

```
In [7]: import collections
Card=collections.namedtuple('Card',['rank','suit'])
Card
```

```
Out[7]: __main__.Card
```

```
In [5]: class FrenchDeck:
        ranks= [str(r) for r in range(2,11)]+list("JQKA")
        suits= 'spade diamonds clubs hearts'.split()

        def __init__(self):
            self._cards= [Card(rank,suit) for suit in self.suits for rank in self.ranks]
        def __len__(self):
            return len(self._cards)
        def __getitem__(self,position):
            return self._cards[position]
```

The first thing to note is the use of `collections.namedtuple` to construct a simple class to represent individual cards. We use `namedtuple` to build classes of objects that are just bundles of attributes with no custom methods

```
In [10]: Card('1','diamonds')
```

```
Out[10]: Card(rank='1', suit='diamonds')
```

```
In [11]: deck=FrenchDeck()
```

```
In [12]: deck
```

```
Out[12]: <__main__.FrenchDeck at 0x1f3066957c0>
```

```
In [13]: deck.suits
```

```
Out[13]: ['Spade', 'Diamonds', 'Clubs', 'Hearts']
```

```
In [14]: deck.ranks
```

```
Out[14]: ['2', '3', '4', '5', '6', '7', '8', '9', '10', 'J', 'Q', 'K', 'A']
```

```
In [16]: len(deck)
```

```
Out[16]: 52
```

Reading specific cards from the deck—say, the first or the last—is easy, thanks to the `__getitem__` method:

```
In [18]: deck[0]
```

```
Out[18]: Card(rank='2', suit='Spade')
```

```
In [19]: deck[-1]
```

```
Out[19]: Card(rank='A', suit='Hearts')
```

```
In [20]: # picking a random card
import random
random.choice(deck)
```

```
Out[20]: Card(rank='10', suit='Hearts')
```

We've just seen two advantages of using special methods to leverage the Python Data Model:

- Users of your classes don't have to memorize arbitrary method names for standard operations. ("How to get the number of items? Is it `.size()`, `.length()`, or what?")
- It's easier to benefit from the rich Python standard library and avoid reinventing the wheel, like the `random.choice` function.

Because our `__getitem__` delegates to the `[]` operator of `self._cards`, our deck automatically supports slicing.

```
In [22]: deck[:3]
```

```
Out[22]: [Card(rank='2', suit='Spade'),
          Card(rank='3', suit='Spade'),
          Card(rank='4', suit='Spade')]
```

Just by implementing the `__getitem__` special method, our deck is also iterable:

```
In [25]: deck._cards[3]
```

```
Out[25]: Card(rank='5', suit='Spade')
```

How Special Methods Are Used

You write `len(my_object)` and, if `my_object` is an instance of a user-defined class, then Python calls the **len** method you implemented.

But the interpreter takes a shortcut when dealing for built-in types like `list`, `str`, `bytearray`, or extensions like the NumPy arrays. Python variable-sized collections written in C include a struct called `PyVarObject`, which has an `ob_size` field holding the number of items in the collection. So, if `my_object` is an instance of one of those built-ins, then `len(my_object)` retrieves the value of the `ob_size` field, and this is much faster than calling a method.

```
In [27]: import math
class Vector:
    def __init__(self, x=0, y=0):
```

```
self.x=x
self.y=y
def __repr__(self):
    return f'Vector({self.x!r},{self.y!r})'
def __abs__(self):
    return math.hypot(self.x,self.y)
def __bool__(self):
    return bool(abs(self))
def __add__(self,other):
    self.x=self.x+other.x
    self.y=self.y+other.y
    return Vector(x,y)
def __mul__(self,scalar):
    return Vector(self.x*scalar,self.y*scalar)
```

The `__repr__` special method is called by the `repr` built-in to get the string representation of the object for inspection. Without a custom `__repr__`, Python's console would display a `Vector` instance `<Vector object at 0x10e100070>`.

Basically, `bool(x)` calls `x.__bool__()`

In []: