

Ruby - Feature #19128

Hash#delete could take a second argument as the default value?

11/12/2022 04:10 PM - dorianmariefr (Dorian Marié)

Status:	Rejected	
Priority:	Normal	
Assignee:		
Target version:		
Description		
e.g. {}.delete(:a, []) would return []		

History

#1 - 11/13/2022 02:30 AM - sawa (Tsuyoshi Sawada)

Since you are avoiding doing:

```
{}.delete(:a) || []
```

it must be the case that you have a hash in which nil can be a meaningful value, and you want to distinguish that from the case where delete results in a miss hit. What is the use case for that?

#2 - 11/14/2022 10:26 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

Or

```
{}.delete(:a) { [] }
```

#3 - 11/14/2022 12:03 PM - byroot (Jean Boussier)

@dorianmariefr if you wish for this feature to be considered, you'll need to expand a bit on your description. Like providing a few snippets of code that show how it is helpful, how often and how it makes your code better. Bonus point if you can link to open source code that would benefit from this.

Once that is said, I personally wanted this a bunch of time. As mentioned by others, in most case hash.delete(:foo) || default works fine, but sometimes explicit nil or false may be expected, in which case you have to use hash.delete(:foo) if hash.key?(:foo).

Also as @nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada) mentioned, Hash#delete already handle a "default block" like fetch, so I think it would make sense to accept a positional default too, just for consistency's sake.

#4 - 11/24/2022 09:16 AM - dorianmariefr (Dorian Marié)

You can close this, passing a block is much nicer and provides the functionality I need.

As a side note, I think passing multiple arguments could delete multiple keys from the hash but I don't have the use for it.

#5 - 11/24/2022 09:17 AM - byroot (Jean Boussier)

- Status changed from Open to Rejected