

Processing JSON in Python

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Python JSON – Complete Tutorial

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By Andrei Maksimov

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json, python, python-course

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JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) is a popular data format representing structured data. It is used extensively in APIs and web applications. You can use the built-in Python JSON module that provides all the necessary methods for working with JSON data. This article covers the standard Python JSON module and explains how to parse, serialize, deserialize, encode, decode, and pretty-print its data.

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What is JSON?

JSON is a popular lightweight data-interchange format inspired by JavaScript object syntax format specified by [RFC 7159](#) and [ECMA-404](#). The

primary purpose of JSON format is to store and transfer data between the browser and the server, but it is widely used by microservice APIs for data exchange.

JSON syntax

The syntax of JSON is straightforward. It is built on top of two simple structures:

- A collection of name/value pairs (in Python, they are represented as a Python dictionary).
- An ordered [list](#) of values.

Here are examples of these simple universal data structures.

Collection of name/value pairs

Name/value pairs form a [JSON object](#) which is described using curly braces `{ }`. You can define a JSON object in the formatted form:

```
{  
    "name": "James",  
    "gender": "male"  
    "age": 32  
}
```

Or as a single string (both objects are the same):

```
{"name": "James", "gender": "male", "age": 32}
```

An ordered list of values

An ordered list of items is defined using the square brackets `[]` and holds any values separated by a comma `(,)`:

```
[  
    "Apple",  
    "Banana",  
    "Cherry"  
]
```

The same ordered list of items can be defined as a single string:

```
["Apple", "Banana", "Cherry"]
```

JSON constraints

JSON format has several constraints:

- The `name` in name/value pairs must be defined as a string in double quotes (`" "`).
- The `value` must be of the valid [JSON data type](#):
 - **String** – several plain text characters
 - **Number** – an integer
 - **Object** – a collection of JSON key/value pairs
 - **Array** – an ordered list of values
 - **Boolean** – `true` or `false`
 - **Null** – empty object
- Valid JSON object can't contain other data types, for example, `datetime`

What does JSON data look like?

Here's an example of JSON data structure:

```
{  
    "firstname": "Kamil",  
    "lastname": "Abdurahim",  
    "age": 43,  
    "speaks_languages": ["English", "French", "Amharic"],  
    "programming_languages": {  
        "Python": 10,  
        "C++": 5,  
        "Java": 6  
    }  
}
```

```

        },
        "good_writer": false,
        "finished_this_article": null
    }
}

```

Working with Python JSON module

JSON is a standard data exchange format used by many programming languages, including Python. JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) represents data in a human-readable text format and is easy for computers to process. Python provides a built-in module called `JSON` to work with JSON data. The `JSON` module allows you to convert Python objects into JSON strings and back up again. It also provides methods for loading and saving JSON files.

In addition, the `json` module can also be used to convert Python dictionaries into JSON objects, it contains methods for processing JSON data, including the following operations: parsing, serializing, deserializing, encoding, decoding, and pretty-printing. Overall, the `json` module makes it easy to work with JSON data in Python programming language.

Serializing Python objects to JSON format

Serialization is translating a data structure into a format that can be stored, transmitted, and reconstructed later. Applicable to Python, serialization means that we will translate [Python basic data types](#) to JSON format. The `json` module can convert [Python dictionaries or lists objects](#) into a JSON format (string).

Here's how Python `json` module handles the serialization process:

Python class	JSON type
int, long, float	number
str	string
True	true
False	false
list, tuple	array
dict	object
None	null

Python to JSON object and data type translation

There're two methods available in the Python `json` module to handle the serialization process:

- `dump()` – converts Python object as a JSON formatted `stream` (usually used to save JSON data to the file)
- `dumps()` – converts Python object as a JSON formatted `string` (produces a [Python string object](#) which contains JSON data)

Serializing Python data using `dump()`

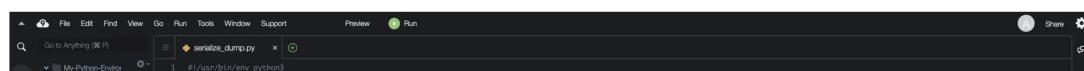
Here's an example of serializing Python data structure to the JSON stream using the `dump()` method:

```

#!/usr/bin/env python3
import json
import pathlib
BASE_DIR = pathlib.Path(__file__).parent.resolve()
FILES_DIR = f"{BASE_DIR}/files"
python_data = {
    "user": {
        "name": "kamil",
        "age": 43,
        "Place": "Ethiopia",
        "gender": "male"
    }
}
# saving Python dictionary object to JSON file
with open(f"{FILES_DIR}/json_data.json", "w") as file_stream:
    json.dump(python_data, file_stream)
    file_stream.write('\n')

