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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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