

10.3-3.

Why don't we need to set or reset the *prev* attribute of objects in the implementation of the ALLOCATE-OBJECT and FREE-OBJECT procedures?

Answer.

We implement ALLOCATE-OBJECT and FREE-OBJECT in the hope of managing the storage of currently non-used object in the free list so that one can be allocated for reusing. As the free list acts like a stack, to maintain this stack-like collection, we merely remember its first pointer and set the *next* attribute of objects. There is no need to worry the *prev* attribute, for it hardly has any impact on the resulting free list.

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