```

Here's an execution output:



DWS

- > python
 - > | bot03_introduction
 - > | conditionals
 - > | examples-python-pro
 - > | functions
 - > | hello_aws_world
 - > | loops
 - > | python_syntax
 - > | set1_list_objects
 - > | sets
 - > | string_operations
 - > | switch_case_examp
 - > | tuples
 - > | working_with_ams
 - > | working_with_ec2_in
 - > | working_with_json
- > files
 - > | json_data.json
 - > | serialize_dump.py
 - > | working_with_sq
 - > | working_with_snap
 - > | working_with_sns_h
 - > | working_with_volum
 - > | terraform

```
3 import json
4 import pathlib
5
6 BASE_DIR = pathlib.Path(__file__).parent.resolve()
7 FILES_DIR = f'{BASE_DIR}/files'
8
9 python_data = [
10     {
11         "user": {
12             "name": "kamal",
13             "age": 43,
14             "place": "Ethiopia",
15             "gender": "male"
16         }
17     }
18 ]
19 with open(f'{FILES_DIR}/json_data.json', 'w') as file_stream:
20     json.dump(python_data, file_stream)
21     file_stream.write("\n")
22 |
```

21:1 Python Spaces: 4

bash *-p-172-31-29-135 x Immediate Javascript (bro x) ⌂

```
admin@environment:~/python/working_with_json$ python3 serialize_dump.py
admin@environment:~/python/working_with_json$ cat files/json_data.json
{"user": {"name": "kamal", "age": 43, "place": "Ethiopia", "gender": "male"}}
admin@environment:~/python/working_with_json$
```

AWS: Not connected

Serializing Python data using dumps()

Here's an example of serializing Python data structure to the JSON formatted Python string using the `dumps()` method:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
import json
import pathlib
BASE_DIR = pathlib.Path(__file__).parent.resolve()
FILES_DIR = f'{BASE_DIR}/files'
python_data = {
    "user": {
        "name": " kamil",
        "age": 43,
        "Place": "Ethiopia",
        "gender": "male"
    }
}
json_string = json.dumps(python_data)
print(f'JSON string: {json_string}')
```

Here's an execution output:

The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook environment with the following details:

- File Bar:** File, Edit, Find, View, Go, Run, Tools, Window, Support.
- Preview Bar:** Preview, Run.
- Sidebar:** Go to Anything (F6), My Python Env (with a gear icon), and a list of Python-related notebooks and files.
- Main Area:** A code editor window containing a Python script named `serialize.dumps.py`. The code defines a function `serialize.dumps()` that takes a dictionary and returns its JSON string representation.
- Terminal Cell:** A terminal window titled "bash - [ip-172-31-29-135]" showing the execution of the script. The command `python3 serialize.dumps.py` is run, and the output is a JSON string: `{"user": {"name": "kamil", "age": 43, "Place": "Ethiopia", "gender": "male"}}`.
- Status Bar:** 21:1 Python Spaces: 4

Deserializing JSON data to Python object

The deserialization process is the opposite of serialization. It converts JSON data into a [Python list](#) or [dictionary object](#).

Here's how Python `json` module handles the deserialization process:



Type	Python class
null	None
true	True
false	False
number (int)	int
number (real)	float
array	list
string	str
object	dict

JSON to Python object data type translation

There're two methods available in the Python `json` module to handle the deserialization process:

- `load()` – converts a JSON formatted `stream` to a Python object
- `loads()` – converts a JSON formatted `string` to a Python object

Deserializing stream using `load()`

To deserialize the JSON formatted stream to a Python object, you need to use the `load()` method:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
import json
import pathlib
BASE_DIR = pathlib.Path(__file__).parent.resolve()
FILES_DIR = f'{BASE_DIR}/files'
python_data = None
with open(f'{FILES_DIR}/json_data.json', "r") as file_stream:
    python_data = json.load(file_stream)

print(f'Deserialized data type: {type(python_data)}')
print(f'Deserialized data: {python_data}'
```

