**Pattern Syntax**

You can use the following symbols in your formatting pattern:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| G | Era designator (before christ, after christ) |
| y | Year (e.g. 12 or 2012). Use either yy or yyyy. |
| M | Month in year. Number of M's determine length of format (e.g. MM, MMM or MMMMM) |
| d | Day in month. Number of d's determine length of format (e.g. d or dd) |
| h | Hour of day, 1-12 (AM / PM) (normally hh) |
| H | Hour of day, 0-23 (normally HH) |
| m | Minute in hour, 0-59 (normally mm) |
| s | Second in minute, 0-59 (normally ss) |
| S | Millisecond in second, 0-999 (normally SSS) |
| E | Day in week (e.g Monday, Tuesday etc.) |
| D | Day in year (1-366) |
| F | Day of week in month (e.g. 1st Thursday of December) |
| w | Week in year (1-53) |
| W | Week in month (0-5) |
| a | AM / PM marker |
| k | Hour in day (1-24, unlike HH's 0-23) |
| K | Hour in day, AM / PM (0-11) |
| z | Time Zone |
| ' | Escape for text delimiter |
| ' | Single quote |

**Pattern Examples**

Here are a few Java SimpleDateFormat date pattern examples:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Pattern** | **Example** |
| dd-MM-yy | 31-01-12 |
| dd-MM-yyyy | 31-01-2012 |
| MM-dd-yyyy | 01-31-2012 |
| yyyy-MM-dd | 2012-01-31 |
| yyyy-MM-dd HH:mm:ss | 2012-01-31 23:59:59 |
| yyyy-MM-dd HH:mm:ss.SSS | 2012-01-31 23:59:59.999 |
| yyyy-MM-dd HH:mm:ss.SSSZ | 2012-01-31 23:59:59.999+0100 |
| EEEEE MMMMM yyyy HH:mm:ss.SSSZ | Saturday November 2012 10:45:42.720+0100 |