# Ruby - Feature #12746

## class Array: alias .prepend to .unshift  ?

09/09/2016 08:59 PM - shevegen (Robert A. Heiler)

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|---|---|
| **Status:** | Closed |
| **Priority:** | Normal |
| **Assignee:** | |
| **Target version:** | |

### Description

This code works:

```
array = %w( b c )  # => ["b", "c"]
array.unshift "a"
array              # => ["a", "b", "c"]
```

I would like for .prepend to also work on class Array.

Rationale:

I found myself to sometimes .prepend to a String object
in Ruby, which works very well.

Sometimes I do not want to care whether I have a String
or an Array, I just want to prepend stuff (add to the
beginning).

I can do so via .unshift, fair enough, and I also can
use [] such as:

```
array[0,0] = 'a'
```

Which works on both class String and Array.

Since class Hash is sorted (kept in order) these days,
perhaps they can also use a .prepend variant, which
either works for prepending both a key-value pair,
or optionally, to make the value default to nil and
just provide a key (if the user does not need to
specify a specific value) such as:

```
hash.prepend :cat
hash.prepend cat: :Tom
```

But primarily, I only ask for class Array since I
have had use cases for class Array; I did not yet
have a similar use case for class Hash.

Feel free to close this if it is considered unwanted
for any reason!

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### Associated revisions

**Revision f57d515d69b7a35477b9ba5d08fe117df1f1e275 - 04/01/2017 07:38 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)**

array.c: Array#append and Array#prepend

- array.c (Init_Array): Add alias "append" to Array#push, and
  "prepend" to Array#unshift.  [Feature #12746] [Fix GH-1574]

Author:   pascbjumper2 stowers.joshua@live.com

git-svn-id: svn+ssh://ci.ruby-lang.org/ruby/trunk@58227 b2dd03c8-39d4-4d8f-98ff-823fe69b080e

**Revision f57d515d - 04/01/2017 07:38 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)**

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### Revision b6b4af0e1ed7e454f9618b423e6d1bed0ed052e8 - 04/06/2017 12:14 AM - znz (Kazuhiro NISHIYAMA)

NEWS: mention Array#append and Array#prepend

[Feature #12746] [ci skip]

git-svn-id: svn+ssh://ci.ruby-lang.org/ruby/trunk@58257 b2dd03c8-39d4-4d8f-98ff-823fe69b080e

### Revision b6b4af0e - 04/06/2017 12:14 AM - znz (Kazuhiro NISHIYAMA)

NEWS: mention Array#append and Array#prepend

[Feature #12746] [ci skip]

git-svn-id: svn+ssh://ci.ruby-lang.org/ruby/trunk@58257 b2dd03c8-39d4-4d8f-98ff-823fe69b080e

## History

#### #1 - 09/14/2016 09:40 PM - nrodriguez (Nicolas Rodriguez)

Also .prepend sounds more natural than .unshift (specialy on Array). But it also implies .append which should be aliased to .push.

Example :

[1, 2, 3,].append(4).append(5)

#### #2 - 11/25/2016 07:46 AM - matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)

Accepted.

Matz.

#### #3 - 11/25/2016 07:51 AM - matsuda (Akira Matsuda)

FIY both append and prepend are in ActiveSupport:
https://github.com/rails/rails/blob/master/activesupport/lib/active_support/core_ext/array/prepend_and_append.rb

#### #4 - 03/31/2017 06:48 AM - JustJosh (Joshua Stowers)

Thanks, Matz! I've been wanting this for a while.
I've just made a PR to the Github repo with the changes: https://github.com/ruby/ruby/pull/1574

#### #5 - 04/01/2017 07:38 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

*- Status changed from Open to Closed*

Applied in changeset trunk|r58227.

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