**Formatting date and time**

For formatting date and time python provide a special method called strftime. This method uses directives or formatting characters for formatting date and time.

| **Directive** | **Meaning** | **Example** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| %a | Weekday as locale’s abbreviated name. | Sun, Mon, …, Sat (en\_US);  So, Mo, …, Sa (de\_DE) |
| %A | Weekday as locale’s full name. | Sunday, Monday, …, Saturday (en\_US);  Sonntag, Montag, …, Samstag (de\_DE) |
| %w | Weekday as a decimal number, where 0 is Sunday and 6 is Saturday. | 0, 1, …, 6 |
| %d | Day of the month as a zero-padded decimal number. | 01, 02, …, 31 |
| %b | Month as locale’s abbreviated name. | Jan, Feb, …, Dec (en\_US);  Jan, Feb, …, Dez (de\_DE) |
| %B | Month as locale’s full name. | January, February, …, December (en\_US);  Januar, Februar, …, Dezember (de\_DE) |
| %m | Month as a zero-padded decimal number. | 01, 02, …, 12 |
| %y | Year without century as a zero-padded decimal number. | 00, 01, …, 99 |
| %Y | Year with century as a decimal number. | 0001, 0002, …, 2013, 2014, …, 9998, 9999 |
| %H | Hour (24-hour clock) as a zero-padded decimal number. | 00, 01, …, 23 |
| %I | Hour (12-hour clock) as a zero-padded decimal number. | 01, 02, …, 12 |
| %p | Locale’s equivalent of either AM or PM. | AM, PM (en\_US);  am, pm (de\_DE) |
| %M | Minute as a zero-padded decimal number. | 00, 01, …, 59 |
| %S | Second as a zero-padded decimal number. | 00, 01, …, 59 |
| %f | Microsecond as a decimal number, zero-padded to 6 digits. | 000000, 000001, …, 999999 |
| %z | UTC offset in the form ±HHMM[SS[.ffffff]] (empty string if the object is naive). | (empty), +0000, -0400, +1030, +063415, -030712.345216 |
| %Z | Time zone name (empty string if the object is naive). | (empty), UTC, GMT |
| %j | Day of the year as a zero-padded decimal number. | 001, 002, …, 366 |
| %U | Week number of the year (Sunday as the first day of the week) as a zero-padded decimal number. All days in a new year preceding the first Sunday are considered to be in week 0. | 00, 01, …, 53 |
| %W | Week number of the year (Monday as the first day of the week) as a zero-padded decimal number. All days in a new year preceding the first Monday are considered to be in week 0. | 00, 01, …, 53 |
| %c | Locale’s appropriate date and time representation. | Tue Aug 16 21:30:00 1988 (en\_US);  Di 16 Aug 21:30:00 1988 (de\_DE) |
| %x | Locale’s appropriate date representation. | 08/16/88 (None);  08/16/1988 (en\_US);  16.08.1988 (de\_DE) |
| %X | Locale’s appropriate time representation. | 21:30:00 (en\_US);  21:30:00 (de\_DE) |
| %% | A literal '%' character. | % |