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# AGL Reference

For OpenGL For Macintosh, Version 1.0



Apple Computer, Inc.  
Technical Publications  
April, 1999

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## About This Book

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This reference book is designed and written for Mac OS developers who are working with or building applications using OpenGL. This book provides a reference to the AGL library, which provides features of OpenGL that, by their nature, must be operating-system specific. This release of the software corresponds to version 1.1 of OpenGL from Silicon Graphics, Inc. (SGI).

This book is intended for use in conjunction with the following documents:

- OpenGL for Macintosh *Introduction*, which provides an overview of OpenGL and Apple's implementation of it. This document is included as part of the OpenGL for Macintosh Software Developer Kit (SDK).
- OpenGL for Macintosh *Programmer's Guide*, which provides an overview of how to set up an OpenGL programming project. This document is included as part of the OpenGL for Macintosh Software Developer Kit (SDK).
- OpenGL for Macintosh *AGL 1.1 Migration Guide*. If your application uses version 1.1 of AGL from Conix Enterprises, Inc., you'll find tips in this book for upgrading to OpenGL for Mac OS, version 1.0. This document is included as part of the OpenGL for Macintosh Software Developer Kit (SDK).
- *OpenGL Reference*, which describes GL, the main OpenGL library. This document is available at [www.opengl.org](http://www.opengl.org).
- *OpenGL GLU Reference*, which describes the OpenGL Utility Library, containing graphical extensions based entirely on GL functions. This document is available at [www.opengl.org](http://www.opengl.org).
- OpenGL GLUT Reference, which describes the OpenGL Utility Toolkit, a standard API for performing operations associated with a windowing environment. This document is available at [www.opengl.org](http://www.opengl.org).

## Conventions Used in This Book

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This book provides various conventions to present information. Words that require special treatment appear in specific fonts or font styles. Certain types of

information, such as parameter blocks, use special fonts so that you can scan them quickly.

## Special Fonts

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All code listings, reserved words, and the names of actual data structures, constants, fields, parameters, and functions are shown in Letter Gothic (`this is Letter Gothic`).

Words that appear in **boldface** are cross-references to key terms or concepts that are defined elsewhere in the manual.

## Types of Notes

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There are several types of notes used in this book.

### **Note**

A note like this contains information that is interesting but not essential to an understanding of the main text. ◆

### **IMPORTANT**

A note like this contains information that is essential for an understanding of the main text. ▲

### ▲ **WARNING**

A warning like this indicates potential problems that you should be aware of as you design your software. Failure to heed these warnings could result in system crashes or loss of data. ▲

## Development Environment

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OpenGL for Macintosh is implemented as a set of shared libraries. As such, it can be used by any compiler for PowerPC that is compatible with Mac OS.

Code listings in this book are shown in ANSI C. They suggest methods of using various functions and illustrate techniques for accomplishing particular tasks. Although most code listings have been compiled and tested, Apple Computer

Inc., does not intend for you to use these code samples unmodified or untested in your application.

## System Requirements

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OpenGL for Macintosh supports the ATI RAGE-2, RAGE Pro, and RAGE 128 graphics cards shipped in iMac computers and 1999 Power Macintosh G3 minitower computers. At this release no other computers or graphics cards are supported

## Software Development Kit (SDK)

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The OpenGL for Macintosh Software Development Kit (SDK) includes the OpenGL libraries, API documentation, and example source code. It is available for download from <http://developer.apple.com/opengl/> and provided on CD-ROM in the Apple Developer Connection monthly mailing program (see <http://www.apple.com/developer/programs/> for membership information).

# P R E F A C E

# AGL Introduction

---

Features of OpenGL for Mac OS that are specific to the Mac OS are implemented by the AGL library. This book documents the AGL library, which is implemented as a Mac OS system extension. This short overview is followed by a section detailing differences between AGL version 1.1 and the current version, AGL version 2.0. After that, all AGL functions are presented in reference page format.

AGL extends the capabilities of a Mac OS window with several buffers other than the standard color buffer. These buffers include back and auxiliary color buffers, depth buffers, a stencil buffer, and a color accumulation buffer.

Two of the complex data types used by the AGL API are derived from standard MacOS data types; the `AGLDrawable` type corresponds to a Mac OS `CGrafPtr` and the `AGLDevice` type corresponds to a Mac OS `GDHandle`.

To render using OpenGL into a Mac OS graphics port, or drawable, you first must choose a pixel format that defines the required OpenGL buffers.

`aglChoosePixelFormat` should be used to select a compatible pixel format.

Create a Mac OS drawable by using `NewCWindow` or another related Mac OS system function.

Use the selected pixel format to create an AGL context. AGL contexts are created with `aglCreateContext`. Finally bind the context and the drawable together using `aglSetDrawable` and make the context the current context with `aglSetCurrentContext`. This context/drawable pair becomes the current context and current drawable, and it is used by all OpenGL commands until `aglSetCurrentContext` is called with a different argument.

Listing 1-1 shows the minimum code required to create a Mac OS window compatible with OpenGL, in RGBA-format, and clear it yellow. The code is correct, but it does not include any error checking.

---

**Listing 1-1**

```
#include "agl.h"
int main(void)
{
    Rect rect;
    int attrib[2] = { AGL_RGBA, AGL_NONE };
    AGLDrawable win;
    AGLPixelFormat fmt;
    AGLContext ctx;
    /* Initialize Mac OS */
    InitGraf(&qd.thePort);
    InitFonts();
    FlushEvents(everyEvent, 0);
    InitWindows();
    InitMenus();
    TEInit();
    InitDialogs(0L);
    InitCursor();
    /* Create a window */
    SetRect(&rect, 50, 50, 450, 450);
    win = (AGLDrawable)
    NewCWindow(0L, &rect, "\pAGL intro", false,
        plainDBox, (WindowPtr) -1L, true, 0L);
    ShowWindow((GrafPort *) win);
    HiliteWindow((GrafPort *) win, true);
    SetPort((GrafPort *) win);
    /* Choose pixel format */
    fmt = aglChoosePixelFormat(NULL, 0, attrib);
    /* Create an AGL context */
    ctx = aglCreateContext(fmt, NULL);
    /* Attach the context to the window */
    aglSetDrawable(ctx, win);
    aglSetCurrentContext(ctx);
    /* Clear buffer */
    glClearColor(1.0, 1.0, 0.0, 1.0);
}
```

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```
    glClear(GL_COLOR_BUFFER_BIT);  
    glFinish();  
    sleep(10);  
    return 0;  
}
```

**Note that the application must create an AGL context and attach it to a drawable before OpenGL commands can be executed. OpenGL commands issued while no context/drawable pair is current are ignored.**



# AGL Reference

---

This section documents all AGL commands. Each command is presented in reference page format.

## aglChoosePixelFormat

---

Select a pixel format to match specified attributes

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
AGLPixelFormat aglChoosePixelFormat (AGLDevice *gdev,
    GLint ndev,
    const GLint *attribs )
```

### PARAMETERS

<i>gdev</i>	An array of Mac OS graphics devices (type <code>GDHandle</code> )
<i>ndev</i>	The number of graphics devices in <i>gdev</i>
<i>attribs</i>	Specifies a list of Boolean attributes and integer attribute/value pairs. The last attribute must be <code>AGL_NONE</code> .

### DESCRIPTION

`aglChoosePixelFormat` returns a pointer to data describing a pixel format that is supported by all the graphics devices in *gdev* and best meets the specification defined by *attribs*. If *gdev* and *ndev* are set to `NULL` and zero, respectively, `aglChoosePixelFormat` will return a pixel format that is supported by all graphics devices on the system.

The Boolean AGL attributes of the returned format will match the specified values, and the integer AGL attributes will be as close to the specified values as can be provided by the system. If no conforming pixel format exists, `NULL` is returned. To free the data returned by this function, use `aglDestroyPixelFormat`. The `AGL_MINIMUM_POLICY` and `AGL_MAXIMUM_POLICY` attributes can be used to alter the selection criteria.

All Boolean AGL attributes default to `GL_FALSE`. All integer AGL attributes default to zero. Default specifications are superseded by attributes included in *attribs*. Boolean attributes included in *attribs* are understood to be `GL_TRUE`.

Integer attributes are followed immediately by the corresponding desired value. The list must be terminated with `AGL_NONE`.

The interpretations of the AGL pixel format attributes are as follows:

`AGL_BUFFER_SIZE`

Must be followed by a nonnegative integer that indicates the desired color index buffer size. The smallest color index buffer of at least the specified size is preferred. Ignored if `AGL_RGBA` is asserted.

`AGL_LEVEL`

Must be followed by an integer buffer-level specification. This specification is honored exactly. Buffer level zero corresponds to the default frame buffer of the display. Buffer level one is the first overlay frame buffer, level two the second overlay frame buffer, and so on. Negative buffer levels correspond to underlay frame buffers.

