

Chest

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CHAPTER 1

Introduction

Chest allows you to store objects from anywhere, to keep them around to check equality...

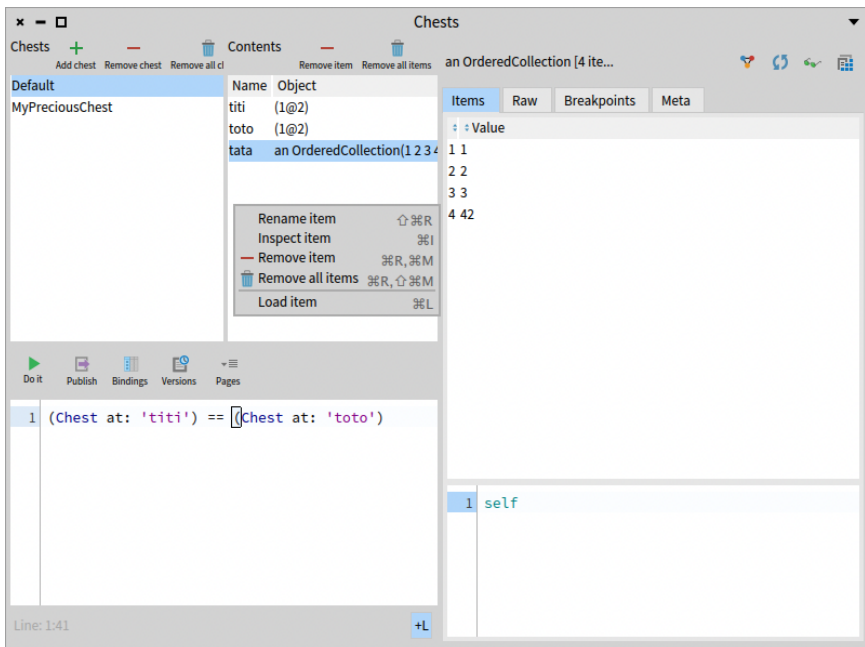


Figure 1-1 Chest overview

1.1 Original repository

Link to original repository <https://github.com/dupriez/Chest>

1.2 Install Chest

```
Metacello new
  baseline: 'Chest';
  repository: 'github://pharo-spec/Chest';
  load.
```

1.3 Open Chest

Chest is available in the **world menu** of Pharo. It is available as an **entry of the Debug menu**

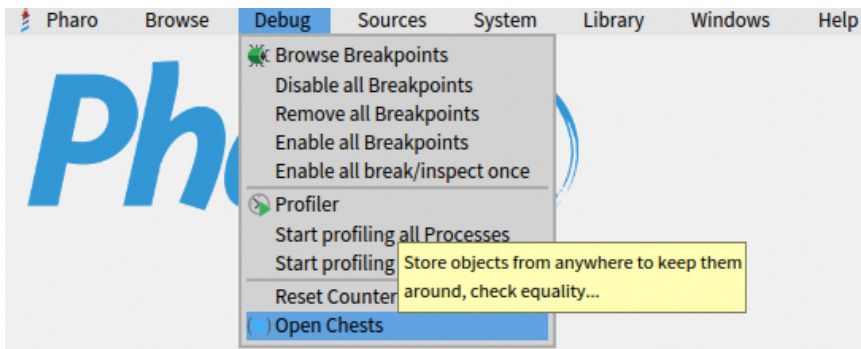


Figure 1-2 Chest in debug menu

You can also enable it as a debugger extension in the debugging settings of Pharo:

In the debugger, Chest will provide a view as a tree of all chests with the objects inside.

Maybe we need an image of the tree view here?

1.4 More Details

Name (= ID)

Each Chest instance has an ID (String). These IDs are unique. Two chests cannot have the same ID.

Default Chest

This is an instance of Chest that can be interacted with in the same way as any other Chest by sending the messages to the Chest class.

1.4 More Details

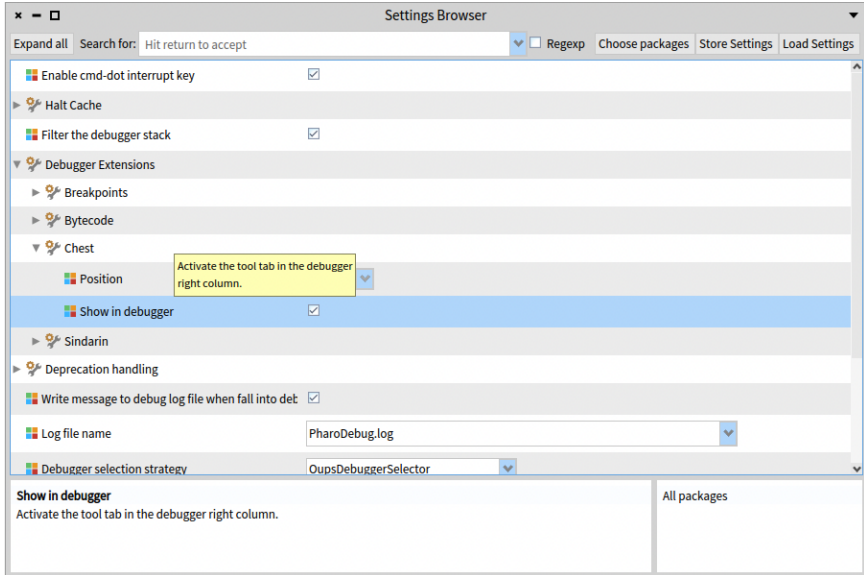


Figure 1-3 Chest debugger extension in the Pharo settings

Weak Chests

[Chest weak

is a way to access the class `WeakChest`. This class can be interacted with the same way as you would with the `Chest` class.

