

Python has a module named datetime to work with dates and times.

Let's create a few simple programs related to date and time before we dig deeper.

```
In [1]: # Example 1: Get Current Date and Time

import datetime

datetime_object = datetime.datetime.now()
print(datetime_object)
```

2021-02-25 17:39:07.128086

```
In [2]: # Example 2: Get Current Date

import datetime

date_object = datetime.date.today()
print(date_object)
```

2021-02-25

```
In [3]: # What's inside datetime?

import datetime

print(dir(datetime))
```

```
['MAXYEAR', 'MINYEAR', '__builtins__', '__cached__', '__doc__', '__file__', '__loader__', '__name__', '__package__', '__spec__', 'date', 'datetime', 'datetime_CAPI', 'sys', 'time', 'timedelta', 'timezone', 'tzinfo']
```

datetime.date Class

- You can instantiate date objects from the date class. A date object represents a date (year, month and day).

```
In [4]: # Example 3: Date object to string

import datetime

d = datetime.date(2019, 4, 13)
print(d)
```

2019-04-13

```
In [5]: from datetime import date

a = date(2019, 4, 13)
print(a)
```

2019-04-13

```
In [6]: # Example 4: Get current date

from datetime import date

today = date.today()

print("Current date =", today)
```

Current date = 2021-02-25

```
In [7]: # Example 6: Print today's year, month and day

from datetime import date

# date object of today's date
today = date.today()

print("Current year:", today.year)
print("Current month:", today.month)
print("Current day:", today.day)
```

Current year: 2021
Current month: 2
Current day: 25

datetime.time

- A time object instantiated from the time class represents the local time.

```
In [8]: from datetime import time

# time(hour = 0, minute = 0, second = 0)
a = time()
print("a =", a)

# time(hour, minute and second)
b = time(11, 34, 56)
print("b =", b)

# time(hour, minute and second)
c = time(hour = 11, minute = 34, second = 56)
print("c =", c)

# time(hour, minute, second, microsecond)
d = time(11, 34, 56, 234566)
print("d =", d)
```

a = 00:00:00
b = 11:34:56
c = 11:34:56
d = 11:34:56.234566

```
In [9]: # Example 8: Print hour, minute and second

from datetime import time

a = time(11, 34, 56)

print("hour =", a.hour)
print("minute =", a.minute)
print("second =", a.second)
print("microsecond =", a.microsecond)
```

hour = 11
minute = 34
second = 56
microsecond = 0

datetime.datetime

- The datetime module has a class named datetime that can contain information from both date and time objects.

```
In [10]: # Python datetime object

from datetime import datetime

# datetime(year, month, day)
a = datetime(2018, 11, 28)
print(a)

# datetime(year, month, day, hour, minute, second, microsecond)
b = datetime(2017, 11, 28, 23, 55, 59, 342380)
print(b)
```

2018-11-28 00:00:00
2017-11-28 23:55:59.342380

```
In [11]: # Example 10: Print year, month, day, hour, minute, second and timestamp

from datetime import datetime

a = datetime(2017, 11, 28, 23, 55, 59, 342380)
print("year =", a.year)
print("month =", a.month)
print("hour =", a.hour)
print("minute =", a.minute)
print("timestamp =", a.timestamp())
```

year = 2017
month = 11
hour = 23
minute = 55
timestamp = 1511893559.34238

datetime.timedelta

- A timedelta object represents the difference between two dates or times.

```
In [12]: # Difference between two dates

from datetime import datetime

t1 = datetime(year = 2018, month = 1, day = 1)
t2 = datetime(year = 2017, month = 1, day = 1)
t3 = t1 - t2
print("t3 =", t3)

t4 = datetime(year = 2018, month = 1, day = 1)
t5 = datetime(year = 2019, month = 1, day = 1)
t6 = t4 - t5
print("t6 =", t6)

print("type of t3 =", type(t3))
print("type of t6 =", type(t6))
```

t3 = 261 days, 0:00:00
t6 = -333 days, 1:14:20
type of t3 = <class 'datetime.timedelta'>
type of t6 = <class 'datetime.timedelta'>

```
In [13]: # Example 12: Difference between two times

from datetime import timedelta

t1 = timedelta(weeks = 2, days = 4, hours = 4)
t2 = timedelta(days = 2, hours = 4)
t3 = t1 - t2

print("t3 =", t3)
```

