

Newbie Design Question

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Lisp/comp.lang.lisp/2003-11/2614.html>

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I'm back to LISP after having been away for a long, long time (it's hard to break the SETQ habit :). BTW, this is not homework of any sort.

Anyway, I have a function in my current program which is a planner of sorts. It takes a list of stuff as a parameter and builds lists of candidates for action.

Pseudo-code:

```
(defun chain-stuff (stuff-list start end level)
  (if (<= start end)
      (dolist (stuff stuff-list)
        (when (eligible-p stuff start)
          (chain-stuff stuff-list (+ start 5) end
                      (append level stuff))
        )
      ) level
  )
)
```

What I'd like to return is a list of the accumulated lists (which would be "level" at the if-else case), but can't think of a way to do it other than appending to something outside the function's scope. (Which I viscerally recognize as abhorrent...:)

Thanks in advance,

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