Dictionary

Dictionaries are used to store data values in key:value pairs.

A dictionary is a collection which is ordered\*, changeable and do not allow duplicates.

**Dictionaries are written with curly brackets, and have keys and values:**

### Example

Create and print a dictionary:

thisdict = {  
  "brand": "Ford",  
  "model": "Mustang",  
  "year": 1964  
}  
print(thisdict)

## Dictionary Items

Dictionary items are ordered, changeable, and does not allow duplicates.

Dictionary items are presented in key:value pairs, and can be referred to by using the key name.

### Example

Print the "brand" value of the dictionary:

thisdict = {  
  "brand": "Ford",  
  "model": "Mustang",  
  "year": 1964  
}  
print(thisdict["brand"])

## Duplicates Not Allowed

Dictionaries cannot have two items with the same key:

### Example

Duplicate values will overwrite existing values:

thisdict = {  
  "brand": "Ford",  
  "model": "Mustang",  
  "year": 1964,  
  "year": 2020  
}  
print(thisdict)

## Dictionary Length

To determine how many items a dictionary has, use the len() function:

### Example

Print the number of items in the dictionary:

print(len(thisdict))

## Dictionary Items - Data Types

The values in dictionary items can be of any data type:

### Example

String, int, boolean, and list data types:

thisdict = {  
  "brand": "Ford",  
  "electric": False,  
  "year": 1964,  
  "colors": ["red", "white", "blue"]  
}

## type()

From Python's perspective, dictionaries are defined as objects with the data type 'dict':

<class 'dict'>

### Example

Print the data type of a dictionary:

thisdict = {  
  "brand": "Ford",  
  "model": "Mustang",  
  "year": 1964  
}  
print(type(thisdict))

# Python - Access Dictionary Items

Accessing Items

You can access the items of a dictionary by referring to its key name, inside square brackets:

**Example**

Get the value of the "model" key:

thisdict = {

"brand": "Ford",

"model": "Mustang",

"year": 1964

}

x = thisdict["model"]

print(x)

**There is also a method called get() that will give you the same result:**

### Example

Get the value of the "model" key:

x = thisdict.get("model")

## Get Keys

The keys() method will return a list of all the keys in the dictionary.

### Example

Get a list of the keys:

x = thisdict.keys()

The list of the keys is a view of the dictionary, meaning that any changes done to the dictionary will be reflected in the keys list.

### Example

Add a new item to the original dictionary, and see that the keys list gets updated as well:

car = {  
"brand": "Ford",  
"model": "Mustang",  
"year": 1964  
}  
  
x = car.keys()  
  
print(x) #before the change  
  
car["color"] = "white"  
  
print(x) #after the change

[Try it Yourself »](https://www.w3schools.com/python/trypython.asp?filename=demo_dict_keys2)

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## Get Values

The values() method will return a list of all the values in the dictionary.

### Example

Get a list of the values:

x = thisdict.values()

The list of the values is a view of the dictionary, meaning that any changes done to the dictionary will be reflected in the values list.

### Example

Make a change in the original dictionary, and see that the values list gets updated as well:

car = {  
"brand": "Ford",  
"model": "Mustang",  
"year": 1964  
}  
  
x = car.values()  
  
print(x) #before the change  
  
car["year"] = 2020  
  
print(x) #after the change

### Example

Add a new item to the original dictionary, and see that the values list gets updated as well:

car = {  
"brand": "Ford",  
"model": "Mustang",  
"year": 1964  
}  
  
x = car.values()  
  
print(x) #before the change  
  
car["color"] = "red"  
  
print(x) #after the change

## Get Items

The items() method will return each item in a dictionary, as tuples in a list.

### Example

Get a list of the key:value pairs

x = thisdict.items()

The returned list is a view of the items of the dictionary, meaning that any changes done to the dictionary will be reflected in the items list.

