



Advanced Swing & MVC

Custom Data Models and Cell Renderers

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Taught by the author of *Core Servlets and JSP*, *More Servlets and JSP*, and this tutorial. Available at public venues, or customized versions can be held on-site at your organization. Contact hall@coreservlets.com for details.

Agenda

- **Building a simple static JList**
- **Adding and removing entries from a JList at runtime**
- **Making a custom data model**
 - Telling JList how to extract data from existing objects
- **Making a custom cell renderer**
 - Telling JList what GUI component to use for each of the data cells

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MVC Architecture

- **Custom data models**
 - Changing the way the GUI control obtains the data. Instead of copying data from an existing object into a GUI control, simply tell the GUI control how to get at the existing data.
- **Custom cell renderers**
 - Changing the way the GUI control displays data values. Instead of changing the data values, simply tell the GUI control how to build a Swing component that represents each data value.
- **Main applicable components**
 - JList
 - JTable
 - JTree

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JList with Fixed Set of Choices

- **Build JList: pass strings to constructor**
 - The simplest way to use a JList is to supply an array of strings to the JList constructor. Cannot add or remove elements once the JList is created.

```
String options = { "Option 1", ... , "Option N"};
JList optionList = new JList(options);
```
- **Set visible rows**
 - Call setVisibleRowCount and drop JList into JScrollPane

```
optionList.setVisibleRowCount(4);
JScrollPane optionPane =
    new JScrollPane(optionList);
someContainer.add(optionPane);
```
- **Handle events**
 - Attach ListSelectionListener and use valueChanged

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Simple JList: Example Code

```
public class JListSimpleExample extends JFrame {
    ...
    public JListSimpleExample() {
        super("Creating a Simple JList");
        WindowUtilities.setNativeLookAndFeel();
        addWindowListener(new ExitListener());
        Container content = getContentPane();
        String[] entries = { "Entry 1", "Entry 2", "Entry 3",
                            "Entry 4", "Entry 5", "Entry 6" };
        sampleJList = new JList(entries);
        sampleJList.setVisibleRowCount(4);
        sampleJList.addListSelectionListener
            (new ValueReporter());
        JScrollPane listPane = new JScrollPane(sampleJList);
        ...
    }
}
```

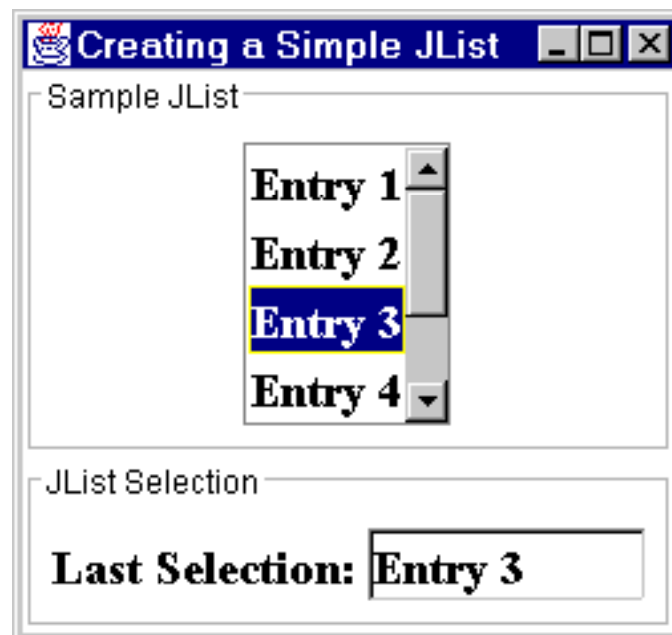
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Simple JList: Example Code (Continued)

```
private class ValueReporter implements ListSelectionListener {  
  
    /** You get three events in many cases -- one for the  
     * deselection of the originally selected entry, one  
     * indicating the selection is moving, and one for the  
     * selection of the new entry. In the first two cases,  
     * getValueIsAdjusting returns true; thus, the test  
     * below since only the third case is of interest.  
     */  
  
    public void valueChanged(ListSelectionEvent event) {  
        if (!event.getValueIsAdjusting()) {  
            Object value = sampleJList.getSelectedValue();  
            if (value != null) {  
                valueField.setText(value.toString());  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

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Simple JList: Example Output



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JList with Changeable Choices

- **Build JList:**

- Create a DefaultListModel, add data, pass to constructor

```
String choices = { "Choice 1", ... , "Choice N"};
DefaultListModel sampleModel = new DefaultListModel();
for(int i=0; i<choices.length; i++) {
    sampleModel.addElement(choices[i]);
}
JList optionList = new JList(sampleModel);
```

- **Set visible rows**

- Same: Use setVisibleRowCount and a JScrollPane

- **Handle events**

- Same: attach ListSelectionListener and use valueChanged

- **Add/remove elements**

- Use the model, not the JList directly

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Changeable JList: Example Code