Here's an execution output:

```
# Go to Anything (⌘+P)
File Edit Find View Go Run Tools Window Support Preview Run
Go to Anything (⌘+P) deserialize_load.py
My-Python-Envir...
python
bot03_introduction
conditional
example_python_pro...
functions
hello_ave_world
loops
python_syntax
s3_list_objects
sets
string_operations
switch_case_exampl...
tuples
working_with_arri...
working_with_ec2_in...
working_with_json
files
json_data.json
deserialize_load.py
serialize_dump.py
serialize_dumps.py
working_with_s3d
working_with_s3f
working_with_secrets
working_with_volumes
environment

batch-4p-172-31-29-135 ✘ immediate JavaScript (bro X)
admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $ admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $ python3 deserialize_load.py
admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $ 
Deserialized data: {'user': {'name': 'kamil', 'age': 43, 'Place': 'Ethiopia', 'gender': 'male'}}
admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $ 
```

Deserializing string using `loads()`

To deserialize JSON formatted string to a Python object, you need to use the `loads()` method:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
import json
import pathlib
BASE_DIR = pathlib.Path(__file__).parent.resolve()
FILES_DIR = f'{BASE_DIR}/files'
python_data = None
# read JSON file
with open(f'{FILES_DIR}/json_data.json', "r") as file_stream:
```

```

data = file_stream.read()

print(f'data variable type: {type(data)}')
print(f'data variable content: {data}')
python_data = json.loads(data)

print(f'Deserialized data type: {type(python_data)}')
print(f'Deserialized data: {python_data}')

```

Here's an execution output:

The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook environment. On the left, there is a sidebar with a tree view of files and a search bar. The main area contains a code cell with the following Python script:

```

# !/usr/bin/env python3
import json
import pathlib
BASE_DIR = pathlib.Path(__file__).parent.resolve()
FILES_DIR = f'{BASE_DIR}/files'
python_data = None
with open(f'{FILES_DIR}/json_data.json', "r") as file_stream:
    data = file_stream.read()
    print(f'data variable type: {type(data)}')
    print(f'data variable content: {data}')
    python_data = json.loads(data)
print(f'Deserialized data type: {type(python_data)}')
print(f'Deserialized data: {python_data}')

```

Below the code cell is an output cell showing the results of the execution:

```

data variable type: <class 'str'>
data variable content: {"user": {"name": "kamli", "age": 43, "Place": "Ethiopia", "gender": "male"}}

Deserialized data type: <class 'dict'>
Deserialized data: {'user': {'name': 'kamli', 'age': 43, 'Place': 'Ethiopia', 'gender': 'male'}}

```

Reading JSON data in Python

Depending on the JSON data source type (JSON formatted string or JSON formatted stream), there're two methods available in Python [json](#) module to handle the read operation:

- **load()** – reads a JSON formatted [stream](#) and creates a Python object out of it
- **loads()** – reads a JSON formatted [string](#) and creates a Python object out of it

Reading data from a file using load()

You need to use the `.load()` method to read the JSON formatted stream and convert it into a Python object. JSON formatted stream is returned by the Python built-in `open()` method. For more information about file operations, we recommend the [Working with Files in Python](#) article.

```

#!/usr/bin/env python3
import json
import pathlib
BASE_DIR = pathlib.Path(__file__).parent.resolve()
FILES_DIR = f'{BASE_DIR}/files'
python_data = None
with open(f'{FILES_DIR}/json_data.json', "r") as file_stream:
    python_data = json.load(file_stream)

print(f'Python data: {python_data}')

```

Here's an execution output:

The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook environment. On the left, there is a sidebar with a tree view of files and a search bar. The main area contains a code cell with the following Python script:

```

# !/usr/bin/env python3
import json
import pathlib
BASE_DIR = pathlib.Path(__file__).parent.resolve()
FILES_DIR = f'{BASE_DIR}/files'
python_data = None
with open(f'{FILES_DIR}/json_data.json', "r") as file_stream:
    python_data = json.load(file_stream)
print(f'Python data: {python_data}')