t3 = 14 days, 13:55:39

```
In [14]: # Printing negative timedelta

from datetime import timedelta

t1 = timedelta(seconds = 33)
t2 = timedelta(seconds = 54)
t3 = t1 - t2

print("t3 =", t3)
print("t3 =", abs(t3))
```

t3 = -1 day, 23:59:39
t3 = 0:00:21

```
In [15]: # Time duration in seconds
# You can get the total number of seconds from a timedelta object

from datetime import timedelta

t = timedelta(days = 5, hours = 5)
print("total seconds =", t.total_seconds())
```

total seconds = 435633.233423

Python format datetime

- Python strftime() - datetime object to string
- The strftime() method is defined under classes date, datetime and time.
- The method creates a formatted string from a given date, datetime or time object.

```
In [16]: # Format date using strftime()

from datetime import datetime

# current date and time
now = datetime.now()

t = now.strftime("%H:%M:%S")
print("time:", t)

s1 = now.strftime("%m/%d/%Y, %H:%M:%S")
# mm/dd/YY H:M:S format
print("s1:", s1)

s2 = now.strftime("%d/%m/%Y, %H:%M:%S")
# dd/mm/YY H:M:S format
print("s2:", s2)
```

time: 17:39:13
s1: 02/25/2021, 17:39:13
s2: 25/02/2021, 17:39:13

Python strftime() - string to datetime

- The strftime() method creates a datetime object from a given string (representing date and time).

```
In [17]: from datetime import datetime

date_string = "21 June, 2018"
print("date_string =", date_string)

date_object = datetime.strptime(date_string, "%d %B, %Y")
print("date_object =", date_object)
```

date_string = 21 June, 2018
date_object = 2018-06-21 00:00:00

Handling timezone in Python

- Suppose, you are working on a project and need to display date and time based on their timezone.
- Rather than trying to handle timezone yourself, we suggest you to use a third-party pytz module.

```
In [18]: from datetime import datetime
import pytz

local = datetime.now()
print("Local:", local.strftime("%a, %d %b %Y %H:%M:%S"))

tz_NY = pytz.timezone('America/New_York')
datetime_NY = datetime.now(tz_NY)
print("NY: ", datetime_NY.strftime("%a, %d %b %Y %H:%M:%S"))

tz_London = pytz.timezone('Europe/London')
datetime_London = datetime.now(tz_London)
print("London: ", datetime_London.strftime("%a, %d %b %Y %H:%M:%S"))
```

Local: 02/25/2021, 17:39:14
NY: 02/25/2021, 07:09:15
London: 02/25/2021, 12:09:15

datetime to string using strftime()

- The program below converts a datetime object containing current date and time to different string formats.

```
In [19]: from datetime import datetime

now = datetime.now() # current date and time

year = now.strftime("%Y")
print("year:", year)

month = now.strftime("%m")
print("month:", month)

day = now.strftime("%d")
print("day:", day)

time = now.strftime("%H:%M:%S")
print("time:", time)

date_time = now.strftime("%m/%d/%Y %H:%M:%S")
print("date and time:", date_time)
```

year: 2021
month: 02
day: 25
time: 17:39:15
date and time: 02/25/2021, 17:39:15

```
In [20]: # Creating string from a time object

from datetime import datetime

timestamp = 1528797322
date_time = datetime.fromtimestamp(timestamp)

print("Date time object:", date_time)

d = date_time.strftime("%m/%d/%Y %H:%M:%S")
print("Output 2:", d)

d = date_time.strftime("%d %b %Y")
print("Output 3:", d)

d = date_time.strftime("%d %B %Y")
print("Output 4:", d)

d = date_time.strftime("%I%p")
print("Output 5:", d)
```

Date time object: 2018-06-12 15:25:22
Output 2: 06/12/2018, 15:25:22
Output 3: 12 Jun, 2018
Output 4: 12 June, 2018
Output 5: 03PM

```
In [21]: # Locale's appropriate date and time string

from datetime import datetime

timestamp = 1528797322
date_time = datetime.fromtimestamp(timestamp)

d = date_time.strftime("%c")
print("Output 1:", d)

d = date_time.strftime("%p")
print("Output 2:", d)

d = date_time.strftime("%x")
print("Output 3:", d)
```

