



# class Tinky::Hash

Hash configuration for use with Tinky

## Table of Contents

- 1 [Synopsis](#)
- 2 [Description](#)
- 3 [Methods](#)
  - 3.1 [new](#)
  - 3.2 [from-hash](#)
    - 3.2.1 [Configuration structure](#)
  - 3.3 [workflow](#)
  - 3.4 [go-state](#)

```
class Hash::Tinky { ... }
```

## Synopsis

```
use Tinky::Hash;

# define a class to be able to define methods for the transitions
class MyStateEngine is Tinky::Hash {

# initialize state engine using from-hash method
  submethod BUILD ( ) {

    self.from-hash(
      :config( {
        :states([<a z>]),
        :transitions( {
          :az( { :from<a>, :to<z> } ),
          :za( { :from<z>, :to<a> } ),
        }
      ),
      :workflow( { :name<wf5>, :initial-state<a> } ),
```

```

: taps( {
  : states( {
    : a( { : leave<leave-a>} ),
    : z( { : enter<enter-z>} )
  }
),
}
),
}
)
);
}

# call when leaving state a
method leave-a ( $object ) {
  say "Tr 2 left a in '$object.^name()'";
}

# call when entering state z
method enter-z ( $object ) {
  say "Tr 2 enter z in '$object.^name()'";
}

# instantiate
my MyStateEngine $th .= new;

# use workflow
$th.workflow('wf5');

# go to state z. this runs the methods leave-a and enter-z.
$th.go-state('z');

```

## Description

To understand this module it is wise to also read the documentation about Tinky and day 18 2016 of the perl6 advent calendar.

I was triggered writing [Tinky::Hash](#) by the [Tinky::JSON](#) module to define a data structure instead of using the commands directly. It makes for a cleaner setup all from a single class where it is needed. Also it can be stored in other formats besides [JSON](#), Examples are [YAML](#) and [TOML](#).

A few things are added here compared to the [Tinky::JSON](#) implementation. Using a class which inherits the [Tinky::Hash](#) class it is possible to call methods defined by their name in the config. Furthermore, besides that a method can be called upon all transition events, it is possible to call a method on one specific transition.

Because of the way this class stores its data, the workflows are still usable from other classes which inherit the [Tinky::Hash](#).

# Methods

## new

```
submethod BUILD ( Hash :$config )
```

Instantiate class. When config is given, it will call [from-hash](#) with it.

## from-hash

```
method from-hash ( Hash:D :$config )
```

Reads the configuration and uses the methods from Tinky to define states, transitions, workflow and also defines the taps for the events of transitions, leaving or entering a state.

## Configuration structure

The top level looks like the following;

```
:config( {  
  :states( ... ),  
  :transitions( ... ),  
  :workflow( ... ),  
  :taps( ... )  
}  
)
```

- states

States is used to specify all the states used in the workflow. It is an array of names for the states. These are used to refer to in transitions, workflow and taps.

```
:config( { :states([<locked opened>]), ... } )
```

- transitions

Transitions describe the connections between the states. The names of defined transitions are used in taps. With the states mentioned above;

```

:config( {
  ...
  :transitions( {
    :openit( { :from<locked>, :to<opened>}),
    :lockit( { :from<opened>, :to<locked>})
  }
),
...
}
)

```

- workflow

A workflow binds everything together specifying a name for the flow and an initial state. E.g. using the defined config above

```

:config( {
  ...
  :workflow( { :name(resource-lock), :initial-state<locked>}),
  ...
}
)

```

- taps

Supplies are used to handle events such as entering or leaving a state or on transitions. By creating a tap on a supply the object gets informed by these events. [Tinky](#) allows you to specify two types of taps. These are the taps on events on entering and leaving a state and a tap to get all transition events. With [Tinky::Hash](#) you can also specify taps on a specific transition. E.g.

```

:config( {
  ...
  :taps( {
    :states( {
      :locked( { :leave<make-log>}),
    }
  ),
}
)
}
)

```

Here when a transition is made from *locked* to *opened*, the method [make-log](#) is called upon leaving the state *locked*. Methods used like this must be defined as follows;

```

method make-log ( $object, Str :$state, EventType :$event )

```

Most of the time the [\\$object](#) is the same as the object from the class where in the method is defined. Since it is possible to switch workflows, even if they are defined in another class, this object can be the one from the other class.

`$state` is the state name and `$event` is one of `Enter` or `Leave`.

In the example the method is called when leaving the state `:leave<...>`. When entering the enter method is called. To define this use `:enter<...>`.

The next example shows the definition of a tap on a specific transition, in this case `lockit` which specifies the transition from `opened`.to `Locked`.

```
...
:taps( {
  :transitions( { :lockit<save-key>}),
}
)
...
```

The method must be defined as;

```
method save-key ( $object, Tinky::Transition $trans, :Str $transit )
```

`$object` is the same as above. For more information on `Tinky::Transition $trans` look at the Tinky documentation. `$transit` is the name of the transition which is `lockit` here.

The 3rd tap type is the global one which calls the method on all transitions.

```
...
:taps( {
  :transitions-global<log-trans>,
}
)
...
```

Definition of the method should be;

```
method log-trans ( $object, Tinky::Transition $trans ) {
```

Almost the same as the specific transitions but without the transition name.

## workflow

```
method workflow ( Str:D $workflow-name )
```

Set the workflow to start with. The workflow starts with the initial state defined with the workflow in the configuration. Later when switching to another workflow the state will not change despite the initial state for that particular workflow. However, an exception is thrown when the current state does not exist in the new workflow.

Below the surface it will execute `apply-workflow` from `Tinky::Object`.

## go-state

```
method go-state ( Str:D $state-name )
```

Procede to the next state. It wil execute the `$o.state = $new-state` from `Tinky::Object`.

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