`WeakChest` has its own default chest, and can be used to manipulate this default chest or to create new weak chests.

Commands in context

Store object into chest

If you right-click on a code presenter with an `SpCodeInteractionModel` or `StDebuggerContextInteractionModel` (e.g: playground, debugger etc.), you can evaluate an expression and store the result in the chest of your choice, with the name of your choice:

Load object from a chest into a playground or a debugger

It's also possible to load objects from a chest into these code presenters:

And then variables can be seen from any other context if it has been loaded in a debugger and these variables can be seen in the debugger inspector:

`Chest`, as a debugger extension, provides a playground. All bindings between this playground and the debugger selected context are shared. So: all variables defined in this playground are recognized by the debugger and all variables from the debugger's selected context or loaded from `Chest` into the debugger are recognized by the playground. However, only the variables loaded from `Chest` (via the load menu entry described above) are displayed in the debugger inspector:

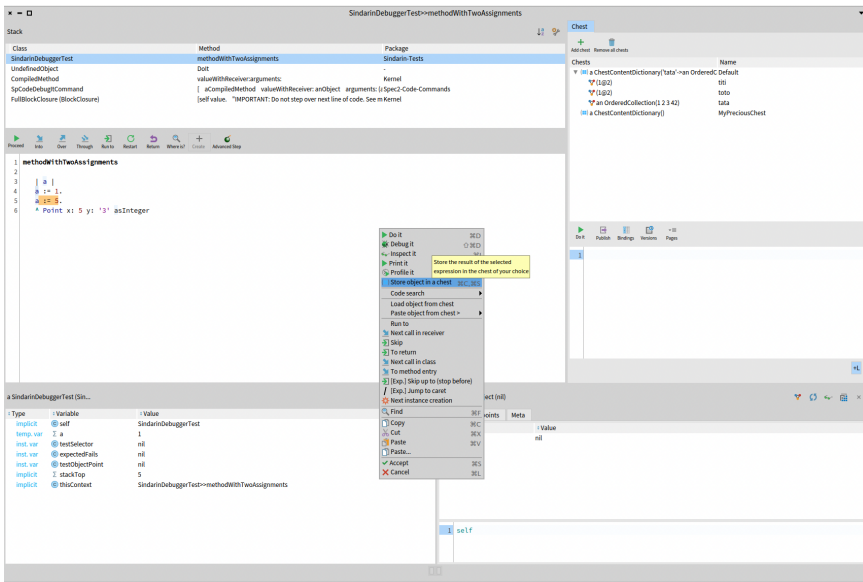


Figure 1-4 Store object context menu, inside the debugger

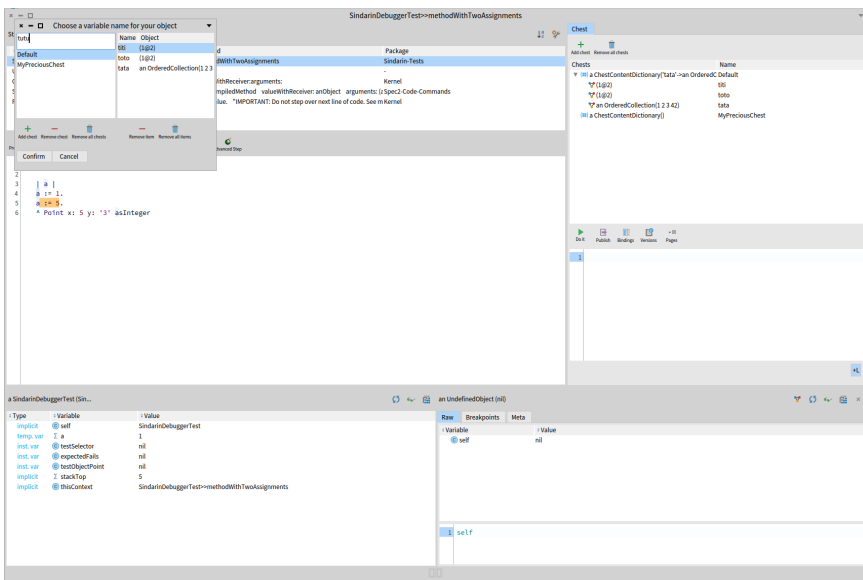


Figure 1-5 Store object popup

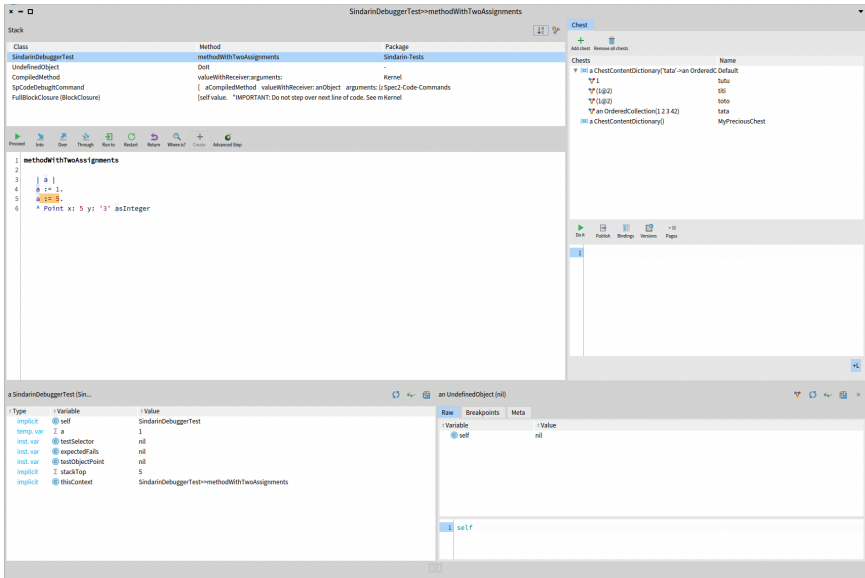


Figure 1-6 Chest tree view inside the debugger, after having stored an object

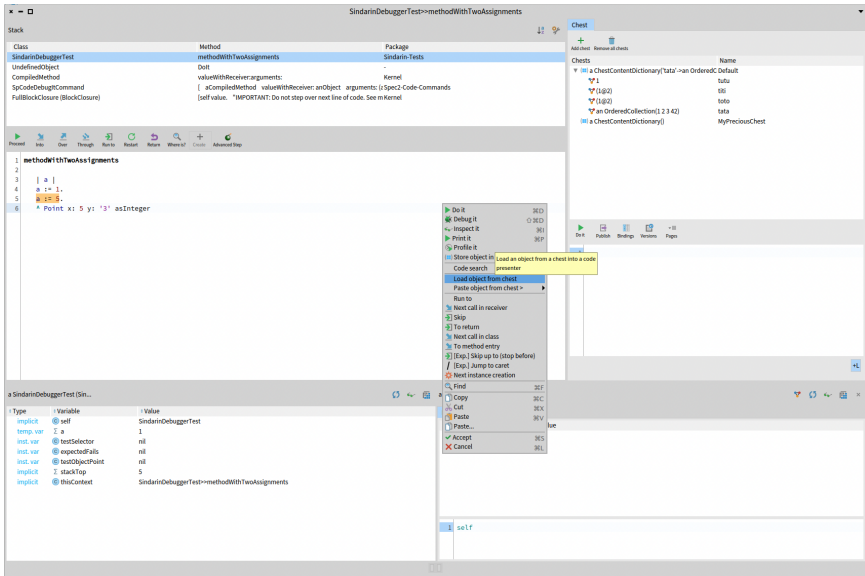


Figure 1-7 Load object context menu, inside the debugger

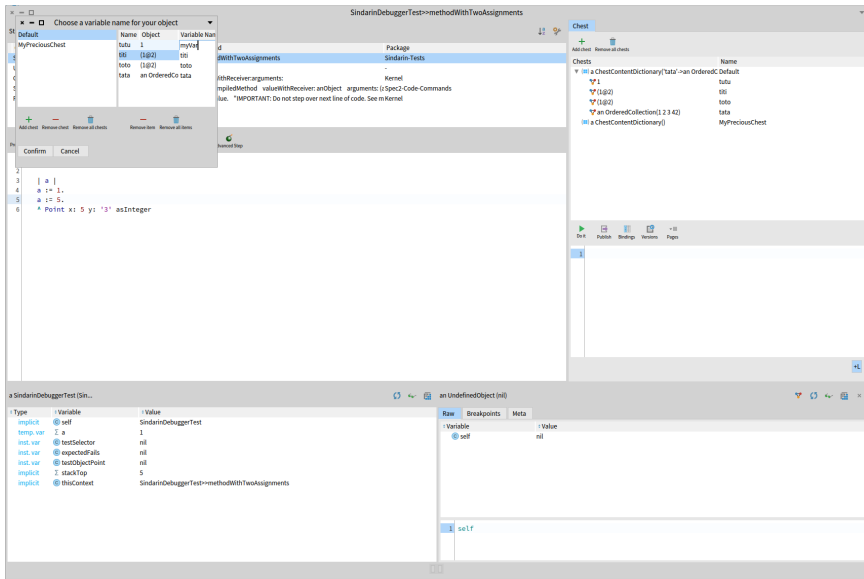


Figure 1-8 Load object popup

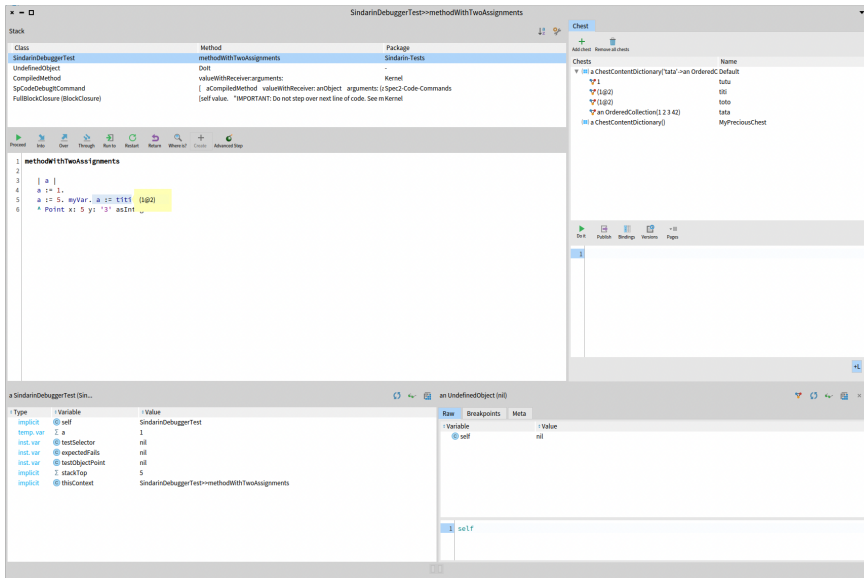


Figure 1-9 Usage of the Chest variable inside the debugger, after having loaded the object

