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How to Get the Last Part of the Path in Python?

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In this article, we will learn how one can get the last part of the path in Python. We will use some built-in functions, and some custom codes as well to better understand the topic.

We will look at two modules of Python - `os` Module and `pathlib` Module. `os` Module in Python provides three different functions to extract the last part of the path. `pathlib` Module in Python also provides a function to get the last part of the path. Let us discuss these functions separately.

Get the Last Part of the Path using OS Module

The `os` module in Python has various functions to interact with the operating system. It provides `os.path` , a submodule of the `os` module for the manipulation of paths. We will use the three functions of `os.path` to get the last part of the path in Python.

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Example: Use `os.path.normpath()` and `os.path.basename()`

This method uses `os.path.normpath()` and `os.path.basename()` together to find the last part of the given path.

`os.path.normpath()` - It removes all the trailing slashes from the given path. It is passed as an argument to `os.path.basename()`.

`os.path.basename()` - It returns the last part of the path.

```
import os
path = os.path.basename(os.path.normpath('/folderA/folderB/folderC/folderD/'))
print(path)
```

OUTPUT:

folderD

Example: Use `os.path.split()`

This method uses `os.path.split()` to find the last part of the path. As the name suggests, it splits the path into two - head part and tail part. Here, the tail is the last pathname component and the head is everything leading up to that.

The tail part will never contain a slash; if the name of the path ends with a slash, the tail will be empty. This example returns the last part of the path i.e. tail part.

```
import os

path = '/home/User/Desktop/sample.txt'

# Split the path in head and tail pair
head_tail = os.path.split(path)

# print tail part of the path
print(head_tail[1])
```

OUTPUT:

sample.txt

Get the Last Part of the Path using Pathlib Module

The `pathlib` module provides `PurePath()` function to get the last part of the path. `path.name` prints the last part of the given path. If you are confused between Path and PurePath, **PurePath** provides purely computational operations while **Path** or we can say "concrete path" inherits from the PurePath provides I/O operations.

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Example: Use pathlib.PurePath()

```
import pathlib
path = pathlib.PurePath('/folderA/folderB/folderC/folderD/')
print(path.name)
```

OUTPUT:

folderD

Conclusion

In this article, we learned to find the last part of the given path by using built-in functions such as `os.path.basename()`, `os.path.normpath()`, `os.path.split()`, `pathlib.PurePath()` and different examples to extract the last part. These functions will work in all cases.

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