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# AVMetadataItem Class Reference

Audio & Video



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

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## **Document Revision History 13**

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# AVMetadataItem Class Reference

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<b>Inherits from</b>	NSObject
<b>Conforms to</b>	NSCopying NSMutableCopying NSObject (NSObject)
<b>Framework</b>	/System/Library/Frameworks/AVFoundation.framework
<b>Availability</b>	Available in iOS 4.0 and later.
<b>Declared in</b>	AVMetadataItem.h

## Overview

An `AVMetadataItem` object represents an item of metadata associated with an audiovisual asset or with one of its tracks.

Metadata items have keys that accord with the specification of the container format from which they're drawn. Full details of the metadata formats, metadata keys, and metadata key spaces supported by AV Foundation are available among the defines in `AVMetadataFormat.h`.

`AVAsset` and other classes provide their metadata “lazily” (see `AVAsynchronousKeyValueLoading`), meaning that you can obtain objects from those arrays without incurring overhead for items you don't ultimately inspect.

You can filter arrays of metadata items by locale or by key and key space using `metadataItemsFromArray:withLocale:` (page 10) and `metadataItemsFromArray:withKey:keySpace:` (page 10) respectively.

## Tasks

### Filtering Metadata Arrays

- + `metadataItemsFromArray:withKey:keySpace:` (page 10)  
Returns from a given array an array of metadata items that match a specified key or key space.
- + `metadataItemsFromArray:withLocale:` (page 10)  
Returns from a given array an array of metadata items that match a specified locale.

## Keys and Key Spaces

[key](#) (page 8) *property*

Indicates the metadata item's key. (read-only)

[keySpace](#) (page 8) *property*

Indicates the key space of metadata item's key. (read-only)

[commonKey](#) (page 6) *property*

The common key of the metadata item. (read-only)

## Accessing Values

[extraAttributes](#) (page 7) *property*

Provides a dictionary of the additional attributes. (read-only)

[locale](#) (page 8) *property*

Indicates the locale of the metadata item. (read-only)

[time](#) (page 9) *property*

Indicates the timestamp of the metadata item. (read-only)

[value](#) (page 9) *property*

Provides the value of the metadata item. (read-only)

[dataValue](#) (page 7) *property*

Provides the raw bytes of the value of the metadata item. (read-only)

## Type Coercion

[dateValue](#) (page 7) *property*

Provides the value of the metadata item as a date. (read-only)

[numberValue](#) (page 8) *property*

Provides the value of the metadata item as a number. (read-only)

[stringValue](#) (page 9) *property*

Provides the value of the metadata item as a string. (read-only)

## Properties

For more about Objective-C properties, see “Properties” in *The Objective-C Programming Language*.

### **commonKey**

The common key of the metadata item. (read-only)

```
@property(readonly, copy) NSString *commonKey
```

#### **Discussion**

#### **Availability**

Available in iOS 4.0 and later.

#### **Declared In**

AVMetadataItem.h

## **dataValue**

Provides the raw bytes of the value of the metadata item. (read-only)

```
@property(readonly) NSData *dataValue
```

#### **Availability**

Available in iOS 4.0 and later.

#### **Declared In**

AVMetadataItem.h

## **dateValue**

Provides the value of the metadata item as a date. (read-only)

```
@property(readonly) NSDate *dateValue
```

#### **Discussion**

The value is `nil` if the value cannot be represented as a date.

#### **Availability**

Available in iOS 4.0 and later.

#### **Declared In**

AVMetadataItem.h

## **extraAttributes**

Provides a dictionary of the additional attributes. (read-only)

```
@property(readonly, copy) NSDictionary *extraAttributes
```

#### **Discussion**

#### **Availability**

Available in iOS 4.0 and later.

#### **Declared In**

AVMetadataItem.h

## key

Indicates the metadata item's key. (read-only)

```
@property(readonly, copy) id<NSObject, NSCopying> key
```

### Discussion

#### Availability

Available in iOS 4.0 and later.

#### Declared In

AVMetadataItem.h

## keySpace

Indicates the key space of metadata item's key. (read-only)

```
@property(readonly, copy) NSString *keySpace
```

### Discussion

This is typically the default key space for the metadata container in which the metadata item is stored

#### Availability

Available in iOS 4.0 and later.

#### Declared In

AVMetadataItem.h

## locale

Indicates the locale of the metadata item. (read-only)

```
@property(readonly, copy) NSLocale *locale
```

### Discussion

The locale may be `nil` if no locale information is available for the metadata item.

#### Availability

Available in iOS 4.0 and later.

#### Declared In

AVMetadataItem.h

## numberValue

Provides the value of the metadata item as a number. (read-only)

```
@property(readonly) NSNumber *numberValue
```

### Discussion

The value is `nil` if the value cannot be represented as a number.



**Availability**

Available in iOS 4.0 and later.

**Declared In**

AVMetadataItem.h

**stringValue**

Provides the value of the metadata item as a string. (read-only)

```
@property(readonly) NSString *stringValue
```

**Discussion**

The value is `nil` if the value cannot be represented as a string.

**Availability**

Available in iOS 4.0 and later.

**Declared In**

AVMetadataItem.h

**time**

Indicates the timestamp of the metadata item. (read-only)

```
@property(readonly) CMTIME time
```

**Discussion**

**Availability**

Available in iOS 4.0 and later.

**Declared In**

AVMetadataItem.h

**value**

Provides the value of the metadata item. (read-only)

```
@property(readonly, copy) id<NSObject, NSCopying> value
```

**Discussion**

**Availability**

Available in iOS 4.0 and later.

**Declared In**

AVMetadataItem.h

## Class Methods

### metadataItemsFromArray:withKey:keySpace:

Returns from a given array an array of metadata items that match a specified key or key space.

```
+ (NSArray *)metadataItemsFromArray:(NSArray *)array withKey:(id)key
  keySpace:(NSString *)keySpace
```

#### Parameters

*array*

An array of AVMetadataItem objects.

*key*

The key that must be matched for a metadata item to be included in the output array.

The key is compared to the keys in the metadata in the array using `isEqual:`.

If you don't want to filter by key, pass `nil`.

*keySpace*

The key space that must be matched for a metadata item to be included in the output array.

The key space is compared to the key spaces in the metadata in the array using `isEqualToString:`.

If you don't want to filter by key, pass `nil`.

#### Return Value

An array of the metadata items from *array* that match *key* or *keySpace*.

#### Discussion

#### Availability

Available in iOS 4.0 and later.

#### Declared In

AVMetadataItem.h

### metadataItemsFromArray:withLocale:

Returns from a given array an array of metadata items that match a specified locale.

```
+ (NSArray *)metadataItemsFromArray:(NSArray *)array withLocale:(NSLocale *)locale
```

#### Parameters

*array*

An array of AVMetadataItem objects.

*locale*

The locale that must be matched for a metadata item to be included in the output array.

#### Return Value

An array of the metadata items from *array* that match *locale*.

#### Availability

Available in iOS 4.0 and later.

**Declared In**

AVMetadataItem.h



# Document Revision History

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

Date	Notes
2010-05-17	First version of a document that describes an object that represents an item of metadata associated with an audiovisual asset or with one of its tracks.

## REVISION HISTORY

### Document Revision History