that you use to interact with the system.

☰ Cocoa Bindings

Automatically synchronize your data model with your app's interface using Cocoa Bindings.

☰ Resource Management

Manage the storyboards and nib files containing your app's user interface, and learn how to load data that is stored in resource files.

☰ App Extensions

Extend your app's basic functionality to other parts of the system.