# IKImageBrowserItem Protocol Reference

**Graphics & Animation: 2D Drawing**

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

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# IKImageBrowserItem Protocol Reference

(informal protocol)

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| | |
|---|---|
| **Framework** | System/Library/Frameworks/Quartz.framework/ImageKit.framework |
| **Declared in** | IKImageBrowserView.h |

## Overview

The `IKImageBrowserItem` informal protocol declares the methods that an instance of the `IKImageBrowserView` class uses to access the contents of its data source for a given item. Some of the methods in this protocol are needed frequently, so you should implement them efficiently.

## Tasks

### Providing Required Information for an Image

- `imageUID` (page 7)
  Returns a unique string that identifies the data source item.
- `imageRepresentationType` (page 6)
  Returns the representation type of the image to display.
- `imageRepresentation` (page 6)
  Returns the image to display.

### Providing Optional Information for an Image

- `imageVersion` (page 8)
  Returns the version of the item.
- `imageTitle` (page 7)
  Returns the display title of the image.
- `imageSubtitle` (page 7)
  Returns the display subtitle of the image.
- `isSelectable` (page 8)
  Returns whether this item is selectable.


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# Instance Methods

## imageRepresentation

Returns the image to display.

```
- (id) imageRepresentation;
```

**Return Value**
The image to display; can return `nil` if the item has no image to display.

**Discussion**
Your data source must implement this method. This method is called frequently, so the receiver should cache the returned instance.

**Availability**
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

**Related Sample Code**
CocoaCreateMovie
DesktopImage
ImageBrowser
ImageBrowserViewAppearance
ImageKitDemo

**Declared In**
`IKImageBrowserView.h`

## imageRepresentationType

Returns the representation type of the image to display.

```
- (NSString *) imageRepresentationType;
```

**Return Value**
A string that specifies the image representation type. The string can be any of the constants defined in "Image Representation Types" (page 9).

**Discussion**
Your data source must implement this method.

**Availability**
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

**Related Sample Code**
DesktopImage
Image Kit with Core Data
ImageBrowser
ImageBrowserViewAppearance
ImageKitDemo


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**Declared In**
`IKImageBrowserView.h`

## imageSubtitle

Returns the display subtitle of the image.

```
- (NSString *) imageSubtitle
```

**Return Value**
The display subtitle of the image.

**Discussion**
This method is optional.

**Availability**
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

**Related Sample Code**
ImageBrowserViewAppearance

**Declared In**
`IKImageBrowserView.h`

## imageTitle

Returns the display title of the image.

```
- (NSString *) imageTitle;
```

**Return Value**
The display title of the image.

**Discussion**
This method is optional.

**Availability**
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

**Related Sample Code**
DesktopImage
ImageBrowserViewAppearance
ImageKitDemo

**Declared In**
`IKImageBrowserView.h`

## imageUID

Returns a unique string that identifies the data source item.

```
- (NSString *)  imageUID;
```


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**Return Value**
The string that identifies the data source item

**Discussion**
Your data source must implement this method. The image browser view uses this identifier to associate the data source item and its cache.

**Availability**
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

**Related Sample Code**
DesktopImage
Image Kit with Core Data
ImageBrowser
ImageBrowserViewAppearance
ImageKitDemo

**Declared In**
`IKImageBrowserView.h`

## imageVersion

Returns the version of the item.

```
- (NSUInteger) imageVersion;
```

**Return Value**
The version of the item.

**Discussion**
This method is optional. The receiver can return a new version to let the image browser knows that it should not use its cache for the item.

