

## Ruby - Feature #1786

### unexpected #inspect behaviour

07/18/2009 06:27 PM - evilbrain (Andy Bogdanov)

<b>Status:</b>	Closed	
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal	
<b>Assignee:</b>		
<b>Target version:</b>	1.9.2	
<b>Description</b>  =begin It's said in the documentation that #inspect, if not overridden should use #to_s. Instead of that, when not overridden, #inspect uses #to_s only until the first instance variable assignment, after that it is overridden by interpreter.  ~\$ cat > test.rb class MyClass def to_s() "instance of MyClass" end def assign @var = var self end end  ~\$ irb irb(main):001:0> load 'test.rb' => true irb(main):002:0> MyClass.new => Instance of MyClass irb(main):003:0> MyClass.new.assign => #<MyClass:0x9071620 @val=nil>  Besides that #to_s stays unchanged when it's not overridden and because usually the first instance variable assignment happens in #initialize in most cases #inspect returns something like #<MyClass:0x9071620 @val=nil> and #to_s returns # <a href="#">MyClass:0x9071620</a> =end		
<b>Related issues:</b>  Related to Ruby - Bug #4453: Overriding #to_s changes #inspect		
		<b>Closed</b>
		<b>03/01/2011</b>

#### History

##### #1 - 10/21/2009 08:48 AM - rogerdpack (Roger Pack)

```
=begin
Which versions show this?
-r
=end
```

##### #2 - 10/21/2009 09:29 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

- Status changed from Open to Rejected

```
=begin
to_s isn't inspect.
override inspect if you want to change it.
=end
```

##### #3 - 10/21/2009 06:13 PM - yugui (Yuki Sonoda)

- Category set to doc

- Status changed from Rejected to Open

- Target version set to 1.9.2

```
=begin
I think it is a bug of rdoc documentation.
=end
```

**#4 - 10/21/2009 07:37 PM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)**

- Status changed from Open to Closed

- % Done changed from 0 to 100

=begin

This issue was solved with changeset r25427.

Andy, thank you for reporting this issue.

Your contribution to Ruby is greatly appreciated.

May Ruby be with you.

=end

**#5 - 10/21/2009 10:12 PM - matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)**

=begin

Hi,

In message "Re: [\[ruby-core:26193\] Feature #1786](#) unexpected #inspect behaviour"  
on Wed, 21 Oct 2009 09:29:53 +0900, Nobuyoshi Nakada [redmine@ruby-lang.org](mailto:redmine@ruby-lang.org) writes:

|to\_s isn't inspect.

|oroverride inspect if you want to change it.

But still, the behavior OP reported is weird. Redefining #to\_s should  
not affect inspect, if they are totally different.

I will work on.

matz.

=end