
Subject: Re: Object Data and pointer assignments
Posted by [Brad Gom](#) on Thu, 11 May 2000 07:00:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

David Fanning wrote:

- > To reassign the pointer to something else (after it has been
- > defined by the INIT method), you simply de-reference the pointer:
- >
- > *self.InArray = newStruct
- >
- > You don't leak any memory because IDL is managing this
- > whole process for you.

Thanks for clearing this up, David. These details didn't exactly jump out of the manuals at me.

On a related topic, does anyone know if it is possible to leak memory without being able to see any lost heap variables with the 'help,/heap' command? I find that in a couple IDL programs that deal with shuffling large chunks of data back and forth in memory, IDL does not seem to free all the memory it uses back to the system. ie. When I monitor the memory usage with the Windows NT task manager, the amount of used memory climbs each time the IDL program is executed, and doesn't fall all the way back down -even though there doesn't seem to be anything in the heap. When I shut down IDL, all the memory gets freed.

Is this something I should worry about, or is it just a consequence of running in Windows? The memory 'loss' isn't severe, but I worry that my program is losing track of memory somehow.

Thanks

Brad