`AGL_RGBA`

If present, only RGBA pixel formats are considered. Otherwise, only color index pixel formats are considered.

`AGL_DOUBLEBUFFER`

If present, only double-buffered pixel formats are considered. Otherwise, only single-buffered pixel formats are considered.

`AGL_STEREO`

If present, only stereo pixel formats are considered. Otherwise, only monoscopic pixel formats are considered.

`AGL_AUX_BUFFERS`

Must be followed by a nonnegative integer that indicates the desired number of auxiliary buffers. Pixel formats with the smallest number of auxiliary buffers that meets or exceeds the specified number are preferred.

`AGL_RED_SIZE`

Must be followed by a nonnegative buffer size specification. A red buffer that most closely matches the specified size is preferred.

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AGL\_GREEN\_SIZE

Must be followed by a nonnegative buffer size specification. A green buffer that most closely matches the specified size is preferred.

AGL\_BLUE\_SIZE

Must be followed by a nonnegative buffer size specification. A blue buffer that most closely matches the specified size is preferred.

AGL\_ALPHA\_SIZE

Must be followed by a nonnegative buffer size specification. An alpha buffer that most closely matches the specified size is preferred.

AGL\_DEPTH\_SIZE

Must be followed by a nonnegative depth buffer size specification. A depth buffer that most closely matches the specified size is preferred.

AGL\_STENCIL\_SIZE

Must be followed by a nonnegative integer that indicates the desired number of stencil bitplanes. The smallest stencil buffer of at least the specified size is preferred.

AGL\_ACCUM\_RED\_SIZE

Must be followed by a nonnegative buffer size specification. A red accumulation buffer that most closely matches the specified size is preferred.

AGL\_ACCUM\_GREEN\_SIZE

Must be followed by a nonnegative buffer size specification. A green accumulation buffer that most closely matches the specified size is preferred.

AGL\_ACCUM\_BLUE\_SIZE

Must be followed by a nonnegative buffer size specification. A blue accumulation buffer that most closely matches the specified size is preferred.

AGL\_ACCUM\_ALPHA\_SIZE

Must be followed by a nonnegative buffer size specification. An alpha accumulation buffer that most closely matches the specified size is preferred.

AGL\_PIXEL\_SIZE

Must be followed by a nonnegative bits-per-pixel specification that is matched exactly. The pixel size is the number of bits required to store each pixel in the color buffer, including unused bits. If the pixel format has an alpha channel that is stored in a separate buffer, it's size is not included in the pixel size.

AGL\_MINIMUM\_POLICY

If present, the pixel format choosing policy is altered for the color, depth, and accumulation buffers such that only buffers of size greater than or equal to the desired size are considered.

AGL\_MAXIMUM\_POLICY

If present, the pixel format choosing policy is altered for the color, depth, and accumulation buffers such that, if a nonzero buffer size is requested, the largest available buffer is preferred.

AGL\_CLOSEST\_POLICY

If present, the pixel format choosing policy is altered for the color buffer such that the buffer closest to the requested size is preferred, regardless of the actual color buffer depth of the supported graphics device.

AGL\_OFFSCREEN

If present, only renderers that are capable of rendering to an off-screen memory area and have buffer depth exactly equal to the desired buffer depth are considered. Furthermore, *gdev* and *ndev* must be set to `NULL` and zero when `AGL_OFFSCREEN` is present. When `AGL_OFFSCREEN` is present the `AGL_CLOSEST_POLICY` attribute is implied.

AGL\_FULLSCREEN

If present, only renderers that are capable of rendering to a full-screen graphics device are considered. Furthermore, *gdev* and *ndev* must be set to `NULL` and zero, respectively, when `AGL_FULLSCREEN` is present.

AGL\_ALL\_RENDERERS

If present, pixel format selection will be open to all available renderers, including debug and special-purpose renderers that are not OpenGL compliant.

AGL\_RENDERER\_ID\*

Must be followed by a nonnegative renderer ID number. If present, OpenGL renderers that match the specified ID are preferred. Two constants are provided in the `agl.h` header to select specific renderers: `AGL_GENERIC_RENDERER_ID` selects the Apple software renderer, and `AGL_RAVE_RENDERER_ID` selects the Apple OpenGL RAVE driver, which in turns selects a suitable RAVE renderer.

AGL\_SINGLE\_RENDERER

If present, a single rendering engine is chosen to render to all specified graphics devices. On systems with multiple screens, this disables the AGL library's ability to drive different monitors through different graphics accelerator cards with a single AGL context.

AGL\_NO\_RECOVERY

If present, the AGL library's failure recovery mechanisms are disabled. Normally, if an accelerated renderer cannot attach to a drawable due to insufficient video memory AGL automatically switches to another renderer. This attribute disables these features so that rendering will always be done by the chosen renderer.

AGL\_ACCELERATED

If present, only renderers that are attached to a hardware accelerated graphics device are considered. It is usually impossible to support more than one graphics device if the `AGL_ACCELERATED` attribute is given.

AGL\_BACKING\_STORE

If present, the only renderers considered are those that have a back color buffer the full size of the drawable (regardless of window visibility) and that guarantee the back buffer contents to be valid after a call to `aglSwapBuffers`.

AGL\_ROBUST

If present, only renderers that do not have any failure modes associated with a lack of video card resources are considered.

AGL\_MP\_SAFE

If present, only renderers that are multi-processor (MP) safe are considered. To execute OpenGL commands on a second

processor, an application must use an MP-safe pixel format and also put the OpenGL library into an MP-safe memory allocation mode with the GLM interface.

## EXAMPLES

```
attribs = {AGL_RGBA, AGL_DEPTH_SIZE, 16, AGL_NONE};
```

Specifies a single-buffered RGB pixel format in the normal frame buffer, not an overlay or underlay buffer. The returned pixel format has color depth equal to the depth of the deepest graphics device on the system. It has a depth buffer as close to 16 bits as can be provided. It does not support color index mode, double-buffering, or stereo display. It may or may not have one or more auxiliary color buffers, a stencil buffer, or an accumulation buffer.

## NOTES

Avoid specifying pixel formats with an alpha color plane if no blending mode requiring the destination alpha value is used. This technique offers greater speed and may reduce memory usage.

If *gdev* specifies more than one graphics device (or is `NULL` on multi-screen system) `aglChoosePixelFormat` attempts to find a renderer or renderers to support all the devices with one AGL context. If a single hardware-accelerated renderer is found that can support the requested pixel format on all devices, this renderer is chosen. If accelerated renderers are found that can support only a subset of the devices, then pixel formats from multiple renderers are chosen. Thus, a hardware-accelerated renderer is used when the current graphics port is entirely displayed on the device it supports and a software renderer is used when the graphics port overlaps a device that is not supported by the hardware renderers.

## ERRORS

`aglChoosePixelFormat` returns `NULL` if it fails for any reason.

`AGL_BAD_ATTRIBUTE` is set if an invalid attribute is encountered in `attribs`.

`AGL_BAD_VALUE` is set if `ndev` is zero and `gdev` is not `NULL`.

`AGL_BAD_VALUE` is set if the `AGL_OFFSCREEN` or `AGL_FULLSCREEN` attributes are specified and `gdev` is not `NULL`.

**AGL\_BAD\_GDEV** is set if *ndev* is nonzero and *gdev* is not a valid graphics device handle.

Other errors may be set by the OpenGL rendering engines.

**SEE ALSO**

`aglCreateContext`, `aglDescribePixelFormat`, `aglDestroyPixelFormat`

# aglConfigure

---

Set the values of global configurable parameters

## C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglConfigure (GLenum pname,
                        GLuint param )
```

## PARAMETERS

*pname* Specifies the name of the parameter to be configured.

*param* Specifies the new value of the parameter.

## DESCRIPTION

Use `aglConfigure` to change the values of parameters that affect the operation of the AGL library. These parameter settings affect all contexts, not just the current context.

*pname* may take one of the following values:

`AGL_FORMAT_CACHE_SIZE`

*param* specifies the positive pixel format cache size. After an application has called `aglChoosePixelFormat` for the last time, it may set the cache size to one to minimize the memory used by the AGL library. If an application intends to use *n* different attribute lists to choose *n* different pixel formats repeatedly, then the application should set the cache size to *n* to maximize performance. The cache size is initially set to 5.

`AGL_CLEAR_FORMAT_CACHE`

If *param* is nonzero, the pixel format cache contents are freed. This does not affect the size of the cache for future storage of pixel formats. To minimize the memory consumed by the cache, the application should also set the cache size to 1.

AGL\_RETAIN\_RENDERERS

If *param* is nonzero, the AGL library will not unload any plugin renderers even if they are no longer in use. This is useful to improve the performance of applications that repeatedly destroy and recreate their only (or last) rendering context. Normally, when the last context created by a particular plugin renderer is destroyed, that renderer is unloaded from memory. If *param* is zero, AGL is returned to its normal mode of operation and all renderers that are not in use are unloaded.

**ERRORS**

`aglConfigure` returns `GL_FALSE` if it fails for any reason, `GL_TRUE` otherwise.

`AGL_BAD_ENUM` is set if either *pname* is not an accepted value.

`AGL_BAD_VALUE` is set if *param* is not an appropriate setting for *pname*.

**SEE ALSO**

`aglSetInteger`

## aglCopyContext

---

Copy state from one rendering context to another.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglCopyContext (AGLContext src,
                          AGLContext dst,
                          GLuint mask )
```

### PARAMETERS

<i>src</i>	Specifies the source context.
<i>dst</i>	Specifies the destination context.
<i>mask</i>	Specifies which portions of <i>src</i> state are to be copied to <i>dst</i> .