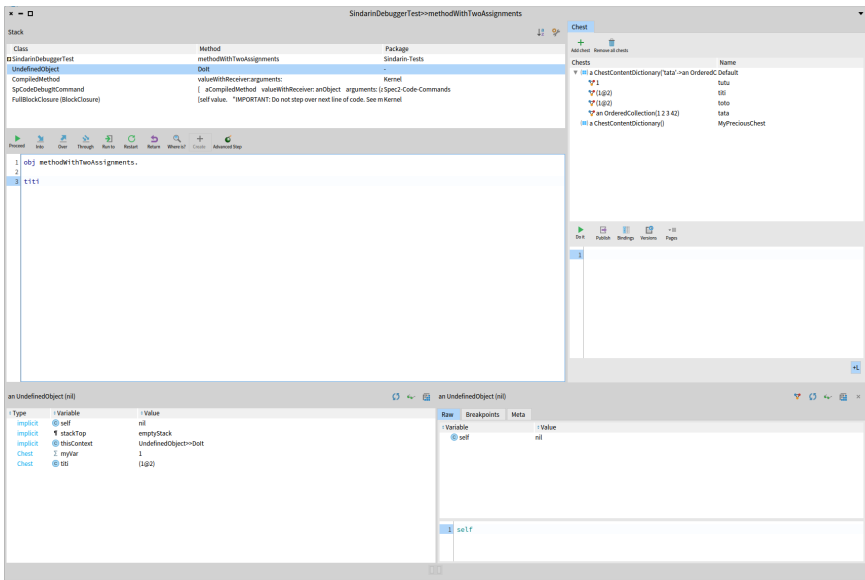


Figure 1-10 Chest variable, in the debugger inspector

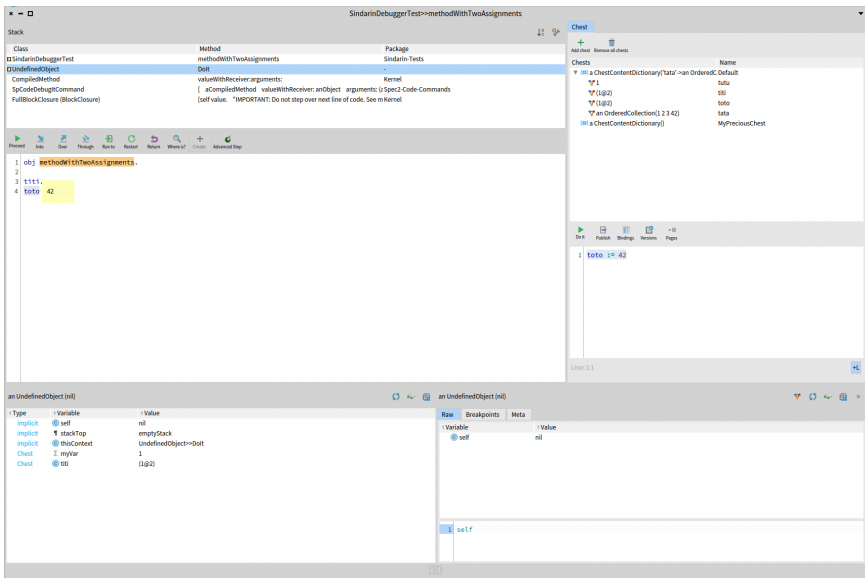


Figure 1-11 Variable from Chest playground, not visible in the debugger inspector

Inject code to access an object inside a chest, in a playground or in the debugger

To make it easier to access the content of a chest in a playground or in the debugger, it is possible to use the **Paste object from chest** > sub-menu. This sub-menu allows to choose a chest and the key of an object inside the chest.

