

## Ruby master - Feature #7226

### Add Set#join method as a shortcut for to\_a.join

10/28/2012 05:38 AM - nathan.f77 (Nathan Broadbent)

<b>Status:</b>	Rejected	
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal	
<b>Assignee:</b>	knu (Akinori MUSHHA)	
<b>Target version:</b>	2.6	
<b>Description</b>		
I was surprised that Set.new.join gives me a NoMethodError. This patch that adds a #join method to Set, which is a shortcut for to_a.join.		
<b>Related issues:</b>		
Related to Ruby master - Bug #1893: Recursive Enumerable#join is surprising	<b>Closed</b>	<b>08/06/2009</b>
Is duplicate of Ruby master - Feature #5970: Add Enumerable#join with same se...	<b>Assigned</b>	

#### History

##### #1 - 10/28/2012 05:45 AM - nathan.f77 (Nathan Broadbent)

- File `add_join_to_set.patch` added

Sorry, previous patch contained a typo. Here's an updated patch.

##### #2 - 11/07/2012 06:28 AM - ayumin (Ayumu AIZAWA)

- Assignee set to matz (Yukihiko Matsumoto)

- Target version set to 2.6

##### #3 - 11/07/2012 09:56 PM - rosenfeld (Rodrigo Rosenfeld Rosas)

+1. I was about to create the same feature request some weeks ago when I tried to join a set but was too lazy to do so :)

##### #4 - 05/27/2014 03:18 AM - naruse (Yui NARUSE)

- Related to Bug #1893: Recursive Enumerable#join is surprising added

##### #5 - 05/27/2014 03:30 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

- Subject changed from `Added #join method as a shortcut for to_a.join` to `Add Set#join method as a shortcut for to_a.join`

- Status changed from `Open` to `Assigned`

- Assignee changed from `matz (Yukihiko Matsumoto)` to `knu (Akinori MUSHHA)`

##### #6 - 05/27/2014 04:08 AM - knu (Akinori MUSHHA)

- Status changed from `Assigned` to `Rejected`

The proposed implementation is far from efficient, collecting all elements into a temporary array only for calling `Array#join`.

It wouldn't be worth having it unless it went something like this: `inject(nil) { |s, o| s.nil? ? "#{o}" : s << "#{sep}#{o}" } || "`

In any case, the method would better be implemented in `Enumerable` rather than in `Set`, because it would not be specific to `Set` at all but apply to any class that implements `each`, and `Set` is an unordered collection you shouldn't expect to have `#join` in the first place.

##### #7 - 05/27/2014 10:34 AM - duerst (Martin Dürst)

Akinori MUSHHA wrote:

The proposed implementation is far from efficient, collecting all elements into a temporary array only for calling `Array#join`.

It wouldn't be worth having it unless it went something like this: `inject(nil) { |s, o| s.nil? ? "#{o}" : s << "#{sep}#{o}" } || "`

I tried some very simple cases, and didn't see much of a difference. It's often better to start with a simple implementation and make it more complicated if additional performance is really needed.

In any case, the method would better be implemented in Enumerable rather than in Set,

I agree.

**#8 - 05/27/2014 12:28 PM - knu (Akinori MUSHA)**

Martin Dürst wrote:

I tried some very simple cases, and didn't see much of a difference. It's often better to start with a simple implementation and make it more complicated if additional performance is really needed.

If `.to_a.join` is what you want then you can and should live with it.

I implied by the phrase "far from efficient" that it would be against our expectation for `#join` to consume unnecessary time and space. What `.to_a.join` would do is to iterate to accumulate to iterate to accumulate, which certainly involves unnecessary complexity.

In any case, the method would better be implemented in Enumerable rather than in Set,

I agree.

Enumerable represents a stream, `#join` is a stream friendly operation by nature, and I believe no `.to_a` should take place there.

With all being said, `Enumerable#join` has a history of once being added and then removed later as seen in [#1893](#). We must work out a way to add it again, resolving the compatibility issue with `Array#join` somehow.

**Files**

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<code>add_join_to_set.patch</code>	788 Bytes	10/28/2012	nathan.f77 (Nathan Broadbent)
<code>add_join_to_set.patch</code>	756 Bytes	10/28/2012	nathan.f77 (Nathan Broadbent)