
UIAlertView Class Reference

User Experience: Windows & Views



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UIAlertView Class Reference

Inherits from	UIView : UIResponder : NSObject
Conforms to	NSCoding (UIView) NSObject (NSObject)
Framework	/System/Library/Frameworks/UIKit.framework
Availability	Available in iOS 2.0 and later.
Declared in	UIAlertView.h
Related sample code	AddMusic CryptoExercise GKRocket GKTank WiTap

Overview

Use the `UIAlertView` class to display an alert message to the user. An alert view functions similar to but differs in appearance from an action sheet (an instance of `UIActionSheet`).

Use the properties and methods defined in this class to set the title, message, and delegate of an alert view and configure the buttons. You must set a delegate if you add custom buttons. The delegate should conform to the `UIAlertViewDelegate` protocol. Use the [show](#) (page 11) method to display an alert view once it is configured.

Important: In iOS 4.0 and later, alert views are not dismissed automatically when an application moves to the background. This behavior differs from earlier versions of the operating system, where alert views were automatically cancelled (and their cancellation handler executed) as part of the termination sequence for the application. Now, it is up to you to decide whether to dismiss the alert view (and execute its cancellation handler) or leave it visible for when your application moves back to the foreground. Remember that your application can still be terminated while in the background, so some type of action may be necessary in either case.

Tasks

Creating Alert Views

- [initWithTitle:message:delegate:cancelButtonTitle:otherButtonTitles:](#) (page 10)
Convenience method for initializing an alert view.

Setting Properties

- [delegate](#) (page 7) *property*
The receiver's delegate or `nil` if it doesn't have a delegate.
- [title](#) (page 8) *property*
The string that appears in the receiver's title bar.
- [message](#) (page 8) *property*
Descriptive text that provides more details than the title.
- [visible](#) (page 8) *property*
A Boolean value that indicates whether the receiver is displayed. (read-only)

Configuring Buttons

- [addButtonWithTitle:](#) (page 9)
Adds a button to the receiver with the given title.
- [numberOfButtons](#) (page 8) *property*
The number of buttons on the alert view. (read-only)
- [buttonTitleAtIndex:](#) (page 9)
Returns the title of the button at the given index.
- [cancelButtonIndex](#) (page 7) *property*
The index number of the cancel button.
- [firstOtherButtonIndex](#) (page 7) *property*
The index of the first other button. (read-only)

Displaying

- [show](#) (page 11)
Displays the receiver using animation.

Dismissing

- [dismissWithClickedButtonIndex:animated:](#) (page 10)
Dismisses the receiver, optionally with animation.

Properties

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

cancelButtonIndex

The index number of the cancel button.

```
@property(n nonatomic) NSInteger cancelButtonIndex
```

Discussion

The button indices start at 0. If -1, then the index is not set.

Availability

Available in iOS 2.0 and later.

Declared In

UIAlertView.h

delegate

The receiver’s delegate or nil if it doesn’t have a delegate.

```
@property(n nonatomic, assign) id delegate
```

Discussion

See *UIAlertViewDelegate Protocol Reference* for the methods this delegate should implement.

Availability

Available in iOS 2.0 and later.

Declared In

UIAlertView.h

firstOtherButtonIndex

The index of the first other button. (read-only)

```
@property(nonatomic, readonly) NSInteger firstOtherButtonIndex
```

Discussion

The button indices start at 0. If -1, then the index is not set. This property is ignored if there are no other buttons. The default value is -1.

Availability

Available in iOS 2.0 and later.

Declared In

UIAlertView.h

message

Descriptive text that provides more details than the title.

```
@property(nonatomic, copy) NSString *message
```

Availability

Available in iOS 2.0 and later.

Declared In

UIAlertView.h

numberOfButtons

The number of buttons on the alert view. (read-only)

```
@property(nonatomic, readonly) NSInteger numberOfButtons
```

Availability

Available in iOS 2.0 and later.

Declared In

UIAlertView.h

title

The string that appears in the receiver's title bar.

```
@property(nonatomic, copy) NSString *title
```

Availability

Available in iOS 2.0 and later.