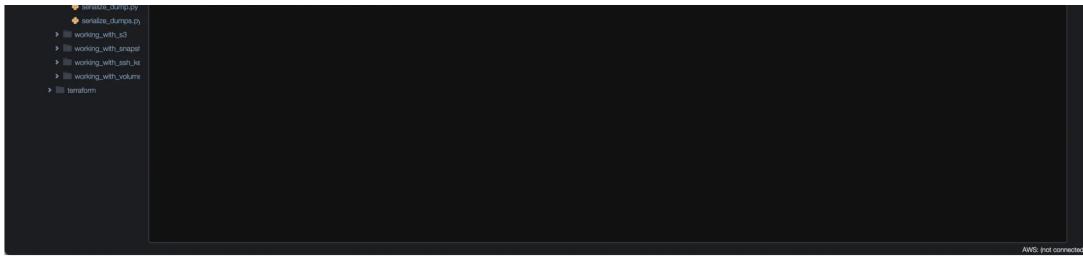
```

Below the code cell is an output cell showing the results of the execution:

```

Python data: {'user': {'name': 'kamli', 'age': 43, 'Place': 'Ethiopia', 'gender': 'male'}}

```



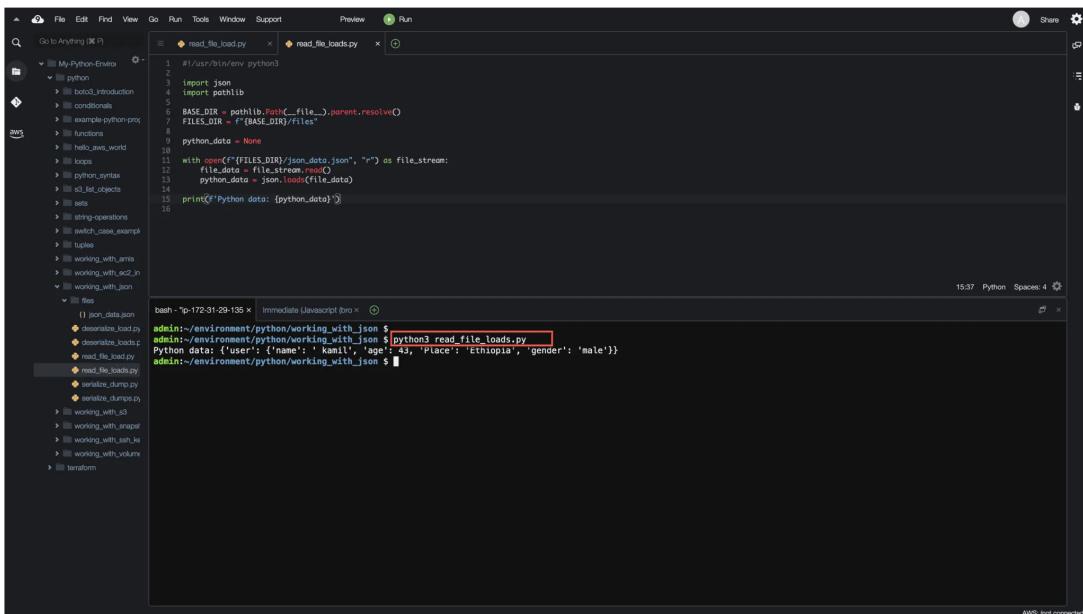
Reading data from files using loads()

You need to use the `loads()` method to read the JSON formatted string and convert it into a Python object. JSON formatted string can be obtained from the file using the Python built-in `open()` method. We recommend the [Working with Files in Python](#) article for more information about file operations.

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
import json
import pathlib
BASE_DIR = pathlib.Path(__file__).parent.resolve()
FILES_DIR = f'{BASE_DIR}/files'
python_data = None
with open(f'{FILES_DIR}/json_data.json', "r") as file_stream:
    python_data = json.load(file_stream)

print(f'Python data: {python_data}')
```

Here's an execution output:



Writing JSON data into a file in Python

Depending on the JSON data type (JSON formatted string or JSON formatted stream), there're two methods available in Python `json` module to handle the write operation:

- `dump()` – converts Python object as a JSON formatted stream (usually used to save data straight to the file)
 - `dumps()` – converts Python object as a JSON formatted string (produces a [Python string object](#) which can be written to the file)

Writing data into the file using dump()

To write the JSON formatted stream to a file, you need to use the `json.dump()` method in combination with the Python built-in `open()` method.

