

Ruby master - Feature #9043

Add String#f method as shortcut for #freeze

10/22/2013 09:16 PM - headius (Charles Nutter)

Status:	Open	
Priority:	Normal	
Assignee:	matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)	
Target version:		
Description		
<p>We have String#b to create a binary-encoded String, and we have the "f" suffix (going away, hopefully) and the "literal".freeze optimization (#8992). I think it would be reasonable to add String#f as a shorter method for producing a frozen string.</p> <p>If String#f is added the "literal".freeze optimization could be dropped in favor of "literal".f. This would provide something very close to the original "literal"f syntax but in a backward-compatibility-friendly way (class String; alias f freeze; end).</p>		

History

#1 - 10/22/2013 09:17 PM - headius (Charles Nutter)

- Category set to core

- Target version set to 2.1.0

#2 - 10/23/2013 05:09 AM - charliesome (Charlie Somerville)

I feel really negatively about optimizing only String#f and not String#freeze. You could make the argument that it's backwards compatible, but in reality it means every bit of code that wants to use this optimization needs to monkey patch its own String#f.

Otherwise I support adding String#f as an alias for String#freeze and removing f-suffix syntax.

#3 - 11/13/2013 07:23 AM - headius (Charles Nutter)

- Assignee set to matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)

The change to optimize String#freeze has landed for [#8992](#), which compiler-optimizes String#freeze. The only remaining decision is whether to also add #f with the same optimization.

matz likes the idea of String#f. I'm happy either way, since [#8992](#) landed, but a shorter method would be nice. With String#f acting like "str"f, we'd only be one character more verbose than the original syntax.

I believe matz needs to decide this one.

#4 - 11/13/2013 09:29 AM - normalperson (Eric Wong)

Fwiw, I am against adding aliases to the same method, especially extremely short names which are hard to search for.

It is confusing and increases overhead for reading/following code.

Easy-to-write code is not necessary easy-to-read.
(speaking as a sometimes Perl hacker)

#5 - 12/17/2013 05:23 PM - matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)

Despite the OP's intention, String#f should not be an alias to #freeze, but should work as #dedup described in [#9229](#). I am quite positive, but it must be too late for 2.1.

Matz.

#6 - 12/30/2013 12:55 AM - headius (Charles Nutter)

- Target version changed from 2.1.0 to 2.2.0

I'd like to see this get into 2.2, and it sounds like Matz wants it too.

#7 - 12/30/2013 10:53 AM - normalperson (Eric Wong)

I'm still against this (and having aliases at all for standard).

It makes code harder to search/read, especially when they have short names like "f".

#8 - 01/05/2018 09:00 PM - naruse (Yui NARUSE)

- *Target version deleted (2.2.0)*