### DESCRIPTION

`aglCopyContext` copies selected groups of state variables from *src* to *dst*. *mask* indicates which groups of state variables are to be copied. *mask* contains the bitwise OR of the same symbolic names that are passed to the OpenGL command `glPushAttrib`. The single symbolic constant `GL_ALL_ATTRIB_BITS` can be used to copy the maximum possible portion of rendering state.

Not all values for OpenGL states can be copied. For example, pixel pack and unpack state, render mode state, and select and feedback state are not copied. The state that can be copied is exactly the state that is manipulated by OpenGL command `glPushAttrib`.

### ERRORS

`aglCopyContext` returns `GL_FALSE` if it fails for any reason, `GL_TRUE` otherwise. `AGL_BAD_CONTEXT` is set if either *src* or *dst* is not a valid AGL context.

OpenGL errors on either context may be generated if a renderer fails to get or set the attributes. See `glGetError`.

**SEE ALSO**

`glPushAttrib`, `aglCreateContext`

## aglCreateContext

---

Create a new AGL rendering context.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
AGLContext aglCreateContext (AGLPixelFormat pix,
                             AGLContext share )
```

### PARAMETERS

*pix* Specifies the pixel format for the new rendering context.

*share* Specifies the context with which to share display lists. `NULL` indicates that no sharing is to take place.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglCreateContext` creates an AGL rendering context and returns its handle. This context can be used to render into a Mac OS graphics port. If *pix* was chosen with the `AGL_OFFSCREEN` attribute, then the context can be used to render into an off-screen graphics port.

### NOTES

If *pix* was chosen to support multiple graphics devices, then the created context can render transparently across the support devices. With a multiple device context, sharing is possible only when the relationship between renderers and the graphics devices they support is the same for all contexts being shared.

### ERRORS

`aglCreateContext` returns `NULL` if it fails for any reason.

`AGL_BAD_MATCH` is set if the context to be created could not share attributes with the context specified by *share*.

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AGL\_BAD\_CONTEXT is set if *share* is not a valid AGL context and is not NULL.

AGL\_BAD\_PIXELFMT is set if *pix* is not a valid pixel format.

### SEE ALSO

aglChoosePixelFormat, aglDestroyContext, aglSetDrawable

## aglDescribePixelFormat

---

Return information about an AGL pixel format.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglDescribePixelFormat (AGLPixelFormat pix,
    GLint attrib,
    GLint *value )
```

### PARAMETERS

<i>pix</i>	Specifies the pixel format.
<i>attrib</i>	Specifies the pixel format attribute to be returned.
<i>value</i>	Returns the requested value.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglDescribePixelFormat` sets *value* to the *attrib* value of the pixel format *pix*. `aglDescribePixelFormat` returns `GL_TRUE` on successful completion.

*attrib* may be any of the attributes accepted by `aglChoosePixelFormat` with the exception of `AGL_ALL_RENDERERS`, `AGL_MINIMUM_POLICY`, `AGL_MAXIMUM_POLICY`, and `AGL_CLOSEST_POLICY`, and the addition of `AGL_WINDOW`, `AGL_MULTISCREEN`, `AGL_COMPLIANT`, and `AGL_VIRTUAL_SCREEN`.

The value returned in *value* depends on the attributes, as follows:

<code>AGL_BUFFER_SIZE</code>	Number of bits per color buffer. For RGBA pixel formats, the buffer size is the sum of the red, green, blue, and alpha sizes. For color index pixel formats, buffer size is the size of the color indexes.
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AGL_LEVEL	Frame buffer level of the pixel format. Level zero is the default frame buffer. Positive levels correspond to frame buffers that overlay the default buffer, and negative levels correspond to frame buffers that underlay the default level.
AGL_RGBA	GL_TRUE if the color buffers store red, green, blue, and alpha values, GL_FALSE if they store color indexes.
AGL_DOUBLEBUFFER	GL_TRUE if color buffers exist in front/back pairs that can be swapped, GL_FALSE otherwise.
AGL_STEREO	GL_TRUE if color buffers exist in left/right pairs, GL_FALSE otherwise.
AGL_AUX_BUFFERS	Number of auxiliary buffers that are available. Zero indicates that no auxiliary buffers exist.
AGL_RED_SIZE	Number of bits of red stored in each color buffer. Zero if AGL_RGBA is GL_FALSE.
AGL_GREEN_SIZE	Number of bits of green stored in each color buffer. Zero if AGL_RGBA is GL_FALSE.
AGL_BLUE_SIZE	Number of bits of blue stored in each color buffer. Zero if AGL_RGBA is GL_FALSE.
AGL_ALPHA_SIZE	Number of bits of alpha stored in each color buffer. Zero if AGL_RGBA is GL_FALSE.
AGL_DEPTH_SIZE	Number of bits in the depth buffer
AGL_STENCIL_SIZE	Number of bits in the stencil buffer
AGL_ACCUM_RED_SIZE	Number of bits of red stored in the accumulation buffer.

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AGL\_ACCUM\_GREEN\_SIZE

Number of bits of green stored in the accumulation buffer.

AGL\_ACCUM\_BLUE\_SIZE

Number of bits of blue stored in the accumulation buffer.

AGL\_ACCUM\_ALPHA\_SIZE

Number of bits of alpha stored in the accumulation buffer.

AGL\_PIXEL\_SIZE

The number of bits of memory per pixel in the frame buffer. This value is less than or equal to the sum of red, green and blue or red, green, blue, and alpha bits because some bits in the frame buffer may not be utilized in certain modes.

AGL\_OFFSCREEN

GL\_TRUE if the pixel format can be used to render to an off-screen memory area.

AGL\_FULLSCREEN

GL\_TRUE if the pixel format can be used to render to a full-screen graphics device.

AGL\_WINDOW

GL\_TRUE if the pixel format can be used to render to a drawable window.

AGL\_RENDERER\_ID

The integer renderer ID of the renderer that created the pixel format.

AGL\_SINGLE\_RENDERER

GL\_TRUE if *pix* is a single pixel format representing a single renderer, GL\_FALSE if *pix* is a list of pixel formats representing multiple renderers.

AGL\_NO\_RECOVERY

GL\_TRUE if failure recovery features are disabled for this pixel format.

AGL\_ACCELERATED

GL\_TRUE if *pix* represents a hardware accelerated renderer.

## AGL Reference

### AGL\_BACKING\_STORE

GL\_TRUE if the contents of the back color buffer are guaranteed to be valid after a call to `aglSwapBuffers`, regardless of the visibility state of the current drawable.

### AGL\_ROBUST

GL\_TRUE if *pix* represents a renderer that has no failure modes associated with a lack of video resources.

### AGL\_MP\_SAFE

GL\_TRUE if *pix* represents a renderer that is multi-processor safe.

### AGL\_COMPLIANT

GL\_TRUE if *pix* represents a pixel format fully compliant with OpenGL.

### AGL\_MULTISCREEN

GL\_TRUE if the pixel format can be used to render to multiple screens simultaneously. This value applies only to a particular entry in a list of pixel formats. A return of GL\_FALSE does not imply that multiple screens are not supported, because there may be other pixel formats in the list that do provide multi-screen support.

### AGL\_VIRTUAL\_SCREEN

The integer virtual screen number of the pixel format. See `aglSetVirtualScreen`.

For off-screen rendering, the pixel size of a pixel format must be equal to the buffer depth of the off-screen rendering area.

## NOTES

On multi-screen systems, `aglChoosePixelFormat` may return a list of more than one pixel format to support multiple renderers simultaneously. To access the data in pixel formats after the first one in the list, use `aglNextPixelFormat`.

## ERRORS

`aglDescribePixelFormat` returns GL\_FALSE if it fails for any reason.

AGL\_BAD\_PIXELFMT is set if *pix* is not a valid pixel format.

AGL\_BAD\_ATTRIBUTE is set if *attrib* is not an accepted attribute.