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
import json
import pathlib
BASE_DIR = pathlib.Path(__file__).parent.resolve()
FILES_DIR = f"{BASE_DIR}/files"
python_data = {
    "user": {
```

```

        "name": " kamil",
        "age": 43,
        "Place": "Ethiopia",
        "gender": "male"
    }
}

with open(f"{FILES_DIR}/json_data.json", "w") as file_stream:
    json.dump(python_data, file_stream)
    file_stream.write('\n')

```

Here's an example output:

The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook environment. On the left, there is a tree view of files and notebooks. In the center, a code cell contains Python code to write JSON data to a file. Below the code cell is a terminal window showing the command being run and its output.

```

# File Edit Find View Go Run Tools Window Support Preview Run
Go To Anything (⌘P) write_file_dump.py
My-Python-Envir ...
python
boto3.introduction
conditionals
example-python-prog
functions
hello_aws_world
loops
python_syntax
id_list_objects
sets
string_operations
switch_case_examp
tuples
working_with_dicts
working_with_ec2_in
working_with_json
files
json_data.json
deserialize_load.py
deserialize_load_ip
read_file_load.py
read_file_load_ip
serialize_dump.py
serialize_dumps.py
write_file_dump.py
working_with_s3
working_with_snmp
working_with_sns_ip
working_with_volumes
versionform

21:1 Python Spaces: 4
AWS: Not connected

```

```

#!/usr/bin/env python3
import json
import pathlib
BASE_DIR = pathlib.Path(__file__).parent.resolve()
FILES_DIR = f"{BASE_DIR}/files"
python_data = {
    "user": {
        "name": " kamil",
        "age": 43,
        "Place": "Ethiopia",
        "gender": "male"
    }
}
with open(f"{FILES_DIR}/json_data.json", "w") as file_stream:
    json.dump(python_data, file_stream)
    file_stream.write('\n')

```

```

bash - *ip-172-31-29-135* Immediate Javascript (bro x)
admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $ python3 write_file_dump.py
admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $ python3 write_file_dump.py
admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $ cat files/json_data.json
{"user": {"name": " kamil", "age": 43, "Place": "Ethiopia", "gender": "male"}}
admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $ 

```

Writing data into files using dumps()

To write the JSON formatted string into a file, you need to use the `json.dumps()` method in combination with the Python built-in `open()` method.

```

#!/usr/bin/env python3
import json
import pathlib
BASE_DIR = pathlib.Path(__file__).parent.resolve()
FILES_DIR = f"{BASE_DIR}/files"
python_data = {
    "user": {
        "name": " kamil",
        "age": 43,
        "Place": "Ethiopia",
        "gender": "male"
    }
}
with open(f"{FILES_DIR}/json_data.json", "w") as file_stream:
    file_stream.write(json.dumps(python_data))
    file_stream.write('\n')

```

Here's an example output:

The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook environment. On the left, there is a tree view of files and notebooks. In the center, a code cell contains Python code to write JSON data to a file using `json.dumps()`. Below the code cell is a terminal window showing the command being run and its output.

```

# File Edit Find View Go Run Tools Window Support Preview Run
Go To Anything (⌘P) write_file_dumps.py
My-Python-Envir ...
python
boto3.introduction
conditionals
example-python-prog
functions
hello_aws_world
loops
python_syntax
id_list_objects
sets
string_operations
switch_case_examp
tuples
working_with_dicts
working_with_ec2_in
working_with_json
files
json_data.json
deserialize_load.py
deserialize_load_ip
read_file_load.py
read_file_load_ip
serialize_dump.py
serialize_dumps.py
write_file_dump.py
working_with_s3
working_with_snmp
working_with_sns_ip
working_with_volumes
versionform

