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# WebBackForwardList Class Reference

Networking, Internet, & Web: Web Client



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# WebBackForwardList Class Reference

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<b>Inherits from</b>	NSObject
<b>Conforms to</b>	NSObject (NSObject)
<b>Framework</b>	/System/Library/Frameworks/WebKit.framework
<b>Availability</b>	Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later. Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.
<b>Companion guide</b>	WebKit Objective-C Programming Guide
<b>Declared in</b>	WebBackForwardList.h

## Overview

A `WebBackForwardList` object maintains a list of visited pages used to go back and forward to the most recent page. A `WebBackForwardList` object maintains only the list data—it does not perform actual page loads (in other words, it does not make any client requests). If you need to perform a page load, see the `loadRequest:` method in *WebFrame Class Reference* to find out how to do this.

Items are typically inserted in a back-forward list in the order they are visited. A `WebBackForwardList` object also maintains the notion of the current item (which is always at index 0), the preceding item (which is at index -1), and the following item (which is at index 1). The `goBack` (page 11) and `goForward` (page 11) methods move the current item backward or forward by one. The `goToItem:` (page 11) method sets the current item to the specified item. All other methods that return `WebHistoryItem` objects do not change the value of the current item, they just return the requested item or items. You can also limit the number of history items stored in the back-forward list using the `setCapacity:` (page 12) method.

`WebBackForwardList` objects also control the number of pages cached. You can turn page caching off by setting the page cache size to 0 using the `pageCacheSize` (page 15) method, or limit the number of pages cached by passing a value greater than 0.

## Tasks

### Adding and Removing Items

- `addItem:` (page 7)  
Inserts an item into the back-forward list, immediately after the current item.

## Moving Backward and Forward

- [goBack](#) (page 11)  
Moves backward one item in the back-forward list.
- [goForward](#) (page 11)  
Moves forward one item in the back-forward list.
- [goToItem:](#) (page 11)  
Makes the specified item in the back-forward list the current item.

## Querying the Back-Forward List

- [backItem](#) (page 7)  
Returns the item that precedes the current item in the back-forward list.
- [backListCount](#) (page 8)  
Returns the number of items that precede the current item in the back-forward list.
- [backListWithLimit:](#) (page 8)  
Returns the items that precede the current item in the back-forward list, up to the specified number of items.
- [containsItem:](#) (page 9)  
Returns a Boolean value indicating whether the back-forward list contains the specified item.
- [currentItem](#) (page 9)  
Returns the current item in the back-forward list.
- [itemAtIndex:](#) (page 12)  
Returns the item at the specified index in the back-forward list.
- [forwardItem](#) (page 9)  
Returns the item that follows the current item in the back-forward list.
- [forwardListCount](#) (page 10)  
Returns the number of items that follow the current item in the back-forward list.
- [forwardListWithLimit:](#) (page 10)  
Returns the items that follow the current item in the back-forward list, up to the specified number of items.

## Page Caching

- [pageCacheSize](#) (page 15) **Deprecated in Mac OS X v10.4.11**  
Returns the maximum number of pages that the receiver can cache. (**Deprecated.** Use the `usesPageCache` method in `WebPreferences` instead.)
- [setPageCacheSize:](#) (page 15) **Deprecated in Mac OS X v10.4.11**  
Sets the maximum number of pages the receiver can cache. (**Deprecated.** Use the `setUsesPageCache:` method in `WebPreferences` instead.)

## Setting Attributes

- [capacity](#) (page 8)  
Returns the maximum number of items that the back-forward list can contain.
- [setCapacity:](#) (page 12)  
Sets the maximum number of items that the back-forward list can contain.

## Instance Methods

### addItem:

Inserts an item into the back-forward list, immediately after the current item.

```
- (void)addItem:(WebHistoryItem *)item
```

#### Parameters

*item*

A web history item that represents a visited webpage. If *item* is `nil`, an `NSInvalidArgumentException` exception is raised.

#### Discussion

Any items following *item* in the back-forward list are removed. This method also removes items if the capacity of the receiver is exceeded.

#### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

#### Declared In

WebBackForwardList.h

### backItem

Returns the item that precedes the current item in the back-forward list.

```
- (WebHistoryItem *)backItem
```

#### Return Value

The item that precedes the current item in the back-forward list, or `nil` if none precedes it.

#### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

#### See Also

- [currentItem](#) (page 9)
- [forwardItem](#) (page 9)

#### Declared In

WebBackForwardList.h

## backListCount

Returns the number of items that precede the current item in the back-forward list.

- (int)backListCount

### Return Value

The number of items that precede the current item in the back-forward list.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

### See Also

- [forwardListCount](#) (page 10)

### Declared In

WebBackForwardList.h

## backListWithLimit:

Returns the items that precede the current item in the back-forward list, up to the specified number of items.

- (NSArray \*)backListWithLimit:(int)limit

### Parameters

*limit*

The greatest number of items to return.

### Return Value

An array containing (at most) the specified number of items, or `nil` if no items precede the current item.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

### See Also

- [forwardListWithLimit:](#) (page 10)

### Declared In

WebBackForwardList.h

## capacity

Returns the maximum number of items that the back-forward list can contain.

- (int)capacity

### Return Value

The maximum number of items the back-forward list can contain.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.