AGL Reference

**SEE ALSO**

`aglChoosePixelFormat`, `aglCreateContext`

## aglDescribeRenderer

---

Return information about an AGL renderer.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglDescribeRenderer (AGLRendererInfo rend,
                               GLint prop,
                               GLint *value )
```

### PARAMETERS

<i>rend</i>	Specifies the renderer info.
<i>prop</i>	Specifies the renderer property to be returned.
<i>value</i>	Returns the requested value.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglDescribeRenderer` sets *valu* to the *prop* value of the renderer info *rend*.  
`aglDescribeRenderer` returns `GL_TRUE` on successful completion.

*prop* may be any of the following symbolic values:

`AGL_RENDERER_ID`

The integer renderer ID of the renderer that created the pixel format.

`AGL_OFFSCREEN`

`GL_TRUE` if the renderer can render to an off-screen memory area.

`AGL_FULLSCREEN`

`GL_TRUE` if the renderer can render to a full-screen graphics device.

`AGL_WINDOW`

`GL_TRUE` if the renderer can render to a drawable window.

## AGL Reference

AGL\_ACCELERATED

**GL\_TRUE if the renderer is hardware accelerated.**

AGL\_BACKING\_STORE

**GL\_TRUE if the contents of a back color buffer are guaranteed to be valid after a call to `aglSwapBuffers`, regardless of the visibility state of the current drawable.**

AGL\_ROBUST

**GL\_TRUE if the renderer has no failure modes associated with a lack of video resources.**

AGL\_MP\_SAFE

**GL\_TRUE if the renderer is multi-processor safe.**

AGL\_COMPLIANT

**GL\_TRUE if the renderer is fully compliant with the OpenGL specification.**

AGL\_MULTISCREEN

**GL\_TRUE if the renderer is capable of driving multiple screens with the same rendering context. This value may affect the way `aglChoosePixelFormat` chooses renderers to support multiple screens.**

AGL\_BUFFER\_MODES

**The bitwise OR of the following frame buffer mode flags:**

AGL\_MONOSCOPIC\_BIT

AGL\_STEREOSCOPIC\_BIT

AGL\_SINGLEBUFFER\_MODE

AGL\_DOUBLEBUFFER\_MODE

AGL\_MIN\_LEVEL

**The minimum overlay buffer level. Negative values indicate an underlay buffer.**

AGL\_MAX\_LEVEL

**The maximum overlay buffer level.**

AGL\_COLOR\_MODES

AGL\_ACCUM\_MODES

**Either of these properties can be the bitwise OR of any of the following symbolic values:**

AGL\_RGB8\_BIT  
AGL\_RGB8\_A8\_BIT  
AGL\_BGR233\_BIT  
AGL\_BGR233\_A8\_BIT  
AGL\_RGB332\_BIT  
AGL\_RGB332\_A8\_BIT  
AGL\_RGB444\_BIT  
AGL\_ARGB4444\_BIT  
AGL\_RGB444\_A8\_BIT  
AGL\_RGB555\_BIT  
AGL\_ARGB1555\_BIT  
AGL\_RGB555\_A8\_BIT  
AGL\_RGB565\_BIT  
AGL\_RGB565\_A8\_BIT  
AGL\_RGB888\_BIT  
AGL\_ARGB8888\_BIT  
AGL\_RGB888\_A8\_BIT  
AGL\_RGB101010\_BIT  
AGL\_ARGB2101010\_BIT  
AGL\_RGB101010\_A8\_BIT  
AGL\_RGB121212\_BIT  
AGL\_ARGB12121212\_BIT  
AGL\_RGB161616\_BIT  
AGL\_ARGB16161616\_BIT  
AGL\_INDEX8\_BIT

## AGL Reference

AGL\_INDEX16\_BIT

AGL\_DEPTH\_MODES

AGL\_STENCIL\_MODES

Any of these properties can be the bitwise OR of any of the following flags:

AGL\_0\_BIT

AGL\_1\_BIT

AGL\_2\_BIT

AGL\_4\_BIT

AGL\_8\_BIT

AGL\_12\_BIT

AGL\_16\_BIT

AGL\_24\_BIT

AGL\_32\_BIT

AGL\_48\_BIT

AGL\_64\_BIT

AGL\_MAX\_AUX\_BUFFERS

The maximum number of auxiliary buffers that can be supported by the renderer.

## NOTES

`aglQueryRendererInfo` will normally return a list of more than one renderer info; one for each renderer found on the system. To access the data in renderer infos after the first one in the list, use `aglNextRendererInfo`.

## ERRORS

`aglDescribeRenderer` returns `GL_FALSE` if it fails for any reason.

`AGL_BAD_RENDINFO` is set if *rend* is not a valid renderer info.

`AGL_BAD_PROPERTY` is set if *prop* is not an accepted property.

AGL Reference

**SEE ALSO**

`aglQueryRendererInfo`, `aglNextRendererInfo`

## aglDestroyContext

---

Destroy an AGL rendering context.

### C SPECIFIC ATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglDestroyContext ( AGLContext ctx )
```

### PARAMETERS

*ctx* Specifies the AGL context to be destroyed.

### DESCRIPTION

If the AGL rendering context *ctx* is the current rendering context, then there will be no current context after `aglDestroyContext` executes. All resources used by *ctx* are freed immediately. `aglDestroyContext` returns `GL_TRUE` on successful completion.

### ERRORS

`aglDestroyContext` returns `GL_FALSE` if it fails for any reason  
`AGL_BAD_CONTEXT` is set if *ctx* is not a valid AGL context.

### SEE ALSO

`aglCreateContext`, `aglUpdateContext`

## aglDestroyPixelFormat

---

Free resources used by a pixel format.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
void aglDestroyPixelFormat ( AGLPixelFormat pix )
```

### PARAMETERS

*pix*                    Specifies the pixel format to be destroyed.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglDestroyPixelFormat` **frees the memory allocated by `aglChoosePixelFormat`. A copy of the pixel format data is made by `aglCreateContext`, so an application may free a pixel format immediately after creating a context with it.**

**Do not pass the return from `aglNextPixelFormat` to `aglDestroyPixelFormat`. Doing so will set the `AGL_BAD_PIXELFMT` error.**

### ERRORS

`AGL_BAD_PIXELFMT` is set if *pix* is not a valid pixel format.

### SEE ALSO

`aglChoosePixelFormat`, `aglDescribePixelFormat`

## aglDestroyRendererInfo

---

Free resources used by a renderer info.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
void aglDestroyRendererInfo ( AGLRendererInfo rend )
```

### PARAMETERS

*rend*                    Specifies the renderer info to be destroyed.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglDestroyRendererInfo` frees the memory allocated by `aglQueryRendererInfo`. Specific information is obtained from a renderer info with `aglDescribeRendererInfo`.

Do not pass the return from `aglNextRendererInfo` to `aglDestroyRendererInfo`. Doing so will set the `AGL_BAD_RENDINFO` error.

### ERRORS

`AGL_BAD_RENDINFO` is set if *rend* is not a valid renderer info.

### SEE ALSO

`aglQueryRendererInfo`, `aglDescribeRendererInfo`

## aglDevicesOfPixelFormat

---

Return the graphics devices supported by a pixel format.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
AGLDevice *aglDevicesOfPixelFormat (AGLPixelFormat pix,
    GLint *ndevs )
```

### PARAMETERS

*pix*                Specifies the pixel format.

*ndevs*             Returns the number of devices in the returned array.

### RETURN

An array of graphics device specifiers of length *ndevs*.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglChoosePixelFormat` may return a list of more than one pixel format. The first format in the list is guaranteed to support all of the graphics devices requested of `aglChoosePixelFormat`. However, all subsequent devices in the list will support only a non-overlapping subset of all requested graphics devices. The devices supported by each pixel format can be determined with `aglNextPixelFormat` and `aglDevicesOfPixelFormat`.

The AGL library manages switching between the renderers that support each graphics devices. An application should only be concerned with the information provided by this function if it wishes to implement alternative rendering modes for specific renderers.

### ERRORS

`aglDevicesOfPixelFormat` returns NULL if it fails for any reason

## AGL Reference

AGL\_BAD\_PIXELFMT is set if *pix* is not a valid pixel format.

### SEE ALSO

aglChoosePixelFormat, aglDescribePixelFormat, aglNextPixelFormat

# aglDisable

---

Disable an AGL context option.

## C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglDisable (AGLContext ctx ,
                     GLenum pname )
```

## PARAMETERS

*ctx* Specifies the AGL context.

*pname* Specifies the capability to be disabled.

## DESCRIPTION

`aglDisable` disables an AGL option that was enabled with `aglEnable`. *pname* may be any one of the symbolic constants accepted by `aglEnable`. `aglDisable` returns `GL_FALSE` if it fails for any reason, `GL_TRUE` otherwise.

## ERRORS

`AGL_BAD_CONTEXT` is set if *ctx* is not a valid context.

`AGL_BAD_ENUM` is set if *pname* is not one of the accepted values.

## SEE ALSO

`glEnable`, `aglEnable`

# aglEnable

---

Enable an AGL context option.