**Availability**
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

**Related Sample Code**
Image Kit with Core Data

**Declared In**
`IKImageBrowserView.h`

## isSelectable

Returns whether this item is selectable.

```
- (BOOL) isSelectable;
```

**Return Value**
`YES` if the item is selectable; `NO` otherwise.

**Discussion**
This method is optional. You can prevent selection of this item by returning `NO`.


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**Availability**
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

**Declared In**
`IKImageBrowserView.h`

# Constants

## Image Representation Types

Representation types for images.

```
NSString * const IKImageBrowserPathRepresentationType;
NSString * const IKImageBrowserNSURLRepresentationType;
NSString * const IKImageBrowserNSImageRepresentationType;
NSString * const IKImageBrowserCGImageRepresentationType;
NSString * const IKImageBrowserCGImageSourceRepresentationType;
NSString * const IKImageBrowserNSDataRepresentationType;
NSString * const IKImageBrowserNSBitmapImageRepresentationType;
NSString * const IKImageBrowserQTMovieRepresentationType;
NSString * const IKImageBrowserQTMoviePathRepresentationType;
NSString * const IKImageBrowserQCCompositionRepresentationType;
NSString * const IKImageBrowserQCCompositionPathRepresentationType;
NSString * const IKImageBrowserQuickLookPathRepresentationType;
NSString * const IKImageBrowserIconRefPathRepresentationType;
NSString * const IKImageBrowserIconRefRepresentationType;
NSString * const IKImageBrowserPDFPageRepresentationType;
```

**Constants**

`IKImageBrowserPathRepresentationType`
A path representation (`NSString`).
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.
Declared in `IKImageBrowserView.h`.

`IKImageBrowserNSURLRepresentationType`
An `NSURL`object.
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.
Declared in `IKImageBrowserView.h`.

`IKImageBrowserNSImageRepresentationType`
An `NSImage` object.
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.
Declared in `IKImageBrowserView.h`.

`IKImageBrowserCGImageRepresentationType`
A `CGImageRef` object.
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.
Declared in `IKImageBrowserView.h`.


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`IKImageBrowserCGImageSourceRepresentationType`
: A `CGImageSourceRef` object.

  Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

  Declared in `IKImageBrowserView.h`.

`IKImageBrowserNSDataRepresentationType`
: An `NSData` object.

  Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

  Declared in `IKImageBrowserView.h`.

`IKImageBrowserNSBitmapImageRepresentationType`
: An `NSBitmapImageRep` object.

  Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

  Declared in `IKImageBrowserView.h`.

`IKImageBrowserQTMovieRepresentationType`
: A `QTMovie` object.

  Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

  Declared in `IKImageBrowserView.h`.

`IKImageBrowserQTMoviePathRepresentationType`
: A path (NSString) or URL (NSURL) to a QuickTime movie.

  Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

  Declared in `IKImageBrowserView.h`.

`IKImageBrowserQCCompositionRepresentationType`
: A `QCComposition` object.

  Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

  Declared in `IKImageBrowserView.h`.

`IKImageBrowserQCCompositionPathRepresentationType`
: A path (NSString) or URL (NSURL) to a Quartz Composer composition.

  Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

  Declared in `IKImageBrowserView.h`.

`IKImageBrowserQuickLookPathRepresentationType`
: A path (NSString) or URL (NSURL) to load data using QuickLook.

  Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

  Declared in `IKImageBrowserView.h`.

`IKImageBrowserIconRefPathRepresentationType`
: A path to an icon.

  Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

  Declared in `IKImageBrowserView.h`.

`IKImageBrowserIconRefRepresentationType`
: An icon.

  Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

  Declared in `IKImageBrowserView.h`.


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`IKImageBrowserPDFPageRepresentationType`
A `PDFPage` instance or a `CGPDFPageRef`.

Available in Mac OS X v10.6 and later.

Declared in `IKImageBrowserView.h`.

**Declared In**
`IKImageBrowserView.h`


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# Document Revision History

This table describes the changes to *IKImageBrowserItem Protocol Reference*.

| Date | Notes |
| --- | --- |
| 2010-02-20 | Added IKImageBrowserPDFPageRepresentationType representation type. |
| 2007-01-12 | New document that describes the informal protocol used by an image browser view to access the data source for an item. |



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Document Revision History



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