
Subject: Re: Inheritance query

Posted by [J.D. Smith](#) on Wed, 10 Nov 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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"J.D. Smith" wrote:

```
>
> Bernard Puc wrote:
>>
>> Hello
>>
>>     For the object programming gurus: I'm creating a class called data.
>> I'm then creating subclasses of data called type1, type2, etc. The
>> type1 class inherits the data class attributes. Now, is it possible to
>> inherit, lets say, the data::INIT method and somehow add to it? Or, do
>> I have to write an entirely new INIT method for type1 class which
>> incorporates the statements in the data::INIT method?
>
> By default, all methods are inherited. To add to the method, you need to "chain
> up" to the superclass, like this:
>
> function SubClass::Init,_EXTRA=e
>   if (self->SuperClass::Init(_EXTRA=e) ne 1) then return,0
>   ;; do more stuff
>   return,1
> end
>
```

One more tip: make good use of the _REF_EXTRA mechanism for chaining up to methods which should return something:

```
pro SubClass::GetProperty,VALUE=val,_REF_EXTRA=e
  val=self.value
  SuperClass::GetProperty,_EXTRA=e
end
```

This allows the SuperClass's GetProperty Method to put things into variables for return (like properties of the SuperClass, which aren't always just data member!), impossible with the _EXTRA mechanism.

JD

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```