## C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglEnable (AGLContext ctx ,
                    GLenum pname )
```

## PARAMETERS

*ctx* Specifies the AGL context.

*pname* Specifies the capability to be enabled.

## DESCRIPTION

`aglEnable` enables an AGL option. Use `aglDisable` to disable the option. `aglEnable` returns `GL_FALSE` if it fails for any reason, `GL_TRUE` otherwise.

*pname* may be one of the following symbolic constants:

`AGL_SWAP_RECT`

If enabled, the area of the window that is affected by `aglSwapBuffers` is restricted to a sub-rectangle of the entire window.

`AGL_BUFFER_RECT`

If enabled, the drawable rectangle of the window and all of its associated buffers are restricted to a rectangle specified with `aglSetInteger`.

`AGL_RASTERIZATION`

If disabled, all rasterization of 2D and 3D primitives will be disabled. This state is useful for debugging and to characterize the performance of an OpenGL driver without actually rendering.

AGL\_STATE\_VALIDATION

If enabled, the AGL library will inspect the context state each time that `aglUpdateContext` is called to ensure that it is in an appropriate state for switching between renderers. Normally, the state is inspected only when it is actually necessary to switch renderers. This is useful to use a single monitor system to test that an application will perform correctly on a multiple monitor system.

AGL\_COLORMAP\_TRACKING

If enabled, a rendering context of 8 bit depth (RGBA or color index format) uses the color table associated with the MacOS window to which it is attached. For RGBA formats, a change to the window's color table must be followed by a call to `aglUpdateContext` to inform the context that the color table has changed. For color index formats, the window's color table may be changed at any time. This mode offers the best performance since color translation does not occur when data is copied from the color buffer to the window. If disabled, the rendering context uses an internal color table that is defined by calling `aglSetInteger` with the `AGL_COLORMAP_ENTRY` parameter name.

**ERRORS**

`AGL_BAD_CONTEXT` is set if *ctx* is not a valid context.

`AGL_BAD_ENUM` is set if *pname* is not one of the accepted values.

**SEE ALSO**

`aglEnable`, `aglDisable`, `aglIsEnabled`, `aglSetInteger`

## aglErrorString

---

Return an error string for an AGL error code.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
const GLubyte *aglErrorString ( GLenum code )
```

### PARAMETERS

*code*                Specifies an AGL error code.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglErrorString` produces an error string from an AGL error code. The standard AGL error codes are `AGL_NO_ERROR` and all the numerical codes between `AGL_BAD_ATTRIBUTE` and `AGL_BAD_ALLOC`, inclusive.

`aglErrorString` always returns a string, even if *code* is invalid.

### SEE ALSO

`aglGetError`, `gluErrorString`

## aglGetCurrentContext

---

Return the current context.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
AGLContext aglGetCurrentContext ( void )
```

### DESCRIPTION

`aglGetCurrentContext` returns the current AGL rendering context, as specified by `aglSetCurrentContext`. If there is no current context, `NULL` is returned.

### SEE ALSO

`aglCreateContext`, `aglSetCurrentContext`

## aglGetDrawable

---

Return the drawable attached to a rendering context.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
AGLDrawable aglGetDrawable ( AGLContext ctx )
```

### PARAMETERS

*ctx* Specifies the rendering context.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglGetDrawable` returns the AGL drawable (a Mac OS `CGrafPtr`) that was last attached to *ctx* with `aglSetDrawable`.

If the drawable last attached to *ctx* was an off-screen drawable (attached with `aglSetOffScreen`) `aglGetDrawable` returns the base address of the off-screen memory area. If the drawable last attached to *ctx* was a full-screen graphics device (attached with `aglSetFullScreen`) `aglGetDrawable` returns the integer device number of the full-screen graphics device.

`aglGetDrawable` returns `NULL` if no drawable is attached to *ctx*.

### ERRORS

`aglGetDrawable` returns `NULL` if it fails for any reason.

`AGL_BAD_CONTEXT` is set if *ctx* is not a valid context.

### SEE ALSO

`aglCreateContext`, `aglSetDrawable`, `aglSetFullScreen`, `aglSetOffScreen`

## aglGetError

---

Return error information.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLenum aglGetError ( void )
```

### DESCRIPTION

`aglGetError` returns the value of the global AGL error flag. Each error is assigned a numeric code and symbolic name. When an error occurs, the error flag is set to the appropriate error code value. No other errors are recorded until `aglGetError` is called, the error code is returned, and the flag is reset to `AGL_NO_ERROR`. If a call to `aglGetError` returns `AGL_NO_ERROR`, there has been no detectable error since the last call to `aglGetError`.

The currently defined errors are as follows:

<code>AGL_NO_ERROR</code>	No error.
<code>AGL_BAD_ATTRIBUTE</code>	Unknown pixel format attribute.
<code>AGL_BAD_PROPERTY</code>	Unknown renderer property.
<code>AGL_BAD_PIXELFMT</code>	Invalid pixel format specified.
<code>AGL_BAD_RENDINFO</code>	Invalid renderer info.
<code>AGL_BAD_CONTEXT</code>	Invalid context specified.
<code>AGL_BAD_DRAWABLE</code>	Invalid drawable specified.

## AGL Reference

AGL_BAD_GDEV	Invalid graphics device.
AGL_BAD_STATE	Operation not allowed in current state.
AGL_BAD_VALUE	Out of range numerical value.
AGL_BAD_MATCH	Contexts cannot be shared.
AGL_BAD_ENUM	Invalid enumeration
AGL_BAD_OFFSCREEN	Invalid off-screen drawable specification
AGL_BAD_FULLSCREEN	Invalid full-screen drawable specification
AGL_BAD_WINDOW	Invalid drawable window specification
AGL_BAD_POINTER	Null pointer encountered
AGL_BAD_MODULE	Invalid code module loaded.
AGL_BAD_ALLOC	Memory allocation failure has occurred.

### SEE ALSO

aglGetError

## aglGetInteger

---

Retrieve the integer settings of an AGL context option.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglGetInteger (AGLContext ctx,
                        GLenum pname,
                        GLint *params )
```

### PARAMETERS

<i>ctx</i>	Specifies the AGL context.
<i>pname</i>	Specifies the option settings to be returned.
<i>params</i>	Returns the option settings.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglGetInteger` returns the current setting of an AGL option. Use `aglSetInteger` to alter the setting and `aglEnable` to enable the option. `aglGetInteger` returns `GL_FALSE` if it fails for any reason, `GL_TRUE` otherwise.

*pname* may be one of the following symbolic constants:

`AGL_SWAP_RECT`

*params* returns four values: the x and y window coordinates of the swap rectangle, followed by its width and height.

`AGL_BUFFER_RECT`

*params* returns four values: the x and y window coordinates of the buffer rectangle, followed by its width and height.

`AGL_OFFSCREEN`

If the drawable currently attached to *ctx* is an off-screen drawable (attached with `aglSetOffScreen`) *params* returns three

values: the width, height, and rowbytes of the off-screen memory area. If the drawable of *ctx* is not an off-screen type, *params* returns zeroes.

AGL\_FULLSCREEN

If the drawable currently attached to *ctx* is a full-screen drawable (attached with `aglSetFullScreen`), *params* returns three values: the width, height, and refresh frequency of the full-screen device. If the drawable of *ctx* is not a full-screen type, *params* returns zeroes.

AGL\_SWAP\_INTERVAL

*params* returns one value: the current swap interval setting.

AGL\_COLORMAP\_ENTRY

*params*[0] must be initialized to a valid color index on entry. On return, *params*[1], *params*[2], and *params*[3] contain the red, green, and blue intensities of the specified color table entry. The return values are scaled so minimum intensity maps to 0 and maximum intensity maps to 65535.

## ERRORS

AGL\_BAD\_CONTEXT is set if *ctx* is not a valid context.

AGL\_BAD\_ENUM is set if *pname* is not one of the accepted values.

## SEE ALSO

`aglEnable`, `aglSetInteger`

## aglGetVersion

---

Return the version numbers of the AGL library.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglGetVersion (GLint *major,
                        GLint *minor )
```

### PARAMETERS

*major* Returns the major version number of the AGL library.

*minor* Returns the minor version number of the AGL library.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglGetVersion` returns the major and minor version numbers of the AGL library. AGL implementations with the same major version number are upward compatible, meaning that the implementation with the higher minor number is a superset of the version with the lower minor number.

*major* and *minor* do not return values if they are specified as `NULL`.

### SEE ALSO

`glGetString`

## aglGetVirtualScreen

---

Return the current virtual screen number.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLint aglGetVirtualScreen ( AGLContext ctx )
```

### PARAMETERS

*ctx*                    Specifies the AGL context.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglGetVirtualScreen` may be used on multiple-monitor systems to find which virtual screen is associated with the OpenGL renderer that is currently processing OpenGL commands. On a single-monitor system `aglGetVirtualScreen` always returns zero. The current virtual screen is normally set automatically by `aglUpdateCurrent` to be the virtual screen that includes the smallest set of graphics devices that contain the entire drawable, so the current virtual screen may change when the drawable is moved or resized across graphics device boundaries. A change in the current virtual screen may affect the return values of some OpenGL functions.

