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Undefined Method error in Ruby class [closed]



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I'm trying to write a simple class for an orange tree... but I'm getting this error: pine_orangetree.rb:11:in `oneYearPasses': undefined method `+' for nil:NilClass (NoMethodError)

When I call the oneYearPasses method... Why is that?

```
class OrangeTree

  def initialize
    @height = 0
    @oranges = 0
  end

  def oneYearPasses
    @height += 2
    @oranges = 0

    if @height > 7
      @oranges += 10
    end

    if @height < 30
      puts "Another year has passed..."
    else
      puts "The orange tree died..."
    end
  end

  def height
    puts "The tree is #{@height} inches tall."
  end

  def countTheOranges
    puts "There are #{@oranges} on the tree."
  end

  def pickAnOrange
    @oranges -= 1
    puts "You picked an orange."
    puts "There are #{@oranges} left."
  end

end

tree1 = OrangeTree.new
tree1.oneYearPasses
tree1.height
```

[ruby](#) [class](#) [methods](#)

asked Jul 26 '15 at 2:37

[hackmaut](#)
265 3 11

closed as off-topic by [Makoto](#), [Jörg W Mittag](#), [Justin Ko](#), [Yu Hao](#), [Brad Werth](#) Aug 9 '15 at 6:00

This question appears to be off-topic. The users who voted to close gave this specific reason:

- "This question was caused by a **problem that can no longer be reproduced** or a **simple typographical error**. While similar questions may be on-topic here, this one was resolved in a manner unlikely to help future readers. This can often be avoided by identifying and closely inspecting [the shortest program necessary to reproduce the problem](#) before posting." – [Makoto](#), [Jörg W Mittag](#), [Justin Ko](#), [Yu Hao](#), [Brad Werth](#)

If this question can be reworded to fit the rules in the [help center](#), please [edit the question](#).

1 Answer

You have a typo in the word `initalize` . It should be `initialize` .

And because of the typo, the `initalize` method is not called when the object is created, and hence the instance variable `@height` is not defined on creation. And you cannot call `+=` on an object that does not exist yet.

Also as a side note, you shouldn't be adding too many blank lines out of the blue. This is against the [Ruby Style Guide](#).

edited Jul 26 '15 at 2:45

answered Jul 26 '15 at 2:43



[Tamer Shlash](#)

5,752 2 29 51

WOW. LOL Sorry about that! This what makes programming crazy frustrating sometimes. xD Thank you! – [hackmaut](#) Jul 26 '15 at 2:45

@sickcodeworm You're welcome :) probably you need to mark this as accepted solution. – [Tamer Shlash](#) Jul 26 '15 at 3:50