

## Module 10: Collections —

In Python, "Collections" refers to the `collections` module, which provides specialized container datatypes beyond the built-in types like `list`, `tuple`, `dict`, and `set`. These specialized data types provide alternatives to the general-purpose containers and are designed to improve efficiency and readability in various scenarios. Here's a summary of the primary collections provided by the `collections` module.

collections — Container datatypes	
Source code: <a href="#">Lib/collections/__init__.py</a>	
This module implements specialized container datatypes providing alternatives to Python's general purpose built-in containers, <code>dict</code> , <code>list</code> , <code>set</code> , and <code>tuple</code> .	
<a href="#">namedtuple()</a>	factory function for creating tuple subclasses with named fields
<a href="#">deque</a>	list-like container with fast appends and pops on either end
<a href="#">ChainMap</a>	dict-like class for creating a single view of multiple mappings
<a href="#">Counter</a>	dict subclass for counting <a href="#">hashable</a> objects
<a href="#">OrderedDict</a>	dict subclass that remembers the order entries were added
<a href="#">defaultdict</a>	dict subclass that calls a factory function to supply missing values
<a href="#">UserDict</a>	wrapper around dictionary objects for easier dict subclassing
<a href="#">UserList</a>	wrapper around list objects for easier list subclassing
<a href="#">UserString</a>	wrapper around string objects for easier string subclassing

Source image : [collections — Container datatypes — Python 3.12.3 documentation](#)

## Collection —

### 1.namedtuple in Python

The `namedtuple` is a factory function provided by the `collections` module to create tuple subclasses with named fields. This provides a way to create simple, lightweight, and immutable objects where the fields can be accessed by name rather than by index, making the code more readable and self-documenting.

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## Key Features

**Immutability:** Like tuples, namedtuple instances are immutable.

**Named Fields:** Fields can be accessed using dot notation, which makes the code more readable.

**Lightweight:** It is a memory-efficient alternative to defining a class manually.

Creating a namedtuple

To create a namedtuple, you use the namedtuple factory function from the collections module.

Example : go to vs code

## 2. A deque

(pronounced "deck") is a double-ended queue that allows you to append and pop elements from either the left or the right side with  $O(1)$  time complexity. It is part of the collections module in Python.

### Key Operations:

append(x): Add x to the right end.

appendleft(x): Add x to the left end.

pop(): Remove and return an element from the right end.

popleft(): Remove and return an element from the left end.

extend(iterable): Extend the right end by appending elements from the iterable.

extendleft(iterable): Extend the left end by appending elements from the iterable (in reverse order).

rotate(n): Rotate the deque n steps to the right. If n is negative, rotate to the left.

Example :- go to vs code

## 3. ChainMap

ChainMap groups multiple dictionaries (or other mappings) into a single view, allowing you to treat them as a unified dictionary. It searches through these mappings one by one until it finds the key.

**Priority Order:** The order of the dictionaries in the ChainMap matters; keys found in earlier dictionaries will take precedence over keys in later dictionaries.

**Mutability:** Modifications to the ChainMap will affect the first dictionary in the list. This means that updates, insertions, or deletions only apply to the first dictionary.

Example :- go to vs code

## 4. Counter

The Counter class in Python is part of the collections module. It is a subclass of the dictionary object and is used to count hashable objects. Essentially, Counter is a specialized dictionary for counting items.

### Key Features of Counter:

- Initialization: Can be initialized with a sequence, dictionary, or another Counter object.

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- Elements Method: Returns an iterator over elements repeating each as many times as its count.
- Most Common Method: Returns a list of the n most common elements and their counts from the most common to the least. Arithmetic and Set Operations: Supports addition, subtraction, intersection, and union.
- [Example](#) :- go to vs code

## 5. OrderedDict —

The OrderedDict class in Python is part of the collections module. It is a dictionary subclass that remembers the order in which its contents are added. This can be particularly useful for tasks where the order of items is important.

### Key Features of OrderedDict:

- Preserves Order: Remembers the order of insertion.
- Methods: Supports methods like `move_to_end` and `popitem` which are specific to OrderedDict.
- Compatibility: Can be used in place of a regular dictionary for most applications.
- [Example](#) :- go to vs code

## 6. defaultdict —

defaultdict is a subclass of the built-in dict class in Python. It is part of the collections module and provides a default value for a nonexistent key. When accessing a key that doesn't exist in the dictionary, instead of raising a `KeyError`, a default value is provided, and the key is automatically added to the dictionary with this default value.

The defaultdict requires a factory function to specify the default value for nonexistent keys. This factory function is called without arguments to produce the default value.

## 7. UserDict —

The UserDict class acts as a wrapper around the standard dictionary, allowing you to create dictionary-like objects that can be customized by subclassing. Here are some key points:

**Inheritance:** UserDict is a base class for creating a custom dictionary. It is a simpler way to create a custom dictionary by overriding its methods without affecting the original dictionary implementation.

**Customization:** By subclassing UserDict, you can override dictionary methods such as `__getitem__`, `__setitem__`, `__delitem__`, and others to modify their behavior.

**Compatibility:** Since it is a wrapper around the built-in dictionary, it provides all standard dictionary methods and behaves similarly.

**Attribute Access:** The actual dictionary is stored in the `data` attribute, which can be accessed or modified directly if needed.

## 8. UserString —

**UserString** class in Python's collections module is a wrapper class that acts as a proxy for string objects, providing a way to create string-like objects with extended or modified behavior.

- Inheritance: UserString is a subclass of MutableSequence, a built-in class for sequences that can be modified. This means it inherits all the behaviors and methods of MutableSequence, including methods like `__getitem__`, `__setitem__`, `__delitem__`, `__len__`, etc.
- Composition: UserString wraps around a string object (usually an instance of `str`). The actual string data is stored within the `data` attribute of the UserString instance.

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