Output 1: Tue Jun 12 15:25:22 2018
Output 2: 06/12/18
Output 3: 15:25:22

```
In [22]: # Example 1: Python get today's date

from datetime import date

today = date.today()

print("Today's date:", today)
```

Today's date: 2021-02-25

```
In [23]: # Example 2: Current date in different formats

from datetime import date

today = date.today()

# dd/mm/YY
d1 = today.strftime("%d/%m/%Y")
print("d1 =", d1)

# Textual month, day and year
d2 = today.strftime("%B %d, %Y")
print("d2 =", d2)

# mm/dd/yyyy
d3 = today.strftime("%m/%d/%y")
print("d3 =", d3)

# Month abbreviation, day and year
d4 = today.strftime("%b-%d-%Y")
print("d4 =", d4)
```

d1 = 25/02/2021
d2 = February 25, 2021
d3 = 02/25/21
d4 = Feb-25-2021

```
In [24]: # Get the current date and time in a datetime object

from datetime import datetime

# datetime object containing current date and time
now = datetime.now()

print("now =", now)

# dd/mm/YY H:M:S
dt_string = now.strftime("%d/%m/%Y %H:%M:%S")
print("date and time =", dt_string)
```

now = 2021-02-25 17:39:16.815455
date and time = 25/02/2021 17:39:16

```
In [25]: # The sleep() function suspends the program for a given time

import time

print("This is printed immediately.")
time.sleep(2.4)
print("This is printed after 2.4 seconds.")
```

This is printed immediately.
This is printed after 2.4 seconds.

```
In [26]: # Python create a digital clock using time module

import time

while True:
    localtime = time.localtime()
    result = time.strftime("%H:%M:%S %p", localtime)
    print(result)
    time.sleep(1)
```

17:39:19 PM
17:39:20 PM
17:39:21 PM
17:39:22 PM
17:39:23 PM
17:39:24 PM
17:39:25 PM
17:39:26 PM
17:39:27 PM
17:39:28 PM
17:39:29 PM
17:39:31 PM
17:39:32 PM
17:39:33 PM
17:39:34 PM

KeyboardInterrupt
Traceback (most recent call last):
<ipython-input-26-42f3b0c3762>
a> in <module>
6 result = time.strftime("%H:%M:%S %p", localtime)
7 print(result)
----> 8 time.sleep(1)
KeyboardInterrupt:

```
In [27]: # Python create a digital clock using time module

import time

while True:
    localtime = time.localtime()
    result = time.strftime("%H:%M:%S %p", localtime)
    print(result)
    time.sleep(1)
```

17:39:48 PM
17:39:49 PM
17:39:50 PM
17:39:51 PM
17:39:52 PM
17:39:53 PM
17:39:54 PM
17:39:55 PM
17:39:56 PM
17:39:57 PM

KeyboardInterrupt
Traceback (most recent call last):
<ipython-input-27-42f3b0c3762>
a> in <module>
6 result = time.strftime("%H:%M:%S %p", localtime)
7 print(result)
----> 8 time.sleep(1)
KeyboardInterrupt:

```
In [28]: # Python create a digital clock using time module

import time

while True:
    localtime = time.localtime()
    result = time.strftime("%H:%M:%S %p", localtime)
    print(result)
    time.sleep(1)
```

17:40:01 PM
17:40:02 PM
17:40:03 PM
17:40:04 PM
17:40:05 PM
17:40:06 PM
17:40:07 PM

KeyboardInterrupt
Traceback (most recent call last):
<ipython-input-28-42f3b0c3762>
a> in <module>
6 result = time.strftime("%H:%M:%S %p", localtime)
7 print(result)
----> 8 time.sleep(1)
KeyboardInterrupt:

```
In [ ]: import time

while True:
    localtime = time.localtime()
    result = time.strftime("%H:%M:%S %p", localtime)
    print(result)
    time.sleep(1)
```

17:40:28 PM

```
In [ ]: import time

while True:
    localtime = time.localtime()
    result = time.strftime("%H:%M:%S %p", localtime)
    print(result)
    time.sleep(1)
```