### NOTES

Each virtual screen includes one or more Mac OS graphics devices. Virtual screen zero of a particular AGL context always includes all graphics devices that are supported by the context and all other virtual screens include non-intersecting subsets of those devices. The total number of virtual screens is less than or equal to the number of graphics devices plus one. There is one OpenGL renderer and one pixel format associated with each virtual screen. (OpenGL commands are processed by the renderer associated with the current virtual screen.) The relationship between virtual screens and their respective renderers and pixel formats is determined entirely by `aglChoosePixelFormat`.

The virtual screen number and OpenGL renderer ID associated with a specific pixel format are found by passing `aglDescribePixelFormat` the `AGL_VIRTUAL_SCREEN` and `AGL_RENDERER_ID` attributes, respectively, and the set of graphics devices associated with a pixel format is found with `aglDevicesOfPixelFormat`. `aglNextPixelFormat` and `aglDescribePixelFormat` can be used repeatedly to examine all the pixel formats returned by `aglChoosePixelFormat`.

#### ERRORS

`aglGetVirtualScreen` returns -1 if it fails for any reason.

`AGL_BAD_CONTEXT` is set if `ctx` is not a valid context.

#### SEE ALSO

`aglChoosePixelFormat`, `aglDescribePixelFormat`, `aglDevicesOfPixelFormat`, `aglNextPixelFormat`, `aglSetVirtualScreen`

## aglIsEnabled

---

Query the state of an AGL context option.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglIsEnabled (AGLContext ctx ,
                       GLenum pname )
```

### PARAMETERS

<i>ctx</i>	Specifies the AGL context.
<i>pname</i>	Specifies the capability to be queried.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglIsEnabled` queries the state of an AGL option that was enabled or disabled with `aglEnable` or `aglDisable`. *pname* may be any one of the symbolic constants accepted by `aglEnable`. `aglIsEnabled` returns `GL_TRUE` if the option is enabled, `GL_FALSE` if the option is disabled or if an error occurs.

### ERRORS

`AGL_BAD_CONTEXT` is set if *ctx* is not a valid context.

`AGL_BAD_ENUM` is set if *pname* is not one of the accepted values.

### SEE ALSO

`aglDisable`, `aglEnable`, `aglGetInteger`, `aglSetInteger`

## aglNextPixelFormat

---

Return the next in a list of pixel formats.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
AGLPixelFormat aglNextPixelFormat ( AGLPixelFormat *pix )
```

### PARAMETERS

*pix*                    Specifies a pixel format.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglNextPixelFormat` returns the next pixel format in a list of pixel formats. If *pix* is the last pixel format in the list, `NULL` is returned.

### NOTES

Lists of more than one pixel format are generated by `aglChoosePixelFormat` when all the graphics devices on the system are not supported by a single renderer.

### ERRORS

`aglNextPixelFormat` returns `NULL` if it fails for any reason.  
`AGL_BAD_PIXELFMT` is set if *pix* is not a valid AGL pixel format.

### SEE ALSO

`aglChoosePixelFormat`, `aglDescribePixelFormat`

## aglNextRendererInfo

---

Return the next in a list of renderer infos.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
AGLRendererInfo aglNextRendererInfo ( AGLRendererInfo *rend )
```

### PARAMETERS

*rend*                    Specifies a renderer info.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglNextRendererInfo` returns the next renderer info in a list of renderer infos. If *rend* is the last renderer info in the list, `NULL` is returned.

### NOTES

Lists of more than one renderer info are generated by `aglQueryRendererInfo` when there is more than one renderer installed on the system. Most systems have more than one installed renderer since support for different buffer depths is often provided by separate renderers.

### ERRORS

`aglNextRendererInfo` returns `NULL` if it fails for any reason.  
`AGL_BAD_RENDINFO` is set if *rend* is not a valid AGL renderer info.

### SEE ALSO

`aglQueryRendererInfo`, `aglDescribeRenderer`

## aglQueryRendererInfo

---

Retrieve a description of renderer capabilities.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
AGLRendererInfo aglQueryRendererInfo (const AGLDevice *gdev,
                                       GLint ndev )
```

### PARAMETERS

*gdev*            An array of Mac OS graphics devices (type `GDHandle`)

*ndev*            The number of graphics devices in *gdev*

### DESCRIPTION

`aglQueryRendererInfo` returns a list of `AGLRendererInfo` data structures that describe the capabilities of OpenGL renderers. One `AGLRendererInfo` is returned for each OpenGL rendering engine installed on the system. To access the `AGLRendererInfo` data, use `aglDescribeRenderer`. To free the data returned by this function, use `aglDestroyRendererInfo`.

If *gdev* and *ndev* are `NULL` and zero, respectively, the returned information will apply to all graphics devices on the system. Otherwise, information will be returned for only the specified devices.

### ERRORS

`aglQueryRendererInfo` returns `NULL` if it fails for any reason.

`AGL_BAD_DEVICE` is set if *ndev* is nonzero and *gdev* is not an array of valid devices.

**SEE ALSO**

`aglChoosePixelFormat`, `aglDescribeRenderer`, `aglDestroyRendererInfo`,  
`aglNextRendererInfo`

## aglResetLibrary

---

Reset the OpenGL library to its initial state.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
void aglResetLibrary ( void )
```

### DESCRIPTION

**aglResetLibrary resets the OpenGL library to its initial state. aglResetLibrary destroys all contexts created with aglCreateContext, unloads all plugin renderers from memory, frees any data allocated by aglChoosePixelFormat or aglQueryRendererInfo, and resets any options set with aglConfigure to their initial values.**

If any resources have been allocated by the OpenGL library, **aglResetLibrary** must be called to free those resources before attempting to change the memory page allocation mode of the OpenGLMemory library.

### SEE ALSO

aglConfigure, aglDestroyContext, aglDestroyPixelFormat, aglDestroyRendererInfo

## aglSetCurrentContext

---

Make a context the current rendering context.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglSetCurrentContext ( AGLContext ctx )
```

### PARAMETERS

*ctx*                    Specifies an AGL rendering context.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglSetCurrentContext` makes *ctx* the current AGL rendering context, replacing the previously current context if there was one. As a result of this action, subsequent OpenGL rendering calls go to rendering context *ctx* to modify its drawable. Because `aglSetCurrentContext` always replaces the current rendering context with *ctx*, there can be only one current context.

To release the current context without assigning a new one, call `aglSetCurrentContext` with *ctx* set to `NULL`.

If `aglSetCurrentContext` fails, the current rendering context remains unchanged.

### ERRORS

`aglSetCurrentContext` returns `GL_FALSE` if it fails for any reason.

`AGL_BAD_CONTEXT` is set if *ctx* is not a valid AGL context and is not `NULL`.

### SEE ALSO

`aglCreateContext`, `aglGetCurrentContext`, `aglSetDrawable`

## aglSetDrawable

---

Attach an AGL context to a Mac OS graphics port.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglSetDrawable (AGLContext ctx,
                          AGLDrawable draw )
```

### PARAMETERS

*ctx* Specifies an AGL rendering context.

*draw* Specifies an AGL drawable. The AGLDrawable type is equivalent to the Mac OS CGrafPtr type.

### DESCRIPTION

aglSetDrawable attaches drawable *draw* to rendering context *ctx*. As a result of this action, subsequent OpenGL rendering calls directed to *ctx* modify drawable *draw*. aglSetDrawable performs all of the actions performed by aglUpdateContext.

When a context is first attached to a specific drawable, its viewport is set to the full size of the drawable. If the context is subsequently attached to the same drawable, its viewport is unaltered.

To disable a rendering context, call aglSetDrawable with *draw* set to NULL.

If aglSetDrawable fails, the drawable of the context is set to NULL.

### ERRORS

aglSetDrawable returns GL\_FALSE if it fails for any reason.

AGL\_BAD\_DRAWABLE is set if *draw* is not a valid AGL drawable or NULL.

AGL\_BAD\_CONTEXT is set if *ctx* is not a valid AGL context.

AGL Reference

**SEE ALSO**

`aglCreateContext`, `aglSetCurrentContext`

## aglSetFullScreen

---

Attach an AGL context to a full-screen graphics device.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglSetFullScreen (AGLContext ctx,
    GLsizei width,
    GLsizei height,
    GLsizei freq,
    GLint device )
```

### PARAMETERS

<i>ctx</i>	Specifies an AGL rendering context.
<i>width</i>	Specifies the width of the graphics device in pixels.
<i>height</i>	Specifies the height of the graphics device in pixels.
<i>freq</i>	Specifies the refresh frequency of the graphics device in hertz.
<i>device</i>	Specifies the integer graphics device index.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglSetFullScreen` attaches context *ctx* to a full-screen graphics device. As a result of this action, subsequent OpenGL rendering calls directed to *ctx* modify the full-screen device. The context must have been created with respect to a pixel format that supports a full-screen device, which is requested with the `AGL_FULLSCREEN` attribute for `aglChoosePixelFormat`. `aglSetFullScreen` performs all of the actions performed by `aglUpdateContext`.