21:1 Python Spaces: 4
AWS: Not connected

```

```

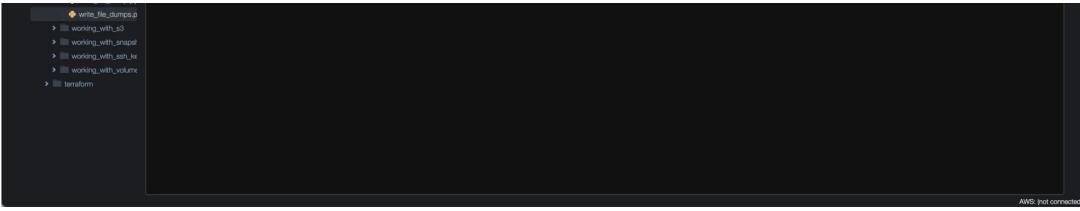
#!/usr/bin/env python3
import json
import pathlib
BASE_DIR = pathlib.Path(__file__).parent.resolve()
FILES_DIR = f"{BASE_DIR}/files"
python_data = {
    "user": {
        "name": " kamil",
        "age": 43,
        "Place": "Ethiopia",
        "gender": "male"
    }
}
with open(f"{FILES_DIR}/json_data.json", "w") as file_stream:
    file_stream.write(json.dumps(python_data))
    file_stream.write('\n')

```

```

bash - *ip-172-31-29-135* Immediate Javascript (bro x)
admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $ python3 write_file_dumps.py
admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $ python3 write_file_dumps.py
admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $ cat files/json_data.json
{"user": {"name": " kamil", "age": 43, "Place": "Ethiopia", "gender": "male"}}
admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $ 

```



Encoding and decoding custom JSON objects in Python

Although the `json` module can handle most built-in Python types. It doesn't understand how to encode custom data types by default. If you need to encode a custom object, you can extend a `JSONEncoder` class and override its `default()` method. This method is used to JSONify custom objects.

Example of custom object encoding in Python

Let's take a look at the example. Suppose you have a couple of user-defined classes: a `Student` and an `Address`. And you want to serialize them to a JSON document.

That's how you can do it:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
import json
from json import JSONEncoder

class Student:
    def __init__(self, name, age, address):
        self.name = name
        self.age = age
        self.address = address

class Address:
    def __init__(self, city, street, zipcode):
        self.city = city
        self.street = street
        self.zipcode = zipcode

class EncodeStudent(JSONEncoder):
    def default(self, o):    # pylint: disable=E0202
        return o.__dict__

address = Address(city="New York", street="475 48th Ave", zipcode="11109")
student = Student(name="Andrei", age=34, address=address)
student_JSON = json.dumps(student, indent=4, cls=EncodeStudent)
print(student_JSON)
```

Here's an example output:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
import json
from json import JSONEncoder

class Student:
    def __init__(self, name, age, address):
        self.name = name
        self.age = age
        self.address = address

class Address:
    def __init__(self, city, street, zipcode):
        self.city = city
        self.street = street
        self.zipcode = zipcode

class EncodeStudent(JSONEncoder):
    def default(self, o):    # pylint: disable=E0202
        return o.__dict__

address = Address(city="New York", street="475 48th Ave", zipcode="11109")
student = Student(name="Andrei", age=34, address=address)
student_JSON = json.dumps(student, indent=4, cls=EncodeStudent)
print(student_JSON)
```

Example of custom object decoding in Python

If you need to convert the JSON document into some other Python object (i.e., not the default dictionary), the simplest way of doing that is to use the `SimpleNamespace` class and the `object_hook` argument of the `load()` or the `loads()` method.

The

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
import json
from types import SimpleNamespace
json_document = """
{
    "name": "Andrei",
    "age": 34,
    "address": {
        "city": "New York",
        "street": "475 48th Ave",
        "zipcode": "11109"
    }
}
"""
student = json.loads(json_document, object_hook=lambda d: SimpleNamespace(**d))
print(f'*25')
print(f'Student information:')
print(f'*25')
print(f'  Name: {student.name}')
print(f'  Age: {student.age}')
print(f'  Address:')
print(f'    Street: {student.address.street}')
print(f'    City: {student.address.city}')
print(f'    Zip: {student.address.zipcode}')
```

Here's an example output:

The screenshot shows a terminal window with the following content:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
import json
from types import SimpleNamespace
json_document = """
{
    "name": "Andrei",
    "age": 34,
    "address": {
        "city": "New York",
        "street": "475 48th Ave",
        "zipcode": "11109"
    }
}
"""
student = json.loads(json_document, object_hook=lambda d: SimpleNamespace(**d))
print(f'*25')
print(f'Student information:')
print(f'*25')
print(f'  Name: {student.name}')
print(f'  Age: {student.age}')
print(f'  Address:')
print(f'    Street: {student.address.street}')
print(f'    City: {student.address.city}')
print(f'    Zip: {student.address.zipcode}')

