

Magic Methods In Python



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Introduction:

The magic methods in Python programming language is specifically for Object Oriented Design.

When we create an object, the Python interpreter calls special functions in the backend of code execution.

They are known as Magic Methods or Dunder Methods.

They provide some extra functionality in our class.




Why do we say Dunder?

Because their names lie between **double underscores**.

They perform some set of calculations that are just like magic while we create an object of a class.

Common Dunders Example:



<code>__class__</code>	<code>__hash__</code>	<code>__init__</code>
<code>__init_subclass__</code>	<code>__le__</code>	<code>__lt__</code>
<code>__module__</code>	<code>__ne__</code>	<code>__new__</code>
<code>__reduce__</code>	<code>__reduce_ex__</code>	<code>__delattr__</code>
<code>__dict__</code>	<code>__dir__</code>	<code>__doc__</code>
<code>__eq__</code>	<code>__format__</code>	<code>__ge__</code>
<code>__getattr__</code>	<code>__gt__</code>	<code>__add__</code>

How do we check what are the dunder and how many of them are there in the standard class?

1. Create a sample class.
2. Create its object.
3. Use the `dir()` function and insert the object inside it. `print(dir(obj))`
4. This function prints a list of all the Magic Methods along with data members and member functions that are assigned to the class.



Implementation of some magic methods:

In this post, we are going to override/implement some of the common python magic methods.



Swipe



__new__()

This method helps the constructor `__init__()` method to create objects for a class. So, when we create an instance of a class, the Python interpreter first calls the `__new__()` method and after that `__init__()` method.

```
class Sample:
    def __new__(self, parameter):
        print("new invoked", parameter)
        return super().__new__(self)

    def __init__(self, parameter):
        print("init invoked", parameter)

obj = Sample("a")
# Output....
new invoked a
init invoked a
```



__str__()

This method helps us to display the object according to our requirements.

The `print()` function displays the memory location of the object but If we want to modify we can do this by using `__str__()` function.

```
class Student:
    def __init__(self, name, roll_no):
        self.name = name
        self.roll_no = roll_no

    def __str__(self):
        return "{} {}".format(self.name, self.roll_no)

stud_1 = Student("Suresh", 1)
print(stud_1)
# Output....
Suresh 1
```



__sizeof__()

If we want to know the memory allocated to that object, then we can call or override the `__sizeof__()` function and pass our object.

```
class Student:
    def __init__(self, name, roll_no):
        self.name = name
        self.roll_no = roll_no

stud_1 = Student("Suresh", 1)
print("Size of student class object: ", stud_1.__sizeof__()) # 32

list_1 = [1, 2, 3, 4]
tup_1 = (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
dict_1 = {"a":1, "b":2, "c":3, "d":4}

print("Size of list: ", list_1.__sizeof__()) # 104
print("Size of tuple: ", tup_1.__sizeof__()) # 64
print("Size of dictionary: ", dict_1.__sizeof__()) # 216
```

