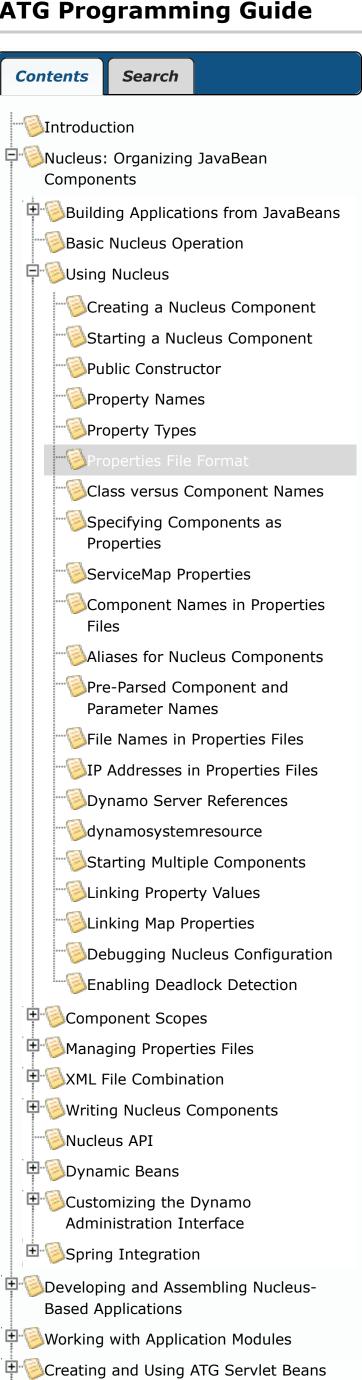


ATG Programming Guide



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Properties File Format

The properties files read by Nucleus must follow a format that is recognized by the class java.util.Properties. The rules for the format are as follows:

- Entries are generally expected to be a single line of the form, one of the following:
 - propertyName=propertyValue
 - propertyName:propertyValue
- White space that appears between the property name and property value is ignored, so the following are equivalent.

```
name=Stephen
name = Stephen
```

White space at the beginning of the line is also ignored.

- Lines that start with the comment characters ! or # are ignored. Blank lines are also ignored.
- The property value is generally terminated by the end of the line. White space following the property value is not ignored, and is treated as part of the property value.
- A property value can span several lines if each line is terminated by a backslash ('\') character. For example:

```
targetCities=\
        Detroit,\
        Chicago,\
        Los Angeles
```

This is equivalent to targetCities=Detroit, Chicago, Los Angeles (white space at the beginning of lines is ignored).

- The characters newline, carriage return, and tab can be inserted with characters \n, \r, and \t, respectively.
- The backslash character must be escaped as a double backslash. For example:

path=c:\\docs\\doc1

Note: It is not necessary to escape backslashes in property values when you use the ATG Control Center Components window; the ATG Control Center handles the escape characters automatically.

• UNICODE characters can be entered as they are in a Java program, using the \u prefix. For example, \u002c.

Nucleus properties files also use several special properties types, indicated by a leading \$ character. See Special \$ Properties.

Properties files created by the ATG Control Center automatically use the correct format. The ATG Control Center also checks whether a property value you enter is valid for the property's data type. The Components editor presents array type properties in a table, with a separate row for each property value entry, so you do not need to continue lines with backslashes.