Declared In

UIAlertView.h

visible

A Boolean value that indicates whether the receiver is displayed. (read-only)


```
@property(nonatomic, readonly, getter=isVisible) BOOL visible
```

Discussion

If YES, the receiver is displayed; otherwise, NO.

Availability

Available in iOS 2.0 and later.

Related Sample Code

GKRocket

GKTank

Declared In

UIAlertView.h

Instance Methods

addButtonWithTitle:

Adds a button to the receiver with the given title.

```
- (NSInteger)addButtonWithTitle:(NSString *)title
```

Parameters

title

The title of the new button.

Return Value

The index of the new button. Button indices start at 0 and increase in the order they are added.

Availability

Available in iOS 2.0 and later.

See Also

[@property message](#) (page 8)

Related Sample Code

GKRocket

Declared In

UIAlertView.h

buttonTitleAtIndex:

Returns the title of the button at the given index.

```
- (NSString *)buttonTitleAtIndex:(NSInteger)buttonIndex
```

Parameters

buttonIndex

The index of the button. The button indices start at 0.

Return Value

The title of the button specified by index *buttonIndex*.

Availability

Available in iOS 2.0 and later.

See Also

[“Displaying”](#) (page 7)

Declared In

UIAlertView.h

dismissWithClickedButtonIndex:animated:

Dismisses the receiver, optionally with animation.

```
- (void)dismissWithClickedButtonIndex:(NSInteger)buttonIndex animated:(BOOL)animated
```

Parameters

buttonIndex

The index of the button that was clicked just before invoking this method. The button indices start at 0.

animated

YES if the receiver should be removed by animating it first; otherwise, NO if it should be removed immediately with no animation.

Discussion

In iOS 4.0, you may want to call this method whenever your application moves to the background. An alert view is not dismissed automatically when an application moves to the background. This behavior differs from previous versions of the operating system, where they were canceled automatically when the application was terminated. Dismissing the alert view gives your application a chance to save changes or abort the operation and perform any necessary cleanup in case your application is terminated later.

Availability

Available in iOS 2.0 and later.

Related Sample Code

GKRocket

Declared In

UIAlertView.h

initWithTitle:message:delegate:cancelButtonTitle:otherButtonTitles:

Convenience method for initializing an alert view.

```
- (id)initWithTitle:(NSString *)title message:(NSString *)message
  delegate:(id)delegate cancelButtonTitle:(NSString *)cancelButtonTitle
  otherButtonTitles:(NSString *)otherButtonTitles, ...
```

Parameters

title

The string that appears in the receiver’s title bar.

message

Descriptive text that provides more details than the title.

delegate

The receiver's delegate or `nil` if it doesn't have a delegate.

cancelButtonTitle

The title of the cancel button or `nil` if there is no cancel button.

Using this argument is equivalent to setting the cancel button index to the value returned by invoking [addButtonWithTitle:](#) (page 9) specifying this title.

otherButtonTitles,

The title of another button.

Using this argument is equivalent to invoking [addButtonWithTitle:](#) (page 9) with this title to add more buttons.

...

Titles of additional buttons to add to the receiver, terminated with `nil`.

Return Value

Newly initialized alert view.

Availability

Available in iOS 2.0 and later.

See Also

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

Related Sample Code

- AddMusic
- CryptoExercise
- GKRocket
- GKTank
- WiTap

Declared In

UIAlertView.h

show

Displays the receiver using animation.

- (void)show

Availability

Available in iOS 2.0 and later.

Related Sample Code

- AddMusic
- CryptoExercise
- GKRocket
- GKTank
- WiTap

Declared In

UIAlertView.h

Document Revision History

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

Date	Notes
2010-05-14	Added guidance on what to do when an application displaying an alert view moves to the background.
2009-04-30	Corrected the description of the initialization routine when adding additional buttons.
2008-09-09	Made minor corrections.
2008-04-18	New document that describes the class used to present an alert message to the user.

REVISION HISTORY

Document Revision History