



DateTime module

Python Datetime



Python Dates

A date in Python is not a data type of its own, but we can import a module named `datetime` to work with dates as date objects.

Import the datetime module and display the current date:

```
import datetime

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

Return the year and name of weekday:

```
import datetime

x = datetime.datetime.now()

print(x.year)
print(x.strftime("%A"))
```

Creating Date Objects

To create a date, we can use the `datetime()` class (constructor) of the `datetime` module.

The `datetime()` class requires three parameters to create a date: year, month, day.

Example

Create a date object:

```
import datetime

x = datetime.datetime(2020, 5, 17)

print(x)
```

The strftime() Method

The `datetime` object has a method for formatting date objects into readable strings.

The method is called `strftime()`, and takes one parameter, `format`, to specify the format of the returned string:

Example

Display the name of the month:

```
import datetime

x = datetime.datetime(2018, 6, 1)

print(x.strftime("%B"))
```

A reference of all the legal format codes:

Directive	Description	Example
%a	Weekday, short version	Wed
%A	Weekday, full version	Wednesday
%w	Weekday as a number 0-6, 0 is Sunday	3
%d	Day of month 01-31	31
%b	Month name, short version	Dec
%B	Month name, full version	December
%m	Month as a number 01-12	12
%y	Year, short version, without century	18
%Y	Year, full version	2018
%H	Hour 00-23	17
%I	Hour 00-12	05
%p	AM/PM	PM
%M	Minute 00-59	41

%S	Second 00-59	08
%f	Microsecond 000000-999999	548513
%z	UTC offset	+0100
%Z	Timezone	CST
%j	Day number of year 001-366	365
%U	Week number of year, Sunday as the first day of week, 00-53	52
%W	Week number of year, Monday as the first day of week, 00-53	52
%c	Local version of date and time	Mon Dec 31 17:41:00 2018
%C	Century	20
%x	Local version of date	12/31/18
%X	Local version of time	17:41:00
%%	A % character	%
%G	ISO 8601 year	2018
%u	ISO 8601 weekday (1-7)	1
%V	ISO 8601 weeknumber (01-53)	01

Example 2: Get Current Date

```
import datetime

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

Example 3: Date object to represent a date

```
import datetime

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

Example 6: Print today's year, month and day

We can get year, month, day, day of the week etc. from the date object easily. Here's how:

```
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)
```


Example 7: Time object to represent time

```
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)
```

Example 9: 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)
```