29:1 Python Spaces:4
admin@ip-172-31-29-135:~/environment/python/working_with_json$ python3 custom_objects_decode.py
=====
Student information:
=====
Name: Andrei
Age: 34
Address:
  Street: 475 48th Ave
  City: New York
  Zip: 11109
admin@ip-172-31-29-135:~/environment/python/working_with_json$
```

How to pretty print JSON data in Python?

There are two methods available for you to print a pretty JSON message:

- Use `indent` argument of the `dumps()` method – this is an ideal option when you're printing JSON messages from your Python code
- Use the `json.tool` module – you can use this method when you need to format a JSON message in your shell

Pretty printing JSON using `dumps()`

Pretty printing JSON using the `dumps()` method is straightforward:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
import json
json_document = """
{
    "name": "Andrei",
    "age": 34,
```

```

        "address": {
            "city": "New York",
            "street": "475 48th Ave",
            "zipcode": "11109"
        }
    }
    .....
data = json.loads(json_document)
print('Pretty printed JSON:')
print(json.dumps(data, indent=4))

```

The `indent` argument defines an **indentation** (number or spaces) for JSON objects during the print operation.

Here's an execution output:

The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook environment. On the left, there is a file tree for a 'My Python Env' directory containing various Python files like 'pretty_print.py', 'read_file_load.py', etc. In the center, a code cell contains the following Python code:

```

1 #!/usr/bin/env python
2
3 import json
4
5 json_document = """
6     {
7         "name": "Andrei",
8         "age": 43,
9         "address": {
10             "city": "New York",
11             "street": "475 48th Ave",
12             "zipcode": "11109"
13         }
14     }
15 """
16
17 data = json.loads(json_document)
18
19 print('Pretty printed JSON:')
20 print(json.dumps(data, indent=4))
21

```

Below the code cell, the terminal output shows the execution of the script and the resulting pretty-printed JSON:

```

admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $ python3 pretty_print.py
Pretty printed JSON:
{
    "name": "Andrei",
    "age": 43,
    "address": {
        "city": "New York",
        "street": "475 48th Ave",
        "zipcode": "11109"
    }
}
admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $

```

Pretty printing JSON using `json.tools` module

To format JSON documents in your shell without using third-party tools, you can use `json.tool` Python module:

```
cat json_document.json | python3 -m json.tool
```

Here's an example:

The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook environment. On the left, there is a file tree for a 'My Python Env' directory containing various Python files like 'pretty_print.py', 'read_file_load.py', etc. In the center, a code cell contains the following Python code:

```

1 #!/usr/bin/env python
2
3 import json
4
5 json_data = """
6     {
7         "user": {
8             "name": " kamil",
9             "age": 43,
10            "Place": "Ethiopia",
11            "gender": "male"
12        }
13    }
14 """
15
16

```

Below the code cell, the terminal output shows the execution of the script and the resulting formatted JSON:

```

admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $ cat files/json_data.json
{
    "user": {
        "name": " kamil",
        "age": 43,
        "Place": "Ethiopia",
        "gender": "male"
    }
}
admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $ cat files/json_data.json | python3 -m json.tool
{
    "user": {
        "name": " kamil",
        "age": 43,
        "Place": "Ethiopia",
        "gender": "male"
    }
}
admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $

```

How to sort JSON keys in Python?

When you need to sort JSON keys (sort JSON objects by name), you can set the `sort_keys` argument to `True` in the `dumps()` method:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
import json
json_document = """
{
    "name": "Andrei",
    "age": 34,
    "address": {
        "city": "New York",
        "street": "475 48th Ave",
        "zipcode": "11109"
    }
}
"""

data = json.loads(json_document)
print('Pretty printed JSON:')
print(json.dumps(data, indent=4, sort_keys=True))
```

Here's an execution output:

The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook environment with the following details:

- File Bar:** File, Edit, Find, View, Go, Run, Tools, Window, Support, Preview, Run.
- Share Button:** Top right corner.
- SWS Sidebar:** Shows a tree view of the user's workspace, including My-Python-Enviro, My-Python-Enviro, sort_keys.py, and several sub-directories like boto3, introduction, conditionals, etc.
- Code Cell:** The cell contains Python code for reading a JSON file and printing its contents in a pretty-printed format.

