

Is there a way to add a task to the windows task scheduler via python 3?

Asked 8 years, 3 months ago Modified 4 months ago Viewed 17k times



16



python python-3.x



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asked Oct 2, 2014 at 12:33



I_do_python

1,278 4 16 31

Is using either WMI or schtasks.exe an option ? – FredP Oct 2, 2014 at 12:43

Ahem... quick google results : blog.ziade.org/2007/11/01/... sourceforge.net/projects/pytaskscheduler Have a nice day :-) – FredP Oct 2, 2014 at 13:01

This looks like it was written for Python 2.3, so not exactly what I was looking for. Will see if I can scavenge from it though. – I_do_python Oct 2, 2014 at 13:48

1 With subprocess you could do: stackoverflow.com/a/2725908/660921 – Martin Tournon Oct 2, 2014 at 14:02

1 @FredP, your solution is incompatible with 3.x. – I_do_python Oct 2, 2014 at 14:05

4 Answers

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This code creates a task which will run in 5 minutes (uses pywin32):

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```
scheduler.Connect()
root_folder = scheduler.GetFolder('\\')
task_def = scheduler.NewTask(0)

# Create trigger
start_time = datetime.datetime.now() + datetime.timedelta(minutes=5)
TASK_TRIGGER_TIME = 1
trigger = task_def.Triggers.Create(TASK_TRIGGER_TIME)
trigger.StartBoundary = start_time.isoformat()

# Create action
TASK_ACTION_EXEC = 0
action = task_def.Actions.Create(TASK_ACTION_EXEC)
action.ID = 'DO NOTHING'
action.Path = 'cmd.exe'
action.Arguments = '/c "exit"'

# Set parameters
task_def.RegistrationInfo.Description = 'Test Task'
task_def.Settings.Enabled = True
task_def.Settings.StopIfGoingOnBatteries = False

# Register task
# If task already exists, it will be updated
TASK_CREATE_OR_UPDATE = 6
TASK_LOGON_NONE = 0
root_folder.RegisterTaskDefinition(
    'Test Task', # Task name
    task_def,
    TASK_CREATE_OR_UPDATE,
    '', # No user
    '', # No password
    TASK_LOGON_NONE)
```

More info on tasks and their properties here: <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/desktop/taskschd/task-scheduler-objects>

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answered Oct 6, 2018 at 10:08

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▲ PyWin32 provides an interface to the Task Scheduler in `win32com.taskscheduler`. You can see an example of it's use here:

- 9 • https://github.com/SublimeText/Pywin32/blob/master/lib/x32/win32comext/taskscheduler/test/test_addtask_1.py

▼ Also @FredP linked to a good example that's much simpler:

- <http://blog.ziade.org/2007/11/01/scheduling-tasks-in-windows-with-pywin32/>



There is also an interesting tidbit in the wmi module's cookbook about scheduling a job, although it doesn't appear to use the Task Scheduler:

- <http://timgolden.me.uk/python/wmi/cookbook.html#schedule-a-job>

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edited Sep 21, 2018 at 5:42



Mattwmaster58

2,033 3 22 35

answered Oct 2, 2014 at 14:00



Mike Driscoll

32.4k 8 44 87

Warning: Do not use the WMI method. The service which it depends on seems to be deprecated and not enabled by default (Though you can enable it via registry) since Windows 8: [learn.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/win32/cimwin32prov/...](https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/win32/cimwin32prov/) – xendi Sep 12, 2020 at 22:43 ✎

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Just to round out the option list here... How about just calling the windows command line?

9

```
import os
```

```
os.system('SchTasks /Create /SC DAILY /TN "My Task" /TR "C:mytask.bat" /ST 09:00')
```



You can launch any executable, batch file, or even another python script - assuming the system is set to execute python...

schtasks has a rich list of options and capabilities...<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/win32/taskschd/schtasks>

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edited Mar 24, 2021 at 8:45

answered Feb 1, 2021 at 21:30



Lê Quang Duy

767 7 14



jaytate

133 2 4

I also needed a way to use Python to schedule a task in Windows 10. I discovered something simpler, using only [subprocess](#) and PowerShell's [Scheduled Tasks cmdlets](#), which is more powerful as it gives you finer control over the task to schedule.

2

And there's no need for a third-party module for this one.



```
import subprocess
```

```
# Use triple quotes string literal to span PowerShell command multiline
```

```
STR_CMD = """
```

```
$action = New-ScheduledTaskAction -Execute "powershell.exe" -Argument
```

```
"C:\\path\\to\\file.ps1"
```

```
$description = "Using PowerShell's Scheduled Tasks in Python"
```

```
$settings = New-ScheduledTaskSettingsSet -DeleteExpiredTaskAfter (New-TimeSpan -Seconds 2)
```

```
$taskName = "Test Script"
```

```
$trigger = New-ScheduledTaskTrigger -Once -At (Get-Date).AddSeconds(10)
```

```
$trigger.EndBoundary = (Get-Date).AddSeconds(20).ToString("s")
```

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```
listProcess = [  
    "powershell.exe",  
    "-NoExit",  
    "-NoProfile",  
    "-Command",  
    STR_CMD  
]  
  
# Enjoy the magic  
subprocess.run(listProcess, check=True)
```

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answered Sep 3, 2022 at 23:52



[howdoicode](#)

655 8 14

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