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## pandas.read\_csv

```
pandas.read_csv(filepath_or_buffer, sep=NoDefault.no_default, delimiter=None,
header='infer', names=NoDefault.no_default, index_col=None, usecols=None,
squeeze=None, prefix=NoDefault.no_default, mangle_dupe_cols=True, dtype=None,
engine=None, converters=None, true_values=None, false_values=None,
skipinitialspace=False, skiprows=None, skipfooter=0, nrows=None, na_values=None,
keep_default_na=True, na_filter=True, verbose=False, skip_blank_lines=True,
parse_dates=None, infer_datetime_format=False, keep_date_col=False, date_parser=None,
dayfirst=False, cache_dates=True, iterator=False, chunksize=None,
compression='infer', thousands=None, decimal='.', lineterminator=None, quotechar='"',
quoting=0, doublequote=True, escapechar=None, comment=None, encoding=None,
encoding_errors='strict', dialect=None, error_bad_lines=None, warn_bad_lines=None,
on_bad_lines=None, delim_whitespace=False, low_memory=True, memory_map=False,
float_precision=None, storage_options=None)
```

[\[source\]](#)

Read a comma-separated values (csv) file into DataFrame.

Also supports optionally iterating or breaking of the file into chunks.

Additional help can be found in the online docs for [IO Tools](#).

**Parameters: `filepath_or_buffer` : str, path object or file-like object**

Any valid string path is acceptable. The string could be a URL. Valid URL schemes include http, ftp, s3, gs, and file. For file URLs, a host is expected. A local file could be: `file://localhost/path/to/table.csv`.

If you want to pass in a path object, pandas accepts any `os.PathLike`.

By file-like object, we refer to objects with a `read()` method, such as a file handle (e.g. via builtin `open` function) or `StringIO`.

**`sep` : str, default `','`**

Delimiter to use. If `sep` is `None`, the C engine cannot automatically detect the separator, but the Python parsing engine can, meaning the latter will be used and automatically detect the separator by Python's builtin sniffer tool, `csv.Sniffer`. In addition, separators longer than 1 character and different from `'\s+'` will be interpreted as regular expressions and will also force the use of the Python parsing engine. Note that regex delimiters are prone to ignoring quoted data. Regex example: `'\r\t'`.

**`delimiter` : str, default `None`**

Alias for `sep`.

**`header` : int, list of int, None, default `'infer'`**

Row number(s) to use as the column names, and the start of the data. Default behavior is to infer the column names: if no names are passed the behavior is identical to `header=0` and column names are inferred from the first line of the file, if column names are passed explicitly then the behavior is identical to `header=None`. Explicitly pass `header=0` to be able to replace existing names. The header can be a list of integers that specify row locations for a multi-index on the columns e.g. `[0,1,3]`. Intervening rows that are not specified will be skipped (e.g. 2 in this example is skipped). Note that this parameter ignores commented lines and empty lines if `skip_blank_lines=True`, so `header=0` denotes the first line of data rather than the first line of the file.

**`names` : array-like, optional**

List of column names to use. If the file contains a header row, then you should explicitly pass `header=0` to override the column names. Duplicates in this list are not allowed.

**`index_col` : int, str, sequence of int / str, or False, optional, default `None`**

Column(s) to use as the row labels of the `DataFrame`, either given as string name or column index. If a sequence of int / str is given, a `MultiIndex` is used.

Note: `index_col=False` can be used to force pandas to *not* use the first column as the index, e.g. when you have a malformed file with delimiters at the end of each line.

**`usecols` : list-like or callable, optional**

Return a subset of the columns. If list-like, all elements must either be positional (i.e. integer indices into the document columns) or strings that correspond to column names provided either by the user in `names` or inferred from the document header row(s). If `names` are given, the document header row(s) are not taken into account. For example, a valid list-like `usecols` parameter would be `[0, 1, 2]` or `['foo', 'bar', 'baz']`. Element order is ignored, so `usecols=[0, 1]` is the same as `[1, 0]`. To instantiate a `DataFrame` from `data` with element order preserved use `pd.read_csv(data, usecols=['foo', 'bar'])[['foo', 'bar']]` for columns in `['foo', 'bar']` order or `pd.read_csv(data, usecols=['foo', 'bar'])[['bar', 'foo']]` for `['bar', 'foo']` order.

