

AppKit / NSScreen

Class

NSScreen

An object that describes the attributes of a computer’s monitor or screen.

macOS

class NSScreen

Overview

An app may use an [NSScreen](#) object to retrieve information about a screen and use this information to decide what to display on that screen. For example, an app may use the [deepest](#) method to find out which of the available screens can best represent color and then might choose to display all of its windows on that screen.

Create the application object before you use the methods in this class, so that the application object can make the necessary connection to the window system. You can make sure the application object exists by invoking the [shared](#) method of [NSApplication](#). If you created your app with Xcode, the application object is automatically created for you during initialization.

Note

The [NSScreen](#) class is only for getting information about the available displays. If you need additional information or want to change the attributes relating to a display, you must use Quartz Services. For more information, see [Quartz Display Services](#).

Topics

Getting Screen Objects

class var [main](#): NSScreen?

Returns the screen object containing the window with the keyboard focus.

class var [deepest](#): NSScreen?

Returns a screen object representing the screen that can best represent color.

class var [screens](#): [NSScreen]

Returns an array of screen objects representing all of the screens available on the system.

Getting Screen Information

var [depth](#): NSWindow.Depth

The current bit depth and colorspace information of the screen.

var [frame](#): NSRect

The dimensions and location of the screen.

var [supportedWindowDepths](#): UnsafePointer<NSWindow.Depth>

A zero-terminated array of the window depths supported by the screen.

var [deviceDescription](#): [NSDeviceDescriptionKey : Any]

The device dictionary for the screen.

struct [NSDeviceDescriptionKey](#)

These constants are the keys for device description dictionaries.

var [colorSpace](#): NSColorSpace?

The color space of the screen.

var [localizedName](#): String

The localized name of the display.

func [canRepresent](#)(NSDisplayGamut) -> Bool

A Boolean value indicating whether the color space of the screen is capable of representing the specified display gamut.

enum [NSDisplayGamut](#)

class var [screensHaveSeparateSpaces](#): Bool

Returns a Boolean value indicating whether each screen can have its own set of spaces.

Converting Between Screen and Backing Coordinates

func [backingAlignedRect](#)(NSRect, [options](#): AlignmentOptions) -> NSRect

Converts a rectangle in global screen coordinates to a pixel aligned rectangle.

var [backingScaleFactor](#): CGFloat

The backing store pixel scale factor for the screen.

func [convertRectFromBacking](#)(NSRect) -> NSRect

Converts the rectangle from the device pixel aligned coordinates system of a screen.

func [convertRectToBacking](#)(NSRect) -> NSRect

Converts the rectangle to the device pixel aligned coordinates system of a screen.

Getting the Visible Portion of the Screen

var [visibleFrame](#): NSRect

The current location and dimensions of the visible screen.

var [safeAreaInsets](#): NSEdgeInsets

The distances from the screen’s edges at which content isn’t obscured.

var [auxiliaryTopLeftArea](#): NSRect?

The unobscured portion of the top-left corner of the screen.

var [auxiliaryTopRightArea](#): NSRect?

The unobscured portion of the top-right corner of the screen.

Getting Extended Dynamic Range Details

var [maximumPotentialExtendedDynamicRangeColorComponentValue](#): CGFloat

The maximum possible color component value for the screen when it’s in extended dynamic range (EDR) mode.

var [maximumExtendedDynamicRangeColorComponentValue](#): CGFloat

The current maximum color component value for the screen.

var [maximumReferenceExtendedDynamicRangeColorComponentValue](#): CGFloat

The current maximum color component value for reference rendering to the screen.

Getting Variable Refresh Rate Details

var [maximumFramesPerSecond](#): Int

The maximum number of frames per second that the screen supports.

var [minimumRefreshInterval](#): TimeInterval

The shortest refresh interval that the screen supports.

var [maximumRefreshInterval](#): TimeInterval

The largest refresh interval that the screen supports.

var [displayUpdateGranularity](#): TimeInterval

The number of seconds between the screen’s supported update rates, for screens that support fixed update rates.

var [lastDisplayUpdateTimestamp](#): TimeInterval

The time of the last framebuffer update, expressed as the number of seconds since system startup.

Receiving Screen-Related Notifications

class let [colorSpaceDidChangeNotification](#): NSNotification.Name

Posted when the color space of the screen has changed.

Synchronizing with the display’s refresh rate

func [displayLink](#)([target](#): Any, [selector](#): Selector) -> CADisplayLink

Instance Properties

var [cgDirectDisplayID](#): CGDirectDisplayID?

The CGDirectDisplayID for this screen. This will return nil if there isn’t one and will never return kCGNullDirectDisplay.

Relationships

Inherits From

[NSObject](#)

Conforms To

[CVarArg](#)
[CustomDebugStringConvertible](#)
[CustomStringConvertible](#)
[Equatable](#)
[Hashable](#)
[NSObjectProtocol](#)

Platforms	Topics & Technologies	Resources	Programs
iOS	Accessibility	Documentation	Apple Developer Program
iPadOS	Accessories	Tutorials	Apple Developer Enterprise Program
macOS	App Extension	Downloads	App Store Small Business Program
tvOS	App Store	Forums	MFJ Program
visionOS	Audio & Video	Videos	News Partner Program
watchOS	Augmented Reality	Support	Video Partner Program
Tools	Design	Support Articles	Security Bounty Program
Swift	Distribution	Contact Us	Security Research Device Program
SwiftUI	Education	Bug Reporting	Events
Swift Playground	Fonts	System Status	Meet with Apple
TestFlight	Games	Account	Apple Developer Centers
Xcode	Health & Fitness	Apple Developer	App Store Awards
Xcode Cloud	In-App Purchase	App Store Connect	Apple Design Awards
SF Symbols	Localization	Certificates, IDs, & Profiles	Apple Developer Academies
	Maps & Location	Feedback Assistant	WWDC
	Machine Learning & AI		
	Open Source		
	Security		
	Safari & Web		