

Airflow default_args – Complete Notes

default_args are a dictionary of default parameters applied to all tasks inside a DAG.

They reduce repetition, improve consistency, and make maintenance easier.

Common default_args fields:

1. owner

- Identifies the person/team responsible for the DAG.

2. depends_on_past

- If True, a task only runs if the previous day's task succeeded.

3. start_date

- The date from which task execution starts.

4. end_date

- The date after which tasks stop running.

5. email

- List of emails to notify.

6. email_on_failure

- Sends email when a task fails.

7. email_on_retry

- Sends email when retry happens.

8. retries

- Number of retries allowed for a task.

9. retry_delay

- Time to wait before retrying a failed task.

10. `execution_timeout`

- Maximum allowed runtime for a task.

11. `retry_exponential_backoff`

- Uses exponential time gaps between retries.

12. `max_retry_delay`

- Maximum delay allowed between retries.

13. `queue`

- Task queue for workers.

14. `priority_weight`

- Scheduling priority for tasks.

15. `sla`

- Service level agreement for tasks.

16. `trigger_rule`

- Defines when a task should run (`all_success`, `all_done`, `one_failed`, etc.).

`default_args` Example:

```
default_args = {  
    "owner": "airflow",  
    "depends_on_past": False,  
    "email": ["admin@example.com"],  
    "email_on_failure": True,  
    "email_on_retry": False,
```

```
"retries": 1,  
"retry_delay": timedelta(minutes=5),  
"start_date": datetime(2025, 1, 1),  
}
```

All tasks inside the DAG inherit these arguments unless overridden individually.