If callable, the callable function will be evaluated against the column names, returning names where the callable function evaluates to `True`. An example of a valid callable argument would be `lambda x: x.upper() in ['AAA', 'BBB', 'DDD']`. Using this parameter results in much faster parsing time and lower memory usage.

**`squeeze` : bool, default `False`**

If the parsed data only contains one column then return a `Series`.

**❗ *Deprecated since version 1.4.0:*** Append `.squeeze("columns")` to the call to `read_csv` to squeeze the data.

**prefix : str, optional**

Prefix to add to column numbers when no header, e.g. 'X' for X0, X1, ...

**❗ *Deprecated since version 1.4.0:*** Use a list comprehension on the DataFrame's columns after calling `read_csv`.

**mangle\_dupe\_cols : bool, default True**

Duplicate columns will be specified as 'X', 'X.1', ...'X.N', rather than 'X'...'X'. Passing in False will cause data to be overwritten if there are duplicate names in the columns.

**dtype : Type name or dict of column -> type, optional**

Data type for data or columns. E.g. {'a': np.float64, 'b': np.int32, 'c': 'Int64'} Use *str* or *object* together with suitable *na\_values* settings to preserve and not interpret dtype. If converters are specified, they will be applied INSTEAD of dtype conversion.

**engine : {'c', 'python', 'pyarrow'}, optional**

Parser engine to use. The C and pyarrow engines are faster, while the python engine is currently more feature-complete. Multithreading is currently only supported by the pyarrow engine.

**❗ *New in version 1.4.0:*** The "pyarrow" engine was added as an *experimental* engine, and some features are unsupported, or may not work correctly, with this engine.

**converters : dict, optional**

Dict of functions for converting values in certain columns. Keys can either be integers or column labels.

**true\_values : list, optional**

Values to consider as True.

**false\_values : list, optional**

Values to consider as False.

**skipinitialspace : bool, default False**

Skip spaces after delimiter.

**skiprows : list-like, int or callable, optional**

Line numbers to skip (0-indexed) or number of lines to skip (int) at the start of

Whether or not to include the default NaN values when parsing the data.

Depending on whether *na\_values* is passed in, the behavior is as follows:

- If *keep\_default\_na* is True, and *na\_values* are specified, *na\_values* is appended to the default NaN values used for parsing.
- If *keep\_default\_na* is True, and *na\_values* are not specified, only the default NaN values are used for parsing.
- If *keep\_default\_na* is False, and *na\_values* are specified, only the NaN values specified *na\_values* are used for parsing.
- If *keep\_default\_na* is False, and *na\_values* are not specified, no strings will be parsed as NaN.

Note that if *na\_filter* is passed in as False, the *keep\_default\_na* and *na\_values* parameters will be ignored.

***na\_filter* : bool, default True**

Detect missing value markers (empty strings and the value of *na\_values*). In data without any NAs, passing *na\_filter*=False can improve the performance of reading a large file.

***verbose* : bool, default False**

Indicate number of NA values placed in non-numeric columns.

***skip\_blank\_lines* : bool, default True**

If True, skip over blank lines rather than interpreting as NaN values.

***parse\_dates* : bool or list of int or names or list of lists or dict, default False**

The behavior is as follows:

- boolean. If True -> try parsing the index.
- list of int or names. e.g. If [1, 2, 3] -> try parsing columns 1, 2, 3 each as a separate date column.

If True, use a cache of unique, converted dates to apply the datetime conversion. May produce significant speed-up when parsing duplicate date strings, especially ones with timezone offsets.

 **New in version 0.25.0.**

**iterator** : *bool, default False*

Return TextFileReader object for iteration or getting chunks with `get_chunk()`.

 **Changed in version 1.2:** `TextFileReader` is a context manager.



**Returns:**     **DataFrame or TextParser**

A comma-separated values (csv) file is returned as two-dimensional data structure with labeled axes.

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**See also**[DataFrame.to\\_csv](#)

Write DataFrame to a comma-separated values (csv) file.

[read\\_csv](#)

Read a comma-separated values (csv) file into DataFrame.

[read\\_fwf](#)

Read a table of fixed-width formatted lines into DataFrame.

**Examples**

```
>>> pd.read_csv('data.csv')
```

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