### Example

Make a change in the original dictionary, and see that the items list gets updated as well:

car = {  
"brand": "Ford",  
"model": "Mustang",  
"year": 1964  
}  
  
x = car.items()  
  
print(x) #before the change  
  
car["year"] = 2020  
  
print(x) #after the change

### Example

Add a new item to the original dictionary, and see that the items list gets updated as well:

car = {  
"brand": "Ford",  
"model": "Mustang",  
"year": 1964  
}  
  
x = car.items()  
  
print(x) #before the change  
  
car["color"] = "red"  
  
print(x) #after the change

## Check if Key Exists

To determine if a specified key is present in a dictionary use the in keyword:

### Example

Check if "model" is present in the dictionary:

thisdict = {  
  "brand": "Ford",  
  "model": "Mustang",  
  "year": 1964  
}  
if "model" in thisdict:  
  print("Yes, 'model' is one of the keys in the thisdict dictionary")

## Change Values

You can change the value of a specific item by referring to its key name:

### Example

Change the "year" to 2018:

thisdict = {  
  "brand": "Ford",  
  "model": "Mustang",  
  "year": 1964  
}  
thisdict["year"] = 2018

## Update Dictionary

The update() method will update the dictionary with the items from the given argument.

The argument must be a dictionary, or an iterable object with key:value pairs.

### Example

Update the "year" of the car by using the update() method:

thisdict = {  
  "brand": "Ford",  
  "model": "Mustang",  
  "year": 1964  
}  
thisdict.update({"year": 2020})

# Python - Add Dictionary Items

## Adding Items

Adding an item to the dictionary is done by using a new index key and assigning a value to it:

### Example

thisdict = {  
  "brand": "Ford",  
  "model": "Mustang",  
  "year": 1964  
}  
thisdict["color"] = "red"  
print(thisdict)

## Update Dictionary

The update() method will update the dictionary with the items from a given argument. If the item does not exist, the item will be added.

The argument must be a dictionary, or an iterable object with key:value pairs.

### Example

Add a color item to the dictionary by using the update() method:

thisdict = {  
  "brand": "Ford",  
  "model": "Mustang",  
  "year": 1964  
}  
thisdict.update({"color": "red"})

# Python - Remove Dictionary Items

## Removing Items

There are several methods to remove items from a dictionary:

### Example

The pop() method removes the item with the specified key name:

thisdict = {  
  "brand": "Ford",  
  "model": "Mustang",  
  "year": 1964  
}  
thisdict.pop("model")  
print(thisdict)

### Example

The popitem() method removes the last inserted item (in versions before 3.7, a random item is removed instead):

thisdict = {  
  "brand": "Ford",  
  "model": "Mustang",  
  "year": 1964  
}  
thisdict.popitem()  
print(thisdict)

### Example

The del keyword removes the item with the specified key name:

thisdict = {  
  "brand": "Ford",  
  "model": "Mustang",  
  "year": 1964  
}  
del thisdict["model"]  
print(thisdict)

### Example

The del keyword can also delete the dictionary completely:

thisdict = {  
  "brand": "Ford",  
  "model": "Mustang",  
  "year": 1964  
}  
del thisdict  
print(thisdict) #this will cause an error because "thisdict" no longer exists.

### Example

The clear() method empties the dictionary:

thisdict = {  
  "brand": "Ford",  
  "model": "Mustang",  
  "year": 1964  
}  
thisdict.clear()  
print(thisdict)

# Python - Loop Dictionaries

## Loop Through a Dictionary

You can loop through a dictionary by using a for loop.

When looping through a dictionary, the return value are the keys of the dictionary, but there are methods to return the values as well.

### Example

Print all key names in the dictionary, one by one:

for x in thisdict:  
  print(x)

### Example

Print all values in the dictionary, one by one:

for x in thisdict:  
  print(thisdict[x])

### Example

You can also use the values() method to return values of a dictionary:

for x in thisdict.values():  
  print(x)

### Example

You can use the keys() method to return the keys of a dictionary:

for x in thisdict.keys():  
  print(x)

### Example

Loop through both keys and values, by using the items() method:

for x, y in thisdict.items():  
  print(x, y)