The Prototype Pattern in Laravel

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I'm going to be talking about another creational pattern called the **prototype pattern** today. This should be pretty straight forward to implement in a lot of high-level languages and we'll take a look at a common place we use it in Laravel.

Prototype Pattern

The prototype pattern is one of the more simple ones to understand. In this creational pattern, we create a new object by copying an existing object. Wow, that simple?! Yes. That simple.

PHP provides us a nice tool to easily copy an object too! The `clone` keyword will call the magic function `__clone` on an object and return a copy of the object.

```php
<?php
$obj = new Object;
$obj2 = $obj;
$obj3 = clone $obj;


/** returns true */
$obj === $obj2;
/** returns false */
$obj === $obj3;
```

Interestingly, we don't ever need to implement the `__clone` function if we just want the default behavior. However, there are times where you might want to implement custom behavior.