

---

## Value Class Additions (NSObject)

**Inherits From:** none (*NSObject is a root class*)

**Declared In:** EOControl/EOQualifier.h  
EOControl/EOSortOrdering.h

### Class Description

Enterprise Objects Framework adds several methods to NSObject for comparing values. Though declared for NSObject, most of these methods work properly only with value classes: NSString, NSDate, NSNumber, NSDecimalNumber, and EONull. These methods are used for sorting and for evaluating qualifiers in memory.

### Method Types

Sorting value objects

- compareAscending:
- compareCaseInsensitiveAscending:
- compareCaseInsensitiveDescending:
- compareDescending:

Testing value objects

- doesContain:
- isEqualTo:
- isGreaterThan:
- isGreaterThanOrEqualTo:
- isLessThan:
- isLessThanOrEqualTo:
- isLike:
- isNotEqualTo:

---

## Instance Methods

### **compareAscending:**

– (NSComparisonResult)**compareAscending:(id)anObject**

Returns NSOrderedAscending if *anObject* is naturally ordered after the receiver, NSOrderedDescending if it's naturally ordered before the receiver, and NSOrderedSame if they're equivalent for ordering purposes. NSObject's implementation of this method simply invokes **compare:**.

**See also:** – **compareDescending:**, – **compareCaseInsensitiveAscending:**,  
– **compareCaseInsensitiveDescending:**

### **compareCaseInsensitiveAscending:**

– (NSComparisonResult)**compareCaseInsensitiveAscending:(id)anObject**

Returns NSOrderedAscending if *anObject* is naturally ordered—ignoring case—after the receiver, NSOrderedDescending if it's naturally ordered before the receiver, and NSOrderedSame if they're equivalent for ordering purposes. NSObject's implementation of this method invokes **compare:**, while NSString's invokes **caseInsensitiveCompare:**.

**See also:** – **compareCaseInsensitiveDescending:**, – **compareAscending:**, – **compareDescending:**

### **compareCaseInsensitiveDescending:**

– (NSComparisonResult)**compareCaseInsensitiveDescending:(id)anObject**

Returns NSOrderedAscending if *anObject* is naturally ordered—ignoring case—*before* the receiver, NSOrderedDescending if it's naturally ordered *after* the receiver, and NSOrderedSame if they're equivalent for ordering purposes. NSObject's implementation of this method invokes **compare:** and inverts the result, while NSString's invokes **caseInsensitiveCompare:** and inverts the result.

**See also:** – **compareCaseInsensitiveAscending:**, – **compareDescending:**, – **compareAscending:**

### **compareDescending:**

– (NSComparisonResult)**compareDescending:(id)anObject**

Returns NSOrderedAscending if *anObject* is naturally ordered *before* the receiver, NSOrderedDescending if it's naturally ordered *after* the receiver, and NSOrderedSame if they're equivalent for ordering purposes. NSObject's implementation of this method simply invokes **compare:** and inverts the result.

**See also:** – **compareAscending:**, – **compareCaseInsensitiveDescending:**,  
– **compareCaseInsensitiveAscending:**

---

### **doesContain:**

– (BOOL)**doesContain:**(id)*anObject*

Returns YES if the receiver contains *anObject*, NO if it doesn't. NSObject's implementation of this method returns YES only if the receiver is a kind of NSArray and contains *anObject*. In all other cases it returns NO. This method is used in the Framework only by EOQualifier for in-memory evaluation.

### **isEqualTo:**

– (BOOL)**isEqualTo:**(id)*anObject*

Invokes **isEqual:** and returns the result. This method is used in the Framework only by EOQualifier for in-memory evaluation.

**See also:** – **doesContain:**, – **isGreaterThan:**, – **isGreaterThanOrEqualTo:**, – **isLessThan:**,  
– **isLessThanOrEqualTo:**, – **isLike:**, – **isNotEqualTo:**

### **isGreaterThan:**

– (BOOL)**isGreaterThan:**(id)*anObject*

Invokes **compare:** and returns YES if the result is NSOrderedDescending. This method is used in the Framework only by EOQualifier for in-memory evaluation.

**See also:** – **doesContain:**, – **isEqualTo:**, – **isGreaterThanOrEqualTo:**, – **isLessThan:**,  
– **isLessThanOrEqualTo:**, – **isLike:**, – **isNotEqualTo:**

### **isGreaterThanOrEqualTo:**

– (BOOL)**isGreaterThanOrEqualTo:**(id)*anObject*

Invokes **compare:** and returns YES if the result is NSOrderedDescending or NSOrderedSame. This method is used in the Framework only by EOQualifier for in-memory evaluation.

**See also:** – **doesContain:**, – **isEqualTo:**, – **isGreaterThan:**, – **isLessThan:**, – **isLessThanOrEqualTo:**,  
– **isLike:**, – **isNotEqualTo:**

---

### **isLessThan:**

– (BOOL)**isLessThan:(id)***anObject*

Invokes **compare:** and returns YES if the result is NSOrderedAscending. This method is used in the Framework only by EOQualifier for in-memory evaluation.

**See also:** – **doesContain:**, – **isEqualTo:**, – **isGreaterThan:**, – **isGreaterThanOrEqualTo:**,  
– **isLessThanOrEqualTo:**, – **isLike:**, – **isNotEqualTo:**

### **isLessThanOrEqualTo:**

– (BOOL)**isLessThanOrEqualTo:(id)***anObject*

Invokes **compare:** and returns YES if the result is NSOrderedAscending or NSOrderedSame. This method is used in the Framework only by EOQualifier for in-memory evaluation.

**See also:** – **doesContain:**, – **isEqualTo:**, – **isGreaterThan:**, – **isGreaterThanOrEqualTo:**,  
– **isLessThan:**, – **isLike:**, – **isNotEqualTo:**

### **isLike:**

– (BOOL)**isLike:(NSString \*)***aString*

Returns YES if the receiver matches *aString* according to the semantics of the SQL **like** comparison operator, NO if it doesn't. See "Using Wildcards" in the EOQualifier class specification for the wildcard characters allowed. NSObject's implementation returns NO; NSString's performs a proper comparison. This method is used in the Framework only by EOQualifier for in-memory evaluation.

**See also:** – **doesContain:**, – **isEqualTo:**, – **isGreaterThan:**, – **isGreaterThanOrEqualTo:**,  
– **isLessThan:**, – **isLessThanOrEqualTo:**, – **isNotEqualTo:**

### **isNotEqualTo:**

– (BOOL)**isNotEqualTo:(id)***anObject*

Invokes **isEqual:**, inverts the result, and returns it. This method is used in the Framework only by EOQualifier for in-memory evaluation.

**See also:** – **doesContain:**, – **isEqualTo:**, – **isGreaterThan:**, – **isGreaterThanOrEqualTo:**,  
– **isLessThan:**, – **isLessThanOrEqualTo:**, – **isLike:**