

Search the docs ...

Input/output

General functions

Series

DataFrame

[pandas.DataFrame](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.index](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.columns](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.dtypes](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.info](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.select_dtypes](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.values](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.axes](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.ndim](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.size](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.shape](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.memory_usage](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.empty](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.set_flags](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.astype](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.convert_dtype](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.infer_objects](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.copy](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.bool](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.head](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.at](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.iat](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.loc](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.iloc](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.insert](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.iter](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.items](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.iteritems](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.keys](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.iterrows](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.itertuples](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.lookup](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.pop](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.tail](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.xs](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.get](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.isin](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.where](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.mask](#)

[pandas.DataFrame.query](#)

pandas.DataFrame.head

[source]

`DataFrame.head(n=5)`

Return the first *n* rows.

This function returns the first *n* rows for the object based on position. It is useful for quickly testing if your object has the right type of data in it.

For negative values of *n*, this function returns all rows except the last *n* rows, equivalent to `df[:-n]`.

Parameters: *n* : *int*, *default 5*
Number of rows to select.

Returns: *same type as caller*
The first *n* rows of the caller object.

See also

[DataFrame.tail](#)
Returns the last *n* rows.

Examples

```
>>> df = pd.DataFrame({'animal': ['alligator', 'bee', 'falcon', 'lion',
...                               'monkey', 'parrot', 'shark', 'whale', 'zebra']})
>>> df
   animal
0  alligator
1      bee
2   falcon
3    lion
4   monkey
5   parrot
6   shark
7   whale
8   zebra
```

Viewing the first 5 lines

```
>>> df.head()
   animal
0  alligator
1      bee
2   falcon
3    lion
4   monkey
```

Viewing the first *n* lines (three in this case)

```
>>> df.head(3)
   animal
0  alligator
1      bee
2   falcon
```

For negative values of *n*

```
>>> df.head(-3)
   animal
0  alligator
1      bee
2   falcon
3    lion
4   monkey
5   parrot
```

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