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PySpark date_format() – Convert Date to String format

In PySpark, use date_format() function to convert the DataFrame column from Date to String format. In this tutorial, we will show you a Spark SQL example of how to convert Date to String format using date_format() function on DataFrame.



date_format() – function formats Date to String format. This function supports all Java Date formats specified in [DateTimeFormatter \(https://docs.oracle.com/javase/10/docs/api/java/time/format/DateTimeFormatter.html\)](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/10/docs/api/java/time/format/DateTimeFormatter.html).

Following are Syntax and Example of date_format() Function:

[spark/different-ways-to-create-dataframe-in-pyspark/](#)

[PySpark – Create an empty DataFrame](#)

(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-create-an-empty-dataframe/>)

[PySpark – Convert RDD to DataFrame](#)

(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/convert-pyspark-rdd-to-dataframe/>)

[PySpark – Convert DataFrame to Pandas](#)

(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/convert-pyspark-dataframe-to-pandas/>)

[PySpark – show\(\)](#)

(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-show-display-dataframe-contents-in-table/>)

[PySpark – StructType & StructField](#)

(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-structtype