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# NSToolbarItemGroup Class Reference

User Experience: Controls



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# NSToolbarItemGroup Class Reference

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<b>Inherits from</b>	NSToolbarItem : NSObject
<b>Conforms to</b>	NSValidatedUserInterfaceItem (NSToolbarItem) NSCopying (NSToolbarItem) NSObject (NSObject)
<b>Framework</b>	/System/Library/Frameworks/AppKit.framework
<b>Availability</b>	Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.
<b>Companion guide</b>	Toolbar Programming Topics for Cocoa
<b>Declared in</b>	NSToolbarItemGroup.h

## Overview

`NSToolbarItemGroup` is a subclass of `NSToolbarItem` which contains subitems. The views and labels of the subitems are used, but the parent's attributes take precedence.

To configure an instance of `NSToolbarItemGroup`, you first create the individual toolbar items that will be the subitems:

```
NSToolbarItem *item1 = [[[NSToolbarItem alloc] initWithItemIdentifier:@"Item1"]
    autorelease];
NSToolbarItem *item2 = [[[NSToolbarItem alloc] initWithItemIdentifier:@"Item2"]
    autorelease];
[item1 setImage:[NSImage imageNamed:@"LeftArrow"]];
[item2 setImage:[NSImage imageNamed:@"RightArrow"]];
[item1 setLabel:@"Prev"];
[item2 setLabel:@"Next"];
```

and then put them in a grouped item:

```
NSToolbarItemGroup *group = [[[NSToolbarItemGroup alloc]
    initWithItemIdentifier:@"GroupItem"] autorelease];
[group setSubitems:[NSArray arrayWithObjects:item1, item2, nil]];
```

In this configuration, you get two grouped items, and two labels. This differs from ordinary `NSToolbarItem` objects because they are attached—the user drags them together as a single item rather than separately.

If you set a label on the parent item:

```
[group setLabel:@"Navigate"];
```

you get two grouped items with one shared label.

If instead you set a view on the parent item, you get two labels with one shared view:

```
[group setView:someSegmentedControl];
```

## Tasks

### Working with Subitems

- [subitems](#) (page 6)  
Returns the subitems for the receiver.
- [setSubitems:](#) (page 6)  
Sets the subitems for the receiver.

## Instance Methods

### setSubitems:

Sets the subitems for the receiver.

```
- (void)setSubitems:(NSArray *)subitems
```

#### Parameters

*subitems*

An array of instances of `NSToolbarItem` objects that form the subitems for the receiver.

#### Discussion

You should call this method to set the subitems before returning the item to the toolbar.

`NSToolbarItemGroup` objects cannot contain other `NSToolbarItemGroup` objects as subitems.

#### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

#### Declared In

`NSToolbarItemGroup.h`

### subitems

Returns the subitems for the receiver.

```
- (NSArray *)subitems
```

#### Return Value

The subitems for the receiver.

#### Discussion

By default, an `NSToolbarItemGroup` instance has an empty array of subitems.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

**Declared In**

NSToolbarItemGroup.h





# Document Revision History

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

Date	Notes
2007-04-11	New document that describes the class that encapsulates a group of items in a window's toolbar.

## REVISION HISTORY

### Document Revision History