

## NAME

Dpkg::Interface::Storable - common methods related to object serialization

## DESCRIPTION

Dpkg::Interface::Storable is only meant to be used as parent class for other objects. It provides common methods that are all implemented on top of two basic methods *parse()* and *output()*.

## BASE METHODS

Those methods must be provided by the object that wish to inherit from Dpkg::Interface::Storable so that the methods provided can work.

`$obj->parse($fh, $desc)`

This methods initialize the object with the data stored in the filehandle. `$desc` is optional and is a textual description of the filehandle used in error messages.

`$string = $obj->output($fh)`

This method returns a string representation of the object in `$string` and it writes the same string to `$fh` (if it's defined).

## PROVIDED METHODS

`$obj->load($filename)`

Initialize the object with the data stored in the file. The file can be compressed, it will be uncompressed on the fly by using a Dpkg::Compression::FileHandle object. If `$filename` is "-", then the standard input is read (no compression is allowed in that case).

`$obj->save($filename)`

Store the object in the file. If the filename ends with a known compression extension, it will be compressed on the fly by using a Dpkg::Compression::FileHandle object. If `$filename` is "-", then the standard output is used (data are written uncompressed in that case).

`“$obj”`

Return a string representation of the object.

## CHANGES

### Version 1.00

Mark the module as public.

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