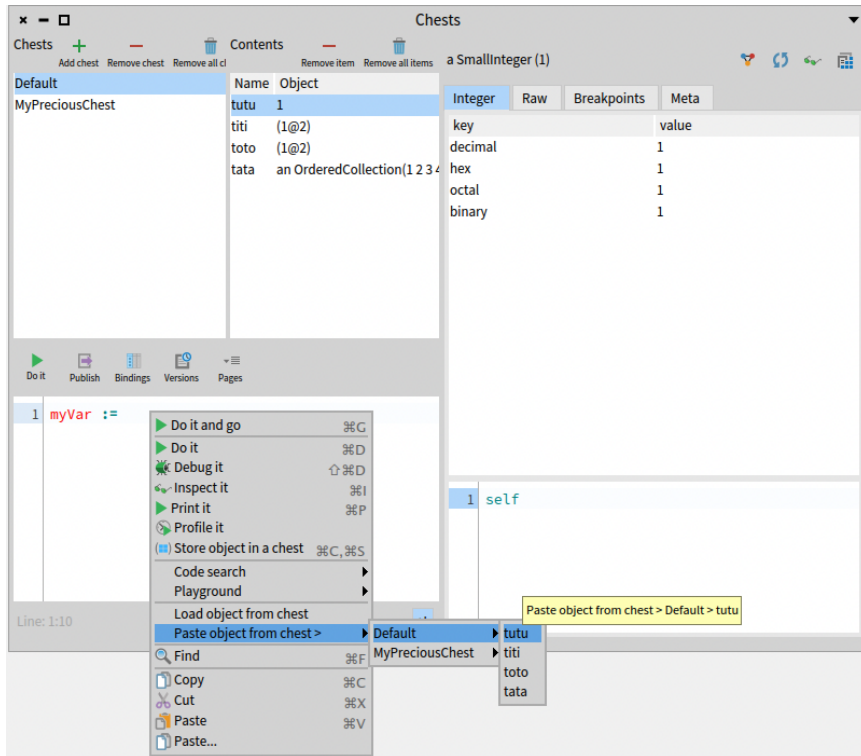


Figure 1-12 Paste object from Chest context menu

When clicking on a variable name, the necessary code to access the corresponding object is pasted where you had put your cursor in the playground/debugger:

This command allows you to access objects from a chest, without relying on your memory of the Chest API.

Simpler code injection in any spec code presenter

The method described above to access objects in chests implies that your objects need to be stored in a chest with a name that you must remember...

Sometimes, you would like to access objects quickly, without needing to give a name to an object that is stored...

That's why it is possible to copy / paste (=inject code to access) to / from a "Clipboard Chest", just as you would do to copy/paste text to/from the clipboard.

1.4 More Details

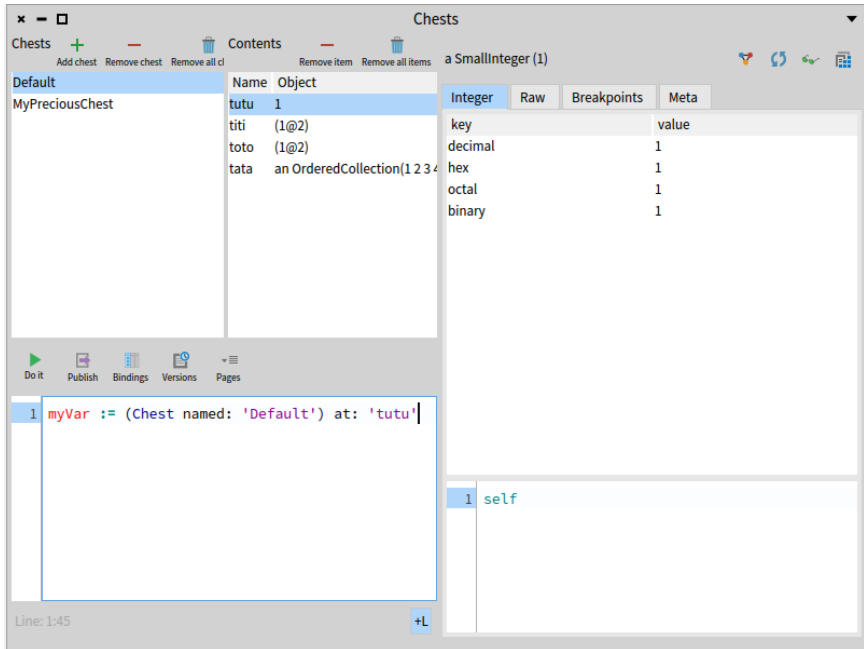


Figure 1-13 Injected code for Chest, after having pasted the object

To do that, you just need to select the expression that you want to evaluate and whose results should be stored in the "Clipboard Chest", and then select **Copy object in a clipboard chest** in the context menu:

This will store the result of the expression into the default clipboard chest. Please note, that if you "copy" another object to the clipboard chest, it will replace the previous copied object. Note also that the clipboard chest is a weak chest, so your object inside the clipboard chest can become nil if it gets garbage-collected.

In order to inject the code to access the object, you should then select in the context menu: **Paste last object copied to clipboard:**

And the code to access your object is now pasted:

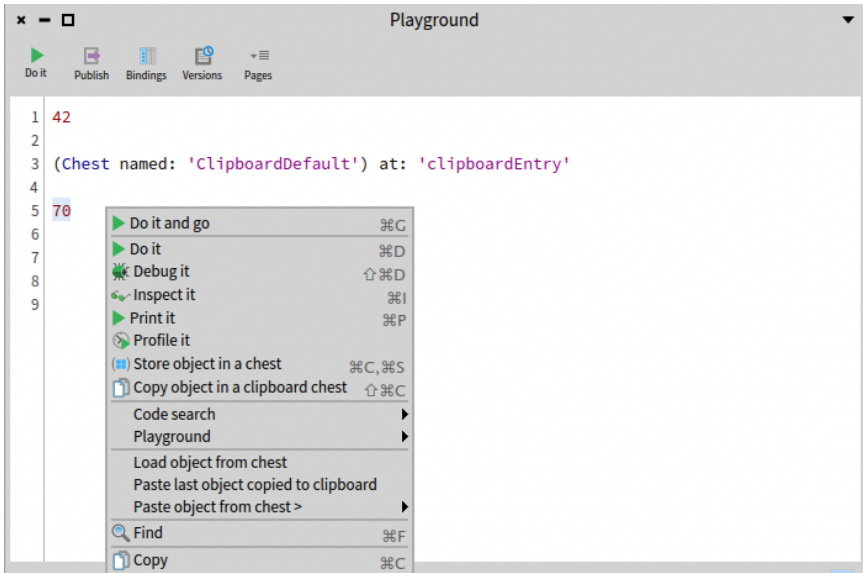


Figure 1-14 Copy object to Chest Clipboard context menu

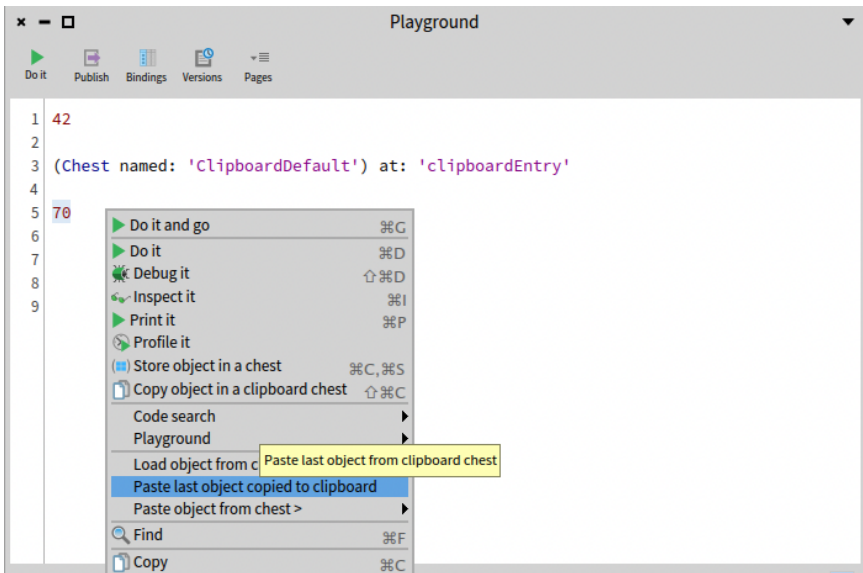


Figure 1-15 Paste last object from Chest Clipboard context menu

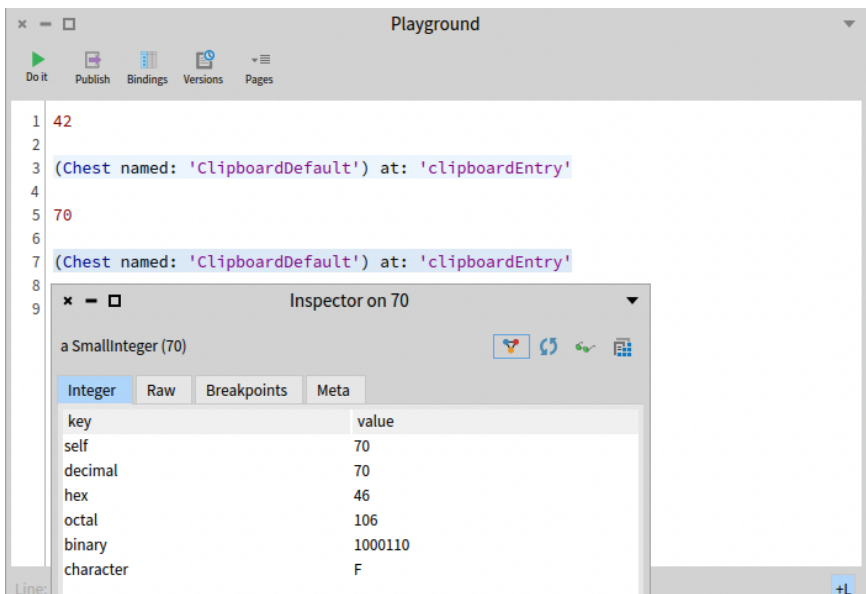


Figure 1-16 Injected code for Chest, after having pasted the object from Chest Clipboard

CHAPTER 2

API Description

In this chapter, we detail the API of Chest and give examples of its usage.

2.1 Chest class-side API

In this section, we describe the API that can be used on the class Chest.

How to create instances

- `Chest class>>#new`

creates a chest with a default name that is in the form of `Chest_autoIncrementedNumber`.

In the examples below, if no other chest has been created before, the names of the created chests are respectively *"Chest1"* and *"Chest2"*:

```
[ Chest new. "Chest_1"  
  Chest new. "Chest_2"
```

- `Chest class>>#newNamed:`

creates a chest with the name given in parameter if no other chest is already named so, else an exception `ChestKeyAlreadyInUseError` is raised.

For example, if no other chest is already called *"toto"*, the piece of code below creates a chest that is named as *"toto"*:

```
[ Chest newNamed: 'toto'. "its name is 'toto'"
```

On the contrary, if another chest is already called *"toto"*, the same piece of code would raise a `ChestKeyAlreadyInUseError` because two chests cannot have the same name:

```
[ Chest newNamed: 'toto'. "ChestKeyAlreadyInUseError as a chest named  
  'toto' already exists"
```

Accessors

- `Chest class>>#allChests`

returns an ordered collection that contains all chest instances.

If we suppose that there are no other chests than the ones created above, the piece of code returns a collection with two chests: the default chest and the chest named "toto":

```
[Chest allChests "{DefaultChest. totoChest}"
```

- `Chest class>>#chestDictionary`

returns a dictionary containing all chests with their name as key.

If we suppose that there are no other chests than the ones created above, the piece of code returns a dictionary with two chests: the default chest, with 'Default' as a key, and the chest named "toto", with 'toto' as a key:

```
[Chest chestDictionary '{"Default' -> DefaultChest. 'toto' ->
  totoChest}"
```

- `Chest class>>#named:`

returns the chest that is named as the string in argument if it exists, else raises an exception `KeyNotFound`.

The expression below can be used to get the chest named 'toto', if it exists:

```
[Chest named: 'toto' "chest named 'toto'"
```

However, no chest is named 'titi', the expression below would raise a `KeyNotFound`:

```
[Chest named: 'titi' "KeyNotFound"
```

- `Chest class>>#defaultInstance (or Chest class>>#default).`

You can use most of `Chest`'s instance-side API on the class `Chest` itself. These methods returns the default chest that is used when you use `Chest`'s instance-side API directly on `Chest class`. If the default chest doesn't already exist, calling these methods lazily create it.

For example, the expression below returns `true`:

```
[Chest defaultInstance == Chest default "true"
```

- `Chest class>>#announcer`

helper method that returns the unique instance of `ChestAnnouncer`, which propagates changes related to chests to any subscriber.

The example below subscribes `self` to the `ChestAnnouncer` singleton to 3 different events; when a new chest `chest` has been created, when the content of a chest has changed and when a chest has been removed:

```
[Chest announcer weak when: ChestCreated send: #eventNewChest: to:
  self;
                                when: ChestUpdated send:
  #eventContentOfChestUpdated: to: self.
                                when: ChestRemoved send: #eventChestRemoved:
```

2.2 Chest instance-side API

```
to: self.
```

When the event happens, the methods that are called (in the example: `#eventNewChest:`, `#eventContentOfChestUpdated:` and `#eventChestRemoved:`) take the related event as an argument.

- `Chest class>>#weak`

returns the class `WeakChest`, subclass of `Chest`. You can use the same API on this class as you would on `Chest` class, in order to create or access chests that hold weak references to objects. This means, that storing your objects in a weak chest doesn't prevent them from being garbage-collected.

For example, the expression below creates a new weak chest named as "wtiti", if it doesn't already exist:

```
[Chest weak newNamed: 'wtiti' "weak chest named as 'wtiti'"]
```

How to perform actions

- `Chest class>>#inChest:at:put:`

puts the object in third argument with the name given in second argument in the chest named as first argument. This chest is lazily created if it doesn't exist yet.

In the example below, the object 42 is stored as "toto" in the chest named "toto":

```
[(Chest named: 'toto') at: 'toto' put: 42. "stores 42 as 'toto' in chest named as 'toto'"]
```

If the chest "toto" didn't exist, it would be created automatically. *Also, please note that a chest cannot contain the same object twice. So, if the chest named as "toto" already contained the object 42, it would simply be renamed as "toto" in this chest.*

- `Chest class>>#unsubscribe:`

helper method that unsubscribes its argument from the unique instance of `ChestAnnouncer`.

For example, the expression below unsubscribes `self` from the `ChestAnnouncer` singleton:

```
[Chest unsubscribe: self]
```

2.2 Chest instance-side API

In this section, we describe the API that can be used on an instance of `Chest`. Methods marked by the symbol (*) can also be used on the class `Chest` itself. In this case, it is equivalent to using the API on the default instance of `Chest`.

Accessors

- `Chest>>#name:`

returns the receiver chest's name.

For example, the expression below evaluates to true:

```
[(Chest named: 'toto') name = 'toto' "true"
```

- Chest>>#contents: (*)

returns a copy of the receiver chest's contents, as a dictionary that contains all objects in the chest with their name as key.

For example, evaluating the piece of code below returns a dictionary that associates 42 to "toto" and 144 to "titi":

```
[( | c |
  c := Chest new.
  Chest inChest: c name at: 'toto' put: 42.
  Chest inChest: c name at: 'titi' put: 144.
  c contents "{ 'toto' -> 42. 'titi' -> 144}"
```

- Chest>>#at: : (*)

returns the object, contained in the receiver chest, whose name is the string in argument if it exists, else an exception `KeyNotFound` is raised.

For example, if the chest named as "toto" stores 42 as "titi", then the expression below returns 42:

```
[(Chest named: 'toto') at: 'titi'. "42"
```

On the contrary, if no object is named as "titi" in the chest named as "toto", then the same expression raises a `KeyNotFound`:

```
[(Chest named: 'toto') at: 'titi' "KeyNotFound"
```

How to perform actions

- Chest>>#add: (*)

adds the object in argument to the receiver chest, with a default name that is in the form of `chestName_autoIncrementedNumber`.

In the piece of code below, we add 42 then 144 to a new chest named "MyChest". Thus, 42 is stored with the key "MyChest1" and 144 is stored with the key "MyChest2":

```
[( | c |
  c := Chest newNamed: 'MyChest'.
  c add: 42. "MyChest_1 -> 42"
  c add: 144 "MyChest_2 -> 144"
```

- Chest>>#at:put: (*)

adds the object in second argument to the receiver chest with the name in first argument if no other object is already named so, else an exception `ChestKeyAlreadyInUseError` is raised.

