

# NSHelpPanel

**Inherits From:** NSPanel : NSWindow : NSResponder : NSObject  
**Declared In:** appkit/NSHelpPanel.h

## Accessing the Help Panel

- + (NSHelpPanel \*)**sharedHelpPanel** Creates, if necessary, and returns the NSHelpPanel object.
- + (NSHelpPanel \*)**sharedHelpPanelWithDirectory:(NSString \*)helpDirectory** Creates, if necessary, and returns the NSHelpPanel object. If the panel is created, it loads the help directory specified by *helpDirectory*. The help directory must reside in the main bundle. If a Help panel already exists but has loaded a help directory other than *helpDirectory*, a second panel will be created.

## Managing the Contents

- + (void)**setHelpDirectory:(NSString \*)helpDirectory** Initializes the panel to display the help text found in *helpDirectory*. By default, the receiver looks for a directory named <sup>a</sup>Help<sup>o</sup>.
- (void)**addSupplement:(NSString \*)helpDirectory**  
**inPath:(NSString \*)supplementPath** Append additional help entries to the Help panel's table of contents.
- (NSString \*)**helpDirectory** Returns the absolute path of the help directory.

- (NSString \*)**helpFile**

Returns the path of the currently loaded help file.

## Attaching Help to Objects

+ **attachHelpFile:**(NSString \*)*filename*  
          **markerName:**(NSString \*)*markerName*  
          **to:***anObject*  
+ **detachHelpFrom:***anObject*

Associates the help file *filename* and *markerName* with *anObject*.

Removes any help information associated with *anObject*.

## Showing Help

- (void)**showFile:**(NSString \*)*filename*  
          **atMarker:**(NSString \*)*markerName*  
- (BOOL)**showHelpAttachedTo:**(id)*anObject*

Causes the panel to display the help contained in *filename* at *markerName*.

Causes the panel to display help attached to *anObject*.

## Printing

- (void)**print:**(id)*sender*

Prints the currently displayed help text.