

In Python, there are multiple ways to implement **getters and setters** in a class. Here are the main approaches:

1 Using **@property** (Recommended & Pythonic)

This is the **most Pythonic way** of defining getters and setters.

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```
class Person:
    def __init__(self, name):
        self._name = name # Private variable

    @property
    def name(self): # Getter
        return self._name

    @name.setter
    def name(self, new_name): # Setter
        if not isinstance(new_name, str):
            raise ValueError("Name must be a string")
        self._name = new_name

# Usage
p = Person("Alice")
print(p.name) # Calls the getter

p.name = "Bob" # Calls the setter
print(p.name)

# p.name = 123 # Raises ValueError
```

✓ Pros:

- ✓ More readable and **Pythonic**
- ✓ Looks like accessing an attribute (`p.name` instead of `p.get_name()`)
- ✓ Encapsulates logic inside the property

❷ Using Traditional Getter & Setter Methods (Java-Style)

This is an **older, non-Pythonic way** but is still valid.

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```
class Person:
    def __init__(self, name):
        self._name = name

    def get_name(self): # Getter
        return self._name

    def set_name(self, new_name): # Setter
        if not isinstance(new_name, str):
            raise ValueError("Name must be a string")
        self._name = new_name

# Usage
p = Person("Alice")
print(p.get_name()) # Calls the getter

p.set_name("Bob") # Calls the setter
print(p.get_name())
```

⚠ Cons:

- **Less Pythonic** (Python prefers properties over explicit getter/setter methods)
- **More verbose**

❸ Using `property()` Function (Alternative)

Instead of using `@property`, you can manually create a property using the `property()` function.

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```
class Person:
    def __init__(self, name):
        self._name = name

    def get_name(self): # Getter
        return self._name

    def set_name(self, new_name): # Setter
        if not isinstance(new_name, str):
            raise ValueError("Name must be a string")
        self._name = new_name

    # Creating a property manually
    name = property(get_name, set_name)

# Usage
p = Person("Alice")
print(p.name) # Calls the getter

p.name = "Bob" # Calls the setter
print(p.name)
```

✓ Pros:

- ✓ Similar to `@property`, but more explicit

⚠ Cons:

- **Less readable** than using `@property`

4 Using `@property` with `@name.getter` (Explicit Getter)

This is useful if you're also defining a setter and want to make it clear.

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```
class Person:
    def __init__(self, name):
```

```

        self._name = name

    @property
    def name(self):
        """Getter"""
        return self._name

    @name.getter
    def name(self):
        """Explicit getter (same as @property)"""
        return self._name

    @name.setter
    def name(self, new_name):
        """Setter"""
        if not isinstance(new_name, str):
            raise ValueError("Name must be a string")
        self._name = new_name

# Usage
p = Person("Alice")
print(p.name)  # Calls the getter

p.name = "Bob"  # Calls the setter
print(p.name)

```

✓ Pros:

- ✓ More explicit when using multiple decorators like `@setter` or `@deleter`.

5 Using `__getattr__` and `__setattr__` (Advanced & Dynamic)

This method dynamically controls attribute access.

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```

class Person:
    def __init__(self, name):
        self._name = name

    def __getattr__(self, attr): # Getter
        if attr == "name":
            return self._name
        raise AttributeError(f"{attr} not found")

    def __setattr__(self, attr, value): # Setter
        if attr == "name":
            if not isinstance(value, str):
                raise ValueError("Name must be a string")
            self.__dict__["_name"] = value # Prevent recursion
        else:
            self.__dict__[attr] = value # Default behavior

# Usage
p = Person("Alice")
print(p.name) # Calls __getattr__

p.name = "Bob" # Calls __setattr__
print(p.name)

```

✅ Pros:

✓ **More flexible**, can handle multiple attributes dynamically

⚠️ Cons:

- **Overkill** for simple cases
- **Harder to debug**

6 Using **dataclasses** (For Simple Cases)

If you just need a simple class with validation, **dataclasses** can be used.

```

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from dataclasses import dataclass

```

```

@dataclass
class Person:
    name: str

# Usage
p = Person("Alice")
print(p.name)

p.name = "Bob"
print(p.name)

```

✓ Pros:

✓ Automatic `__init__`, `__repr__`, etc.

⚠ Cons:

- No built-in validation (you'd need `__post_init__`)

🎯 Summary of Different Approaches

Method	Pythonic ?	Readability	Validation ?	Use Case
<code>@property</code> (Recommended)	✓ Yes	✓ High	✓ Yes	Best for most cases
Traditional <code>get_name()/set_name()</code>	✗ No	✗ Low	✓ Yes	Java-style, not recommended
<code>property()</code> function	✗ No	✗ Medium	✓ Yes	Alternative to <code>@property</code>
<code>@name.getter</code>	✓ Yes	✓ High	✓ Yes	If using <code>@setter/@deleter</code>
<code>__getattr__</code> & <code>__setattr__</code>	✗ No	✗ Complex	✓ Yes	Dynamic attribute handling
<code>dataclasses</code>	✓ Yes	✓ High	✗ No	Simple cases

Best Practices

- ✓ Use `@property` for clean, readable, and Pythonic code
- ✓ Use explicit getters/setters (`@radius.getter`) only when necessary
- ✓ Use `__getattr__` only when dealing with dynamic attributes
- ✓ Use `dataclasses` for simple cases where validation isn't required

Would you like me to demonstrate a real-world example of using getters and setters? 