In the example below, in a new chest, 42 is stored as "toto". Then, trying to store 144 as "toto" raises a `ChestKeyAlreadyInUseError` because two objects cannot have the same name:

2.2 Chest instance-side API

```
| c |  
c := Chest new.  
c at: 'toto' put: 42. "toto -> 42"  
c at: 'toto' put: 144 "ChestKeyAlreadyInUseError"
```

Also, please note that a chest cannot contain the same object twice. So, if the chest named as "toto" already contained the object 42, it would simply be renamed as "toto" in this chest.

- Chest>>#at:put:ifPresent: (*)

adds the object in second argument to the receiver chest with the name in first argument if no other object is already named so, else the block in third argument is evaluated with zero argument.

In the example below, in a new chest, 42 is stored as "toto". Then, we try to store 144 as "toto" and if the key is already use, we try to store it as "titi" instead. As the key "toto" is already used by 42, 144 is stored as "titi":

```
| c |  
c := Chest new.  
c at: 'toto' put: 42 ifPresent: [Chest at: 'titi' put: 42]. "toto ->  
42"  
c at: 'toto' put: 144 ifPresent: [ Chest at: 'titi' put: 144 ] "titi  
-> 144"
```

- Chest>>#remove: (*)

removes the object in argument from the receiver chest if it is there, else an exception KeyNotFound is raised.

For example, if the chest named "toto" contains the object 42, then the following code snippet successfully removes 42 from this chest. Then it tries to remove 42 from this chest a second time, in which case a KeyNotFound is raised because the object is not there anymore:

```
| c |  
c := Chest named: 'toto'.  
c contents includes: 42 "true"  
  
c remove: 42. "42 is removed from c"  
  
c contents includes: 42. "false"  
  
c remove: 42 "KeyNotFound"
```

- Chest>>#removeObjectNamed: (*)

removes from the receiver chest the object named as the argument if the key exists, else an exception ObjectNotInChestError is raised.

For example, if the chest named "toto" stores an object named as "tata", then the following code snippet removes the object named as "tata" from this chest. Then it tries to remove a second time the object named as "tata" from this chest, in which case an ObjectNotInChestError is raised because the key isn't used anymore.

```
| c |
c := Chest named: 'toto'.
c contents includesKey: 'tata' "true"

c removeObjectNamed: 'tata'. "obj named 'tata' is removed from c"

c contents includesKey: 'tata'. "false"

c removeObjectNamed: 'tata' "ObjectNotInChestError"
```

- Chest>>#empty:

removes the entire contents of the receiver chest:

```
| c |
c := Chest new.
c at: 'toto' put: 42.
c at: 'titi' put 144.

c contents isEmpty. "false"

c empty.

c contents isEmpty "true"
```

- Chest>>#remove

completely deletes the receiver chest from the list of existing chests. It cannot be accessed afterwards:

```
| c cname |
c := Chest new.
cname := c name.
Chest chestDictionary includesKey: cname. "true"

c remove.

Chest chestDictionary includesKey: cname. "false"
```

- Chest>>#name:

renames the receiver chest as the string in argument if no other chest is already named so, else an exception `ChestKeyAlreadyInUseError` is raised.

For example, if there exist only two chests named "toto" and "titi", then it is possible to rename "toto" into "tata" but not into "titi", in which case a `ChestKeyAlreadyInUseError` is raised:

```
| toto titi |
toto := Chest named: 'toto'.
titi := Chest named: 'titi'.

toto name: 'tata'.
toto name "tata".
```

2.2 Chest instance-side API

```
[ toto name: 'titi'. "ChestKeyAlreadyInUseError"  
  toto name "tata"
```

- `Chest>>#renameObject:into::`

inside the receiver chest, renames the object in first argument into the string in second argument if the object is in the chest, else an exception `ObjectNotInChestError` is raised, and if no other object is already named so else an exception `ChestKeyAlreadyInUseError` is raised.

If the chest named as "toto" contains only 42 as "titi" and 144 as "tata", then the piece of code below renames 42 to "tutu":

```
[ (Chest named: 'toto') at: 'titi'. "42"  
  (Chest named: 'toto') renameObject: 42 into: 'tutu'.  
  (Chest named: 'toto') at: 'tutu'. "42"  
  (Chest named: 'toto') at: 'titi' "KeyNotFound"
```

Under the same circumstances, the following code snippet raises an `ObjectNotInChestError` because it tries to rename 666 that is not in the chest named as "toto":

```
[ (Chest named: 'toto') contents includes: 666 "false"  
  (Chest named: 'toto') renameObject: 666 into: 'anyValidName'  
  "ObjectNotInChestError"
```

Finally, trying to rename 144 into "tutu" will raise a `ChestKeyAlreadyInUseError` because 42 is already named so:

```
[ (Chest named: 'toto') renameObject: 144 into: 'tutu'  
  "ChestKeyAlreadyInUseError"
```

- `Chest>>#inspectAt::`

inspect the object named as the argument in the receiver chest:

For example, the following expression opens an inspector on the object stored as "titi" in the chest named "toto":

```
[ (Chest named: 'toto') inspectAt: 'titi'
```

