

Q: How do I use the arguments to the various HashTable methods? I don't understand the mechanics of HashTable storage for my data.

A: The following code snippet shows how the arguments to the various HashTable methods should be used. Note that even though data can be stored in the hash table as **int**, **char \***, **id**, **void \***, or any other 32-bit quantity that can be described by a type string, the arguments of the hash table methods, such as **insertKey:value: , nextState:key:value, valueForKey:** have to be cast to void \* or const void \* respectively. See the documentation on HashTable for more details.

```
static char *month_name[]={  
    "january", "february", "march",  
    "april", "may", "june",  
    "july", "august", "september",  
    "october", "november", "december" };
```

```
- hashTableTest:sender  
{  
    NXHashState state;
```

```
const void *key;  
void *val;  
id table;
```

```
unsigned count = 0;
```

```
/* Allocate a hash table with the capacity of 12 entries. The Key  
 * type is char *, the Value type is int.  
 */
```

```
table =[[HashTable alloc] initWithKeyDesc:"*" valueDesc:"i" capacity:12];
```

```
/* Insert data into the table. Note that count ranges from 0 to 11 */  
while ( count < 12 )  
{  
    [table insertKey:(const void *)month_name[count] value:(void *)count];  
    count++;  
}
```

```

/* Retrieve the key/value pairs from the table
 * and display them.
 * Note that you can only enumerate entries in the table once it has been
 * initialized with the insertKey:value: method.
 */
state = [table initState];

while ( [table nextState:&state key:(void *)&key value:(void *)&val] )
{
    fprintf(stderr, "key %s value %d\n", key, val);
}

/* Retrieve a particular value from the table
 * knowing its key
 */
if ( [table isKey:(const void *)"may"] )
    val = [table valueForKey: (void*)"may"];

```

```
        return self;  
    }
```

Valid for 1.0, 2.0, 3.0

N.B. (The Release 2 method **initKeyDesc:valueDesc: capacity** should be replaced by the Release 1 method **newKeyDesc:valueDesc:capacity**).

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