

---

Subject: Re: Copying (Duplicating) Objects

Posted by [Randall Skelton](#) on Thu, 06 Jun 2002 09:56:38 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

On Thu, 6 Jun 2002, Ben Tupper wrote:

```
>>
>>> What's the command to make b an entirely new object but identical to
>>> a.
> Hello,
>
> In Martin Schultz's MGS_BASEOBJECT there is a COPY method that returns
> a populated object of the same class as the original; the returned new
> object has its own reference id.  It's pretty handy for most object
> coding I deal with.  It's worth a peek.
```

I agree with Ben... I too use Martin's copy method and it works very well. It does have problems when you try and clone a class that has required positional parameters though as internally it relies on 'clone = obj\_new(obj\_class(self))'. My 'I do not have time to think about this now' solution was to make classes with no required positional parameters and write an 'isValid' method that ensures the object is correctly populated with 'quasi-required' parameters before it is used. Of course, failing to use positional arguments for required parameters goes against some well established IDL programming conventions and therefore tends to upset some of the IDL Expert Programmer's Association Executive Committee members ;)

---