```
String[] entries = { "Entry 1", "Entry 2", "Entry 3",
                    "Entry 4", "Entry 5", "Entry 6" };
sampleModel = new DefaultListModel();
for(int i=0; i<entries.length; i++) {
    sampleModel.addElement(entries[i]);
}
sampleJList = new JList(sampleModel);
sampleJList.setVisibleRowCount(4);
Font displayFont = new Font("Serif", Font.BOLD, 18);
sampleJList.setFont(displayFont);
JScrollPane listPane = new JScrollPane(sampleJList);
```

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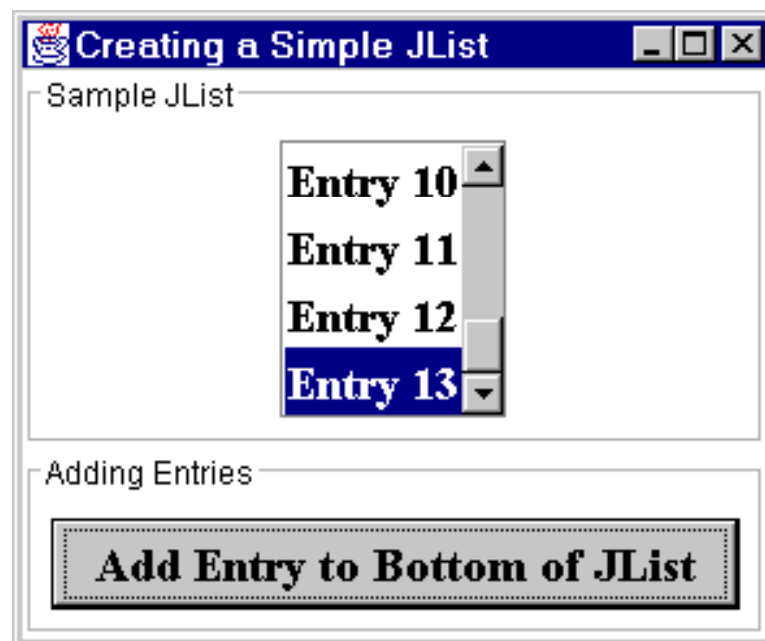
Changeable JList: Example Code (Continued)

```
private class ItemAdder implements ActionListener {
    /** Add an entry to the ListModel whenever the user
     * presses the button. Note that since the new entries
     * may be wider than the old ones (e.g., "Entry 10" vs.
     * "Entry 9"), you need to rerun the layout manager.
     * You need to do this <I>before</I> trying to scroll
     * to make the index visible.
     */

    public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent event) {
        int index = sampleModel.getSize();
        sampleModel.addElement("Entry " + (index+1));
        ((JComponent) getContentPane()).revalidate();
        sampleJList.setSelectedIndex(index);
        sampleJList.ensureIndexIsVisible(index);
    }
}
```

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Changeable JList: Example Output



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JList with Custom Data Model

- **Build JList**

- Have existing data implement ListModel interface
 - getElementAt
 - Given an index, returns data element
 - getSize
 - Tells JList how many entries are in list
 - addListDataListener
 - Lets user add listeners that should be notified when an item is selected or deselected.
 - removeListDataListener
- Pass model to JList constructor

- **Set visible rows & handle events: as before**
- **Add/remove items: use the model**

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Custom Model: Example Code

```
public class JavaLocationListModel implements ListModel {
    private JavaLocationCollection collection;

    public JavaLocationListModel
        (JavaLocationCollection collection) {
        this.collection = collection;
    }
    public Object getElementAt(int index) {
        return(collection.getLocations()[index]);
    }
    public int getSize() {
        return(collection.getLocations().length);
    }

    public void addListDataListener(ListDataListener l) {}

    public void removeListDataListener(ListDataListener l) {}
}
```

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Actual Data

```
public class JavaLocationCollection {
    private static JavaLocation[] defaultLocations =
        { new JavaLocation("Belgium",
                           "near Liege",
                           "flags/belgium.gif"),
          new JavaLocation("Brazil",
                           "near Salvador",
                           "flags/brazil.gif"),
          new JavaLocation("Colombia",
                           "near Bogota",
                           "flags/colombia.gif"),
          ... }; ...
}
```

- **JavaLocation has toString plus 3 fields**
 - Country, comment, flag file

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JList with Custom Model: Example Code

```
JavaLocationCollection collection =
    new JavaLocationCollection();
JavaLocationListModel listModel =
    new JavaLocationListModel(collection);
JList sampleJList = new JList(listModel);
Font displayFont =
    new Font("Serif", Font.BOLD, 18);
sampleJList.setFont(displayFont);
content.add(sampleJList);
```

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JList with Custom Model: Example Output



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JList with Custom Cell Renderer

- **Idea**
 - Instead of predetermining how the JList will draw the list elements, Swing lets you specify what graphical component to use for the various entries. Attach a ListCellRenderer that has a getListCellRendererComponent method that determines the GUI component used for each cell.
- **Arguments to getListCellRendererComponent**
 - JList: the list itself
 - Object: the value of the current cell
 - int: the index of the current cell
 - boolean: is the current cell selected?

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Custom Renderer: Example Code

```
public class JavaLocationRenderer extends
    DefaultListCellRenderer {
    private Hashtable iconTable = new Hashtable();
    public Component getListCellRendererComponent
        (JList list, Object value, int index,
         boolean isSelected, boolean hasFocus) {
        JLabel label = (JLabel)super.getListCellRendererComponent
            (list,value,index,isSelected,hasFocus);
        if (value instanceof JavaLocation) {
            JavaLocation location = (JavaLocation)value;
            ImageIcon icon = (ImageIcon)iconTable.get(value);
            if (icon == null) {
                icon = new ImageIcon(location.getFlagFile());
                iconTable.put(value, icon);
            }
            label.setIcon(icon);
            ...
        }
        return(label);
    }
}
```

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Custom Renderer: Example Output



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Summary

- **Simple static JList**
 - Pass array of strings to JList constructor
- **Simple changeable JList**
 - Pass DefaultListModel to JList constructor. Add/remove data to/from the model, not the JList.
- **Custom data model**
 - Have real data implement ListModel interface.
 - Pass real data to JList constructor.
- **Custom cell renderer**
 - Assign a ListCellRenderer
 - ListCellRenderer has a method that determines the Component to be used for each cell

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