

## Article

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## Un-Typical persistence

During my search for a snapshot of a persistent object,

I met a feature that I would like to share as it could be useful in some special situations.

My trigger was to have a before- and an after-image during unit testing. A typical persistent class may have a storage definition like this

```
Storage Default
{
  <Data name="kDefaultData">
    +<Value name="1">
  </Value>
</Data>
<DataLocation>^rcc.kD</DataLocation>
<DefaultData>kDefaultData</DefaultData>
<IdLocation>^rcc.kD</IdLocation>
<IndexLocation>^rcc.kI</IndexLocation>
<StreamLocation>^rcc.kS</StreamLocation>
<Type>%Storage.Persistent</Type>
}
```

Now I applied this change:

**Parameter MANAGEEXTENT = 0; ;extent manager dislikes this change**

```
Storage Default
{
  <Data name="kDefaultData">
    +<Value name="1">
  </Value>
</Data>
<DataLocation>@(%storage"D") </DataLocation>
<DefaultData>kDefaultData</DefaultData>
<IdLocation>@(%storage"D") </IdLocation>
<IndexLocation>@(%storage"I") </IndexLocation>
<StreamLocation>@(%storage"S") </StreamLocation>
<Type>%Storage.Persistent</Type>
}
```

All you have to do now to use it:

set %storage="^myGlobal" ;; normal use with ROLLBACK

or

set %storage="%myLocalVariable" ;; no ROLLBACK

or

set %storage="^||myPPG" ;; no ROLLBACK

and it works as you are used to it.

Except for ROLLBACK as there is, of course, no Journal behind PPG or local variables

A typical use sequence to prepare a check for changes could look similar:

```
set %storage="%rcc.k"  
set obj=##class(rcc.k).%OpenId(id) ;; get original  
do obj.%SetModified(1) ;; prepare for %Save  
set %storage="%^|rcc" ;; location of copy  
set sc=obj.%Save() ;; write copy to temp storage  
//// carry on with testing and changes and find what happened
```

I think it's worth to share it.

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