

# Day 16: The prototype design pattern

The prototype pattern just involves generating new objects from existing ones via `copy` calls. In Scala, you get a powerful `copy` method for free on any case class!

```
1 case class ABC(a: Int, b: Int, c: Int)
2 val a1 = ABC(1, 2, 3)
3 val a2 = a1.copy(a = 4, b = 5)
4
5 // true
6 a1.isInstanceOf[ABC] && a2.isInstanceOf[ABC]
7
8 // false
9 a1 == a2
10
11 // nested is worse to deal with
12 case class DEF(d: Int, e: Int, f: ABC)
13 val d1 = DEF(1, 2, ABC(3, 4, 5))
14 d1.copy(f = d1.f.copy(b = 2))
15
```

This is great, except for the nested case, where you can get some pretty chunky boilerplate depending on how deeply nested your class is. For those cases, consider the `lense` pattern, which will be covered later in this series.