
Subject: Copying a hash

Posted by [Matt\[3\]](#) on Mon, 06 Aug 2012 20:54:01 GMT

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Hi All,

Does anyone know if there's a simple way that I can make a copy of a hash, which I can then edit independently of the original? For example, it seems that, like a pointer, changes that I make to the copy are also applied to the original:

```
IDL> original=hash('A', [1, 2])
```

```
IDL> copy=original
```

```
IDL> copy['A', 1]=10
```

```
IDL> print, copy
```

```
A:    1    10
```

```
IDL> print, original
```

```
A:    1    10
```

I can copy to a new hash key-by-key:

```
copy=hash()
```

```
foreach variable, original, key do copy[key]=original[key]
```

Which works fine, unless one of the elements in the hash is itself a hash, then I end up with the same problem one level down.

Is there something simple I'm missing here?

Cheers,

Matt