**See Also**

- [setCapacity:](#) (page 12)

**Declared In**

WebBackForwardList.h

**containsItem:**

Returns a Boolean value indicating whether the back-forward list contains the specified item.

- (BOOL)containsItem:(WebHistoryItem \*)*item*

**Parameters**

*item*

The item to find in the back-forward list.

**Return Value**

YES if the specified item is in the back-forward list; otherwise, NO.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

**Declared In**

WebBackForwardList.h

**currentItem**

Returns the current item in the back-forward list.

- (WebHistoryItem \*)currentItem

**Return Value**

The current item, or nil if the back-forward list is empty.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

**See Also**

- [backItem](#) (page 7)

- [forwardItem](#) (page 9)

**Declared In**

WebBackForwardList.h

**forwardItem**

Returns the item that follows the current item in the back-forward list.

- (WebHistoryItem \*)forwardItem

### Return Value

The item that follows the current item, or `nil` if none follows it.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

### See Also

- [backItem](#) (page 7)
- [currentItem](#) (page 9)

### Declared In

WebBackForwardList.h

## forwardListCount

Returns the number of items that follow the current item in the back-forward list.

```
- (int)forwardListCount
```

### Return Value

The number of items that follow the current item.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

### See Also

- [backListCount](#) (page 8)

### Declared In

WebBackForwardList.h

## forwardListWithLimit:

Returns the items that follow the current item in the back-forward list, up to the specified number of items.

```
- (NSArray *)forwardListWithLimit:(int)limit
```

### Parameters

*limit*

The greatest number of items to return.

### Return Value

An array containing (at most) the specified number of items, or `nil` if no items follow the current item.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

### See Also

- [backListWithLimit:](#) (page 8)

### Declared In

WebBackForwardList.h

## goBack

Moves backward one item in the back-forward list.

- (void)goBack

### Discussion

This method works by changing the current item to the item that precedes it. This method raises an `NSInternalInconsistencyException` exception if no item precedes the current item.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

### See Also

- [goForward](#) (page 11)

- [goToItem:](#) (page 11)

### Declared In

WebBackForwardList.h

## goForward

Moves forward one item in the back-forward list.

- (void)goForward

### Discussion

This method works by changing the current item to the item that follows it. This method raises an `NSInternalInconsistencyException` exception if no item follows the current item.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

### See Also

- [goBack](#) (page 11)

- [goToItem:](#) (page 11)

### Declared In

WebBackForwardList.h

## goToItem:

Makes the specified item in the back-forward list the current item.

- (void)goToItem:(WebHistoryItem \*)item

**Parameters***item*

A web history item that represents a visited webpage. If *item* is not in the back-forward list, an `NSInvalidArgumentException` exception is raised.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

**See Also**

- [goBack](#) (page 11)
- [goForward](#) (page 11)

**Declared In**

WebBackForwardList.h

**itemAtIndex:**

Returns the item at the specified index in the back-forward list.

```
- (WebHistoryItem *)itemAtIndex:(int)index
```

**Parameters***index*

The index of the item to return. The position of the current item is index 0, and the position of any other item is expressed as an offset from index 0. For example, the item preceding the current item is at index -1, and the item following the current item is at index 1.

**Return Value**

The item at the specified index, or `nil` if *index* exceeds the bounds of the back-forward list (that is, if *index* is greater than the value returned by [forwardListCount](#) (page 10), or less than the negative form of the value returned by [backListCount](#) (page 8)).

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

**Declared In**

WebBackForwardList.h

**setCapacity:**

Sets the maximum number of items that the back-forward list can contain.

```
- (void)setCapacity:(int)size
```

**Parameters***size*

The maximum number of items that the list can contain.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

**See Also**

- [capacity](#) (page 8)

**Declared In**

WebBackForwardList.h



# Deprecated WebBackForwardList Methods

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A method identified as deprecated has been superseded and may become unsupported in the future.

## Deprecated in Mac OS X v10.4.11

### pageCacheSize

Returns the maximum number of pages that the receiver can cache. (Deprecated in Mac OS X v10.4.11. Use the `usesPageCache` method in `WebPreferences` instead.)

- (NSInteger)pageCacheSize

#### Return Value

The maximum number of pages that can be cached.

#### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

Deprecated in Mac OS X v10.4.11.

#### See Also

- [setPageCacheSize](#): (page 15)

#### Declared In

`WebBackForwardList.h`

### setPageCacheSize:

Sets the maximum number of pages the receiver can cache. (Deprecated in Mac OS X v10.4.11. Use the `setUsesPageCache:` method in `WebPreferences` instead.)

- (void)setPageCacheSize:(NSInteger)size

#### Parameters

*size*

The maximum number of pages that can be cached.

#### Discussion

The default page cache size can vary depending on the computer's configuration. Use [pageCacheSize](#) (page 15) to get the current setting.

#### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 with Safari 1.0 and later.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2.7 and later.

Deprecated WebBackForwardList Methods

Deprecated in Mac OS X v10.4.11.

**Declared In**

WebBackForwardList.h



# Document Revision History

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

Date	Notes
2009-02-04	Added separate parameter and return-value descriptions.
2008-06-19	Updated for Mac OS X v10.5.
2006-05-23	First publication of this content as a separate document.

## REVISION HISTORY

### Document Revision History