Java Programming

Arthur Hoskey, Ph.D. Farmingdale State College Computer Systems Department

Shallow CopyDeep Copy



```
public class Employee {
   public int id;
}
public static void main(String[] args)
{
   Employee e1 = new Employee();
   e1.id = 400;
   Employee e2 = e1;
}
```







Now a simple deep copy example...

Simple Deep Copy Example

```
public class Employee {
   public int id;
}
public static void main(String[] args)
{
   Employee e1 = new Employee();
   e1.id = 400;
   Employee e2 = new Employee();
   e2.id = e1.id;
}
```







Shallow copy with one class inside of another example...

Shallow Copy with One Class Inside of Another

```
public class Date {
  public Date(int m, int d, int y) { month=m;day=d;year=y;}
  public int year;
  public int month;
  public int day;
}
public class Employee {
  public int id;
  public Date hired;
}
public static void main(String[] args)
{
  Employee e1 = new Employee();
  e1.hired = new Date(1, 1, 2022);
  Employee e^2 = e^1;
}
```





 The next example tries to do a deep copy but does not do it fully...



```
public class Date {
  public Date(int m, int d, int y) { month=m;day=d;year=y;}
  public int year;
  public int month;
  public int day;
}
public class Employee {
  public int id;
  public Date hired;
}
public static void main(String[] args) {
  Employee e1 = new Employee();
  e1.hired = new Date(1, 1, 2022);
  Employee e^2 = new Employee();
  e2.id = e1.id;
  e2.hired = e1.hired;
}
```

Better But Not a Full Deep Copy

```
Employee e1 = new Employee();
e1.hired = new Date(1, 1, 2022);
Employee e2 = new Employee();
e2.id = e1.id;
e2.hired = e1.hired;
```



Shallow copy of member variable (just copies the address). Need to update so that a new instance of Date is created for e2.

Both e1 and e2 have their hired members referring to the same exact instance of Date (not a deep copy). If e1's hired is changed it will also be changing e2's hired.

Better But Not a Full Deep Copy

```
public class Date {
  public Date(int m, int d, int y) { month=m;day=d;year=y;}
  public int year;
  public int month;
  public int day;
}
public class Employee {
  public int id;
  public Date hired;
}
public static void main(String[] args) {
  Employee e1 = new Employee();
  e1.hired = new Date(1, 1, 2022);
  Employee e2 = new Employee();
  e2.id = e1.id
  e2.hired = new Date(e1.hired.month, e1.hired.day, e1.hired.year);
}
```

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