When a context is first attached to a full-screen device, its viewport is set to the full size of the device. If the context is subsequently attached to the same device, its viewport is unaltered.

The integer *device* number specifies which full-screen graphics device will be used on a system with more than one full-screen device. *device* should be set to zero on a system with a single device. There is no correlation between a Mac OS `GDHandle` and a full-screen device number, so an application must determine which device to use by allowing the user to select it.

To disable a rendering context, call `aglSetDrawable` with *draw* set to `NULL`.

If `aglSetFullScreen` fails, the drawable of the context is set to `NULL`.

## ERRORS

`aglSetFullScreen` returns `GL_FALSE` if it fails for any reason.

`AGL_BAD_FULLSCREEN` is set if *width*, *height*, or *freq* are not supported by the device.

`AGL_BAD_CONTEXT` is set if *ctx* is not a valid AGL context.

## SEE ALSO

`aglCreateContext`, `aglSetCurrentContext`, `aglSetDrawable`

## aglSetInteger

---

Set the integer values of AGL context options.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglSetInteger (AGLContext ctx,
                        GLenum pname,
                        GLint *params )
```

### PARAMETERS

<i>ctx</i>	Specifies the AGL context.
<i>pname</i>	Specifies which option values are to be changed.
<i>params</i>	A pointer to the new option values.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglSetInteger` changes the current setting of an AGL context option. Use `aglGetInteger` to retrieve the setting and `aglEnable` to enable the option. `aglSetInteger` returns `GL_FALSE` if it fails for any reason, `GL_TRUE` otherwise.

*pname* may be one of the following symbolic constants:

`AGL_SWAP_RECT`

*params* contains four values: the x and y window coordinates of the swap rectangle, followed by its width and height. When `AGL_SWAP_RECT` is enabled, the actual screen area swapped by `aglSwapBuffers` will be restricted to the intersection of the specified rectangle and the drawable rectangle. The swap rectangle is defined in OpenGL screen coordinates, not operating system screen coordinates.

If the buffer rectangle is also enabled, the swap rectangle coordinates are relative to the buffer rectangle, not the window.

## AGL\_BUFFER\_RECT'

*params* contains four values: the x and y window coordinates of the buffer rectangle, followed by its width and height. The specified buffer rectangle is clamped to the maximum drawable width and height and the resulting rectangle is the drawable rectangle for all GL operations. All internally allocated buffers are allocated to match the buffer rectangle, not the actual window rectangle.

If all OpenGL drawing is to be restricted to a sub-rectangle of the entire window, it is more efficient and simpler to use AGL\_BUFFER\_RECT than to use a combination of `glViewport`, `glScissor`, and AGL\_SWAP\_RECT. The buffer rectangle can be used to emulate child windows provided by some windowing systems.

## AGL\_SWAP\_INTERVAL

*params* contains one value, the current swap interval setting. If the swap interval is set to 0 (the default) a call to `aglSwapBuffers` will be executed as soon as possible, without regard to the vertical refresh rate of the monitor. If the swap interval is set to 1, the buffers will be swapped only during the vertical retrace of the monitor. If the swap interval is set to *n*, the buffers will be swapped only every *n* vertical retraces of the monitor. Calls to `aglSwapBuffers` that occur at a higher rate than the monitor refresh rate divided by *n* are ignored.

## AGL\_COLORMAP\_ENTRY

*params* contains four values: a color table index and the red, green, and blue color intensities to assign to the specified color table index. The color intensity values are scaled so 0 maps to minimum intensity and 65535 maps to maximum intensity. The color table entries set with AGL\_COLORMAP\_ENTRY have no effect unless AGL\_COLORMAP\_TRACKING is disabled.

## ERRORS

`aglSetInteger` returns `GL_FALSE` if it fails for any reason.

AGL\_BAD\_CONTEXT is set if *ctx* is not a valid context.

AGL\_BAD\_ENUM is set if *pname* is not one of the accepted values.

AGL Reference

**SEE ALSO**

`aglEnable`, `aglGetInteger`, `aglSwapBuffers`

## aglSetOffScreen

---

Attach an AGL context to an off-screen memory area.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglSetOffScreen (AGLContext ctx,
    GLsizei width,
    GLsizei height,
    GLsizei rowbytes,
    GLvoid *baseaddr )
```

### PARAMETERS

<i>ctx</i>	Specifies an AGL rendering context.
<i>width</i>	Specifies the width of the off-screen memory area in pixels.
<i>height</i>	Specifies the height of the off-screen memory area in pixels.
<i>rowbytes</i>	Specifies the number of bytes in one row of the off-screen memory area.
<i>baseaddr</i>	Specifies the base address of the memory area.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglSetOffScreen` attaches context *ctx* to an off-screen memory area. As a result of this action, subsequent OpenGL rendering calls directed to *ctx* modify the off-screen memory. The context must have been created with respect to a pixel format that supports off-screen rendering, which is requested with the `AGL_OFFSCREEN` attribute for `aglChoosePixelFormat`. `aglSetOffScreen` also performs all of the actions performed by `aglUpdateContext`.

When a context is attached to an off-screen memory area, its viewport is set to the full size of the off-screen area.

To disable a rendering context, call `aglSetDrawable` with `draw` set to `NULL`.

If `aglSetOffScreen` fails, the drawable of the context is set to `NULL`.

## ERRORS

`aglSetOffScreen` returns `GL_FALSE` if it fails for any reason.

`AGL_BAD_OFFSCREEN` is set if the combination of *width* and *rowbytes* do not support the pixel size of the context.

`AGL_BAD_CONTEXT` is set if *ctx* is not a valid AGL context.

`AGL_BAD_DRAWABLE` is set if *rowbytes* is insufficient to store a row of pixels.

## SEE ALSO

`aglCreateContext`, `aglSetCurrentContext`, `aglSetDrawable`

## aglSetVirtualScreen

---

Force subsequent OpenGL commands to go to the specified virtual screen

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglSetVirtualScreen (AGLContext ctx,
                               GLint screen )
```

### PARAMETERS

<i>ctx</i>	Specifies the AGL context.
<i>screen</i>	Specifies the virtual screen number.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglSetVirtualScreen` may be used on multiple-monitor systems to specify the virtual screen and associated OpenGL renderer that will subsequently process OpenGL commands. The current virtual screen is normally set automatically by `aglSetDrawable` or `aglUpdateContext` to be the virtual screen that includes the smallest set of graphics devices that contain the entire drawable. `aglSetVirtualScreen` should be used only when it is necessary to override the default behavior.

### NOTES

Each virtual screen includes one or more Mac OS graphics devices. Virtual screen zero of a particular AGL context always includes all graphics devices that are supported by the context and all other virtual screens include non-intersecting subsets of those devices. The total number of virtual screens is less than or equal to the number of graphics devices plus one. There is one OpenGL renderer and one pixel format associated with each virtual screen - OpenGL commands are processed by the renderer associated with the current virtual screen. The relationship between virtual screens and their respective renderers and pixel formats is determined entirely by `aglChoosePixelFormat`.

The virtual screen number and OpenGL renderer ID associated with a specific pixel format are found by passing `aglDescribePixelFormat` the `AGL_VIRTUAL_SCREEN` and `AGL_RENDERER_ID` attributes, respectively, and the set of graphics devices associated with a pixel format is found with `aglDevicesOfPixelFormat`. `aglNextPixelFormat` and `aglDescribePixelFormat` can be used repeatedly to examine all the pixel formats returned by `aglChoosePixelFormat`.

Because the current virtual screen determines which OpenGL renderer is processing commands, the return values of all `glGet*` functions may be affected by the current virtual screen. `aglSetVirtualScreen` may be used before a `glGet*` function to get values from a specific renderer.

## ERRORS

`aglSetVirtualScreen` returns `GL_FALSE` if it fails for any reason.

`AGL_BAD_CONTEXT` is set if `ctx` is not a valid AGL context.

`AGL_INVALID_VALUE` is set if `screen` is not a valid virtual screen number.

## SEE ALSO

`aglChoosePixelFormat`, `aglDescribePixelFormat`, `aglDevicesOfPixelFormat`, `aglGetVirtualScreen`, `aglNextPixelFormat`

## aglSwapBuffers

---

Exchange front and back buffers.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
void aglSwapBuffers ( AGLContext ctx )
```

### PARAMETERS

*ctx*                    Specifies the AGL context.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglSwapBuffers` exchanges the front and back buffers of the current drawable. The exchange typically takes place during the vertical retrace of the monitor, rather than immediately after `aglSwapBuffers` is called. All AGL rendering contexts share the same notion of which are front buffers and which are back buffers.

An implicit `glFlush` is done by `aglSwapBuffers` before it returns. Subsequent OpenGL commands can be issued immediately after calling `aglSwapBuffers`, but are not executed until the buffer exchange is completed.

### NOTES

The generic software renderer uses QuickDraw to copy data from the back buffer to the front buffer, therefore the operation of `aglSwapBuffers` is affected by the state of the QuickDraw graphics port, particularly the user clip region and the foreground and background colors. In contrast, hardware-accelerated renderers may or may not respond to the state of the QuickDraw graphics port, so applications may not assume that QuickDraw functionality is applied to `aglSwapBuffers` by any hardware renderer.

The generic renderer can be selected by calling `aglChoosePixelFormat` with the `AGL_RENDERER_ID` attribute set to `AGL_GENERIC_RENDERER_ID`.

**ERRORS**

AGL\_BAD\_CONTEXT is set if *ctx* is not a valid AGL context.

**SEE ALSO**

glFlush, glFinish, aglSetInteger

## aglUpdateContext

---

Notify context that the window geometry has changed.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglUpdateContext ( AGLContext ctx )
```

### PARAMETERS

*ctx* Specifies the AGL context.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglUpdateContext` must be called by the application any time the graphics port geometry has changed. It should be called after any drag, grow, or zoom action is performed on the window.

### ERRORS

`aglUpdateContext` returns `GL_FALSE` if it fails for any reason, `GL_TRUE` otherwise.

`AGL_BAD_CONTEXT` is set if *ctx* is not a valid context.

`AGL_BAD_ALLOC` is set if a renderer is unable to resize a buffer.

### SEE ALSO

`aglSetDrawable`

## aglUseFont

---

Create bitmap display lists from an Apple font.

### C SPECIFICATION

```
#include <agl.h>
GLboolean aglUseFont (AGLContext ctx,
    GLint fontID ,
    Style face ,
    GLint size ,
    GLint first ,
    GLint count ,
    GLint base )
```

### PARAMETERS

<i>ctx</i>	Specifies the rendering context.
<i>fontID</i>	Specifies the font from which character glyphs are to be taken.
<i>face</i>	Specifies the font style.
<i>size</i>	Specifies the font size.
<i>first</i>	Specifies the index of the first glyph to be taken.
<i>count</i>	Specifies the number of glyph to be taken.
<i>base</i>	Specifies the index of the first display list to be generated.

### DESCRIPTION

`aglUseFont` generates `count` display lists, named `base` through `base + count - 1`, each containing a single `glBitmap` command. The parameters of the `glBitmap` command of display list `base + i` are derived from glyph `first + i`. Bitmap parameters `xorig`, `yorig`, `width`, and `height` are computed from font metrics as `zero`, `descent - 1`, `font width`, and `ascent + descent`, respectively. `xmove` is taken

from the glyph's width metric, and *ymove* is set to zero. Finally, the glyph's image is converted to the appropriate format for `glBitmap`.

Empty display lists are created for all glyphs that are requested and are not defined in font.

The currently defined fonts in `<fonts.h>` are as follows:

<code>applFont</code>	<code>losAngeles</code>
<code>athens</code>	<code>monaco</code>
<code>cairo</code>	<code>sanFran</code>
<code>courier</code>	<code>times</code>
<code>geneva</code>	<code>symbol</code>
<code>helvetica</code>	<code>systemFont</code>
<code>mobile</code>	<code>toronto</code>
<code>newYork</code>	<code>venice</code>
<code>london</code>	

To obtain a font number associated with a font name, use the `GetFNum` function. More details are listed in *Inside Macintosh* under Font Manager.

The currently defined font styles in the `Types.h` header file are as follows:

<code>normal</code>	<code>bold</code>
<code>italic</code>	<code>underline</code>
<code>outline</code>	<code>shadow</code>
<code>condense</code>	<code>extend</code>

The face may be the bitwise OR of any of the defined Mac OS font styles.

## ERRORS

`aglUseFont` returns `GL_FALSE` if it fails, `GL_TRUE` otherwise.

## AGL Reference

**AGL\_BAD\_STATE** is set if the current AGL context is in display list construction mode.

**AGL\_BAD\_CONTEXT** is set if there is no current context.

### SEE ALSO

`glBitmap`, `glNewList`

# Glossary

---

**2D** Two-dimensional. See also planar.

**3D** Three-dimensional. See also spatial.

**accelerator** See graphics accelerator.

**accumulation buffer** A buffer in which multiple rendered frames can be composited to produce a single image.

**aliasing** The jagged edges (or staircasing) that result from drawing an image on a raster device such as a computer screen. Compare **antialiasing**.

**alpha blending** A process for using alpha information to create transparent objects.

**alpha channel** A color component in some color spaces whose value represents the opacity of the color defined in the other components. Compare **ARGB color structure**.

**antialiasing** The smoothing of jagged edges on a displayed shape by modifying the transparencies of individual pixels along the shape's edge. Compare **aliasing**.

**API** See **application programming interface**.

**application programming interface (API)** The total set of constants, data structures, routines, and other programming elements that allow developers to use some part of the system software.

**Architecture Review Board (ARB)** An independent consortium that controls the evolution of OpenGL. Members currently include Digital Equipment Corporation, Evans and Sutherland, Hewlett-Packard, IBM, Integraph, Intel, Microsoft, and Silicon Graphics.

**B-spline curve** A curve that passes smoothly through a series of control points.

**bitmap** A two-dimensional array of values, each of which represents the state of one pixel.

**constant shading** A method of shading surfaces in which the incident light color and intensity are calculated for a single point on a polygon and then applied to the entire polygon. Compare **Gouraud shading**, **Phong shading**.

**culling** Ignoring hidden image data to reduce the amount of time required to render a model.

**depth buffer** TBD.

**display list** A named list of OpenGL commands that can be precompiled for faster execution and possible reuse.

**double buffering** Building an image in an off-screen buffer prior to display. Used to provide smooth animation of objects.

**feedback mode** A mode in which OpenGL returns the processed geometric information (colors, pixel positions, and so on) to the application instead of rendering them into the frame buffer.

**drawable** An entity into which pixel data can be drawn, such as a window, a full-screen buffer, or an off-screen buffer.

**frame buffer** The buffer in which the final image is prepared and staged for display.

**geometric primitive** Any of the basic geometric objects defined by OpenGL in the GL library.

**Gouraud shading** A method of shading surfaces in which the incident light color and intensity are calculated for each vertex of a polygon and then interpolated linearly across the entire polygon. Compare **constant shading**, **Phong shading**.

**graphics accelerator** Any hardware device used to increase rendering speed.

**image** The two-dimensional product of rendering.

**material lighting** A process by which the color of a point on a surface is computed using the properties of the surface material.

**modeling** The process of creating a representation of real or abstract objects.

**nonuniform rational B-spline (NURB or NURBS)** A curve defined by nonuniform parametric ratios of B-spline polynomials. NURB curves can be used to define very complex curves and surfaces, as well as very common geometric objects (for instance, the conic sections).

**NURB** See **nonuniform rational B-spline**.

**NURB curve** A three-dimensional curve represented by a NURB equation.

**Phong shading** A method of shading surfaces in which the incident light color and intensity are calculated for a series of points along each edge of a polygon and then interpolated across the entire polygon. Compare **constant shading**, **Gouraud shading**.

**planar** Contained completely in two dimensions (as, for example, a circle). See also **spatial**.

**polygon** A closed plane figure. See **general polygon**, **simple polygon**.

**projection** A method of mapping three-dimensional objects into two dimensions.

**rasterization** The process of determining values for the pixels in a rendered image. Also called scan conversion.

**render** To create an image (on the screen or some other medium) of a model.

**renderer** Software or firmware used to create an image from a view and a model.

**rendering** The process of creating an image (on the screen or some other medium) of a model. See also **rasterization**.

**scale** To reposition and resize an object by multiplying the x, y, and z coordinates of each of its points by values dx, dy, and dz.

**simple polygon** A closed plane figure defined by a list of vertices (that is, defined by a single contour).

**stencil buffer** A buffer used to mask individual pixels.

## G L O S S A R Y

**tessellate** To decompose a curve or surface into polygonal faces.

**texture mapping** A technique wherein a predefined image (the texture) is mapped onto the surface of an object in a model.

**transparency** The ability of an object to allow light to pass through it.

**vertex** A dimensionless position in three- or four-dimensional space at which two or more lines (for instance, edges) intersect, with an optional set of vertex attributes.

This Apple manual was written, edited, and composed on a desktop publishing system using Apple Macintosh computers and FrameMaker software. Line art was created using Adobe™ Illustrator and Adobe Photoshop.

Text type is Palatino® and display type is Helvetica®. Bullets are ITC Zapf Dingbats®. Some elements, such as program listings, are set in Adobe Letter Gothic.

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