```
sort_keys.py
1 import json
2
3 json_document = """
4     {
5         "name": "Andrei",
6         "age": 34,
7         "address": {
8             "city": "New York",
9             "street": "475 48th Ave",
10            "zipcode": "11189"
11        }
12    }"""
13
14 """
15 """
16
17 data = json.loads(json_document)
18
19 print(json.dumps(data, indent=4))
20 print(json.dumps(data, indent=4, sort_keys=True))
```
- Bash Terminal:** Shows a command-line session for running the script.

```
bash *p-172-31-29-195 x Immediate Javascript (bro) x
admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $ admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $ python3 sort_keys.py
Pretty printed JSON:
{
    "address": {
        "city": "New York",
        "street": "475 48th Ave",
        "zipcode": "11189"
    },
    "age": 34,
    "name": "Andrei"
}
admin:~/environment/python/working_with_json $
```
- Bottom Status Bar:** 21:1 Python Spaces: 4

Summary

This article covered the basics and advanced JSON processing techniques in Python, including parsing, serializing, deserializing, encoding, decoding, and pretty-printing JSON data using Python. An ability to process JSON in Python is a must-have hands-on skill for every AWS automation engineer, for example, when you need to deal with [DynamoDB stream processing](#) in your AWS Lambda function.



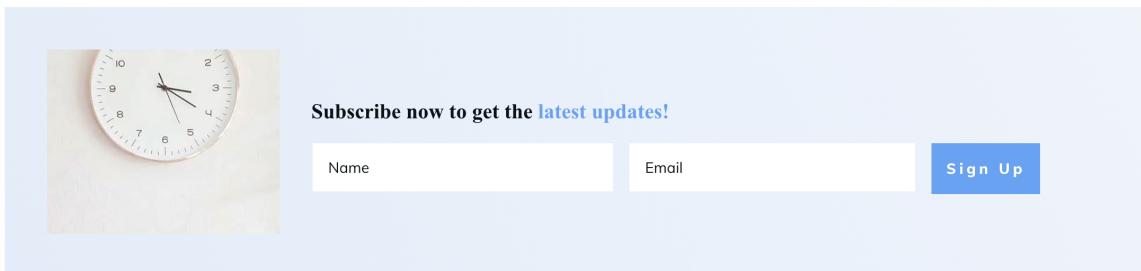
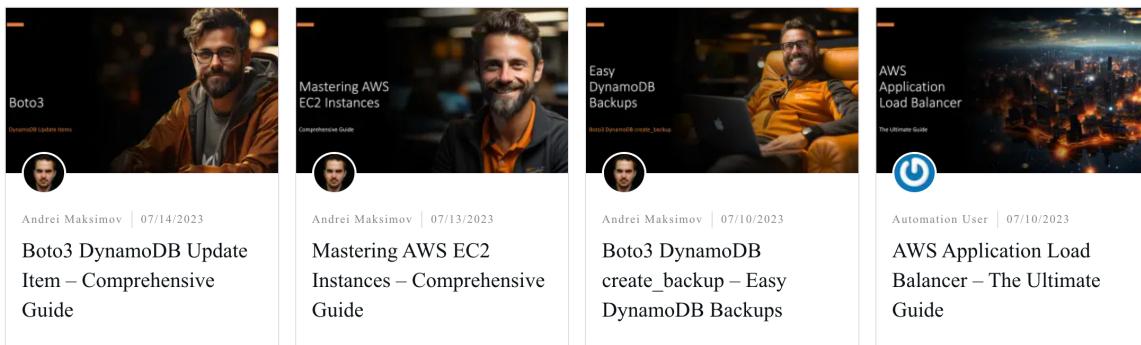
Andrei Maksimov



I'm a passionate Cloud Infrastructure Architect with more than 20 years of experience in IT. In addition to the tech, I'm covering Personal Finance topics at <https://amaksimov.com>.

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CONTACT

600 Broadway, Ste 200
#6771, Albany, New York,
12207, US
 929-990-3387
 info@hands-on.cloud