NSColorList

Inherits From:	NSObject
Conforms To:	NSCoding NSObject (NSObject)
Declared In:	AppKit/NSColorList.h

Class Description

An NSColorList is an ordered list of NSColors, identified by keys. Instances of NSColorList, or more simply, *color lists*, are used to manage named lists of NSColors. NSColorPanel's list-mode color picker uses instances of NSColorList to represent any lists of colors that come with the system, as well as any lists created by the user. An application can use NSColorList to manage document-specific color lists, which may be added to an application's NSColorPanel using its **attachColorList:** method.

An NSColorList is similar to a dictionary object: An NSColor is added to, looked up in, and removed from the list by specifying its key, which is an NSString. These keys are used to identify the colors in the list and are used to display the color to the user in the color panel. In addition, colors can be inserted at specified positions in the list.

The color list has a name, specified when you create the object using either the **initWithName:** or **initWithName:fromFile:** method.

Instances of NSColorList are created for all user-created color lists (those in the color panel) and various color catalogs available on the system.

An NSColorList saves and retrieves its colors from files with the extension "**.clr**" in directories defined by a standard search path. To access all the color lists in the standard search path, use the **availableColorLists** method; this returns an array of NSColorLists, from which you can retrieve the individual color lists by name.

The standard search path for color lists is:

- /NextLibrary/Colors
- /LocalLibrary/Colors
- ~/Library/Colors

NSColorList reads color list files in several different formats; it saves color lists using the archiver API.

NSColorList posts an NSColorListChanged notification when a color list is changed.

Adopted Protocols

NSCoding	– encodeWithCoder: – initWithCoder:

Method Types

Initializing an NSColorList	– initWithName: – initWithName:fromFile:
Getting All Color Lists	+ availableColorLists
Getting a Color List by Name	+ colorListNamed: – name
Managing Colors by Key	– allKeys – colorWithKey: – insertColor:key:atIndex: – removeColorWithKey: – setColor:forKey:
Editing	– isEditable
Writing and Removing Files	– removeFile – writeToFile:

Class Methods

availableColorLists

+ (NSArray *)**availableColorLists**

Returns an array of all NSColorLists found in the standard color list directories. Color lists created at run time aren't included in this list unless they're saved into one of the standard color list directories.

See also: + **colorListNamed:**

colorListNamed:

+ (NSColorList *)**colorListNamed:**(NSString *)*name*

Searches the array that's returned by **availableColorLists** and returns the NSColorList named *name*, or **nil** if no such color list exists. *name* must not include the "**.clr**" suffix.

See also: – **name**

Instance Methods

allKeys

– (NSArray *)**allKeys**

Returns an array of NSString objects that contains all the keys by which the NSColors are stored in the NSColorList. The length of this array equals the number of colors, and its contents are arranged according to the ordering specified when the colors were inserted.

colorWithKey:

– (NSColor *)**colorWithKey:**(NSString *)*key*

Returns the NSColor associated with *key*, or **nil** if there is none.

initWithName:

– (id)**initWithName:**(NSString *)*name*

Initializes and returns the receiver, registering it under the specified *name* if *name* isn't in use already. This method invokes **initWithName:fromFile:** with a **fromFile:** argument of **nil**, indicating that the color list doesn't need to be initialized from a file.

initWithName:fromFile:

– (id)**initWithName:**(NSString *)*name*
fromFile:(NSString *)*path*

Initializes and returns the receiver, registering it under the specified *name* if *name* isn't in use already. *path* should be the full path to the file for the color list; *name* should be the name of the file for the color list (minus the "**.clr**" extension). A **nil** *path* indicates that the color list should be initialized with no colors.

insertColor:key:atIndex:

– (void)**insertColor:**(NSColor *)*color*
key:(NSString *)*key*
atIndex:(unsigned)*location*

Inserts *color* at the specified location in the color list (which is numbered starting with 0). If the list already contains a color with the same key at a different location, it's removed from the old location. This method

posts the NSColorListChangedNotification notification to the default notification center. It raises the NSColorListNotEditableException exception if the color list isn't editable.

See also: **– colorWithKey**:, **– removeColorWithKey:**, **– setColor:forKey:**

isEditable

– (BOOL)**isEditable**

Returns YES if the color list can be modified. This depends on the source of the list: If it came from a write-protected file, this method returns NO.

name

– (NSString *)**name**

Returns the name of the NSColorList.

removeColorWithKey:

– (void)**removeColorWithKey:**(NSString *)*key*

Removes the color associated with *key* from the list. This method does nothing if the list doesn't contain the key. This method posts the NSColorListChangedNotification notification to the default notification center. It raises the NSColorListNotEditableException exception if the color list is not editable.

See also: **– insertColor:key:atIndex:**, **– setColor:forKey:**

removeFile

– (void)**removeFile**

Removes the file from which the list was created, if the file is in a standard search path and is owned by the user. The receiver is removed from the list of available color lists returned by **availableColorLists**, but isn't released.

setColor:forKey:

– (void)**setColor:**(NSColor *)*color*
forKey:(NSString *)*key*

Associates the specified NSColor with *key*. If the list already contains *key*, this method sets the corresponding color to *color*; otherwise, it inserts *color* at the end of the list by invoking **insertColor:key:atIndex:**.

See also: **– colorWithKey:, – insertColor:key:atIndex:**, **– removeColorWithKey:**

writeToFile:

– (BOOL)**writeToFile:**(NSString *)*path*

If *path* is a directory, saves the NSColorList in a file named *listname***.clr** in that directory (where *listname* is the name with which the NSColorList was initialized). If *path* includes a file name, this method saves the file under that name. If *path* is **nil**, this method saves the file as *listname***.clr** in the standard location. Returns YES upon success and NO if it fails to write the file.

See also: – **removeFile**

Notifications

NSColorListChangedNotification
Notification Object The NSColorList

Posted whenever a color list changes, as when **insertColor:key:atIndex:** or **removeColorWithKey:** is invoked.