

# struct package

This module performs conversions between Python values and C structs represented as Python bytes objects. This can be used in handling binary data from network connections.

```
In [1]: import struct
```

## struct.pack(fmt, v1, v2, ...)

Return a bytes object containing the values v1, v2, ... packed according to the format string fmt. The arguments must match the values required by the format exactly.

- "!" means network endianness (big endian)
- "<" means little endian
- ">" means big endian
- "=" means native
- "h" means short integer (2 bytes)

```
In [2]: x = 256

print("Network endianness")
print(struct.pack('!h', x))

print("Little endian")
print(struct.pack('<h', x))

print("Big endian")
print(struct.pack('>h', x))

print("Native endianness")
print(struct.pack('=h', x))
```

```
Network endianness
b'\x01\x00'
Little endian
b'\x00\x01'
Big endian
b'\x01\x00'
Native endianness
b'\x00\x01'
```

## struct.unpack(fmt, buffer)

Unpack from the buffer `buffer` (presumably packed by `pack(fmt, ...)`) according to the format string `fmt`. The result is a `tuple` even if it contains exactly one item. The buffer's size in bytes must match the size required by the format.

```
In [3]: bx = struct.pack('!h', x)

        print(struct.unpack('!h', bx))
        print(struct.unpack('<h', bx))

(256,)
(1,)
```

```
In [4]: print(struct.unpack('!h', bx)[0])
        print(struct.unpack('<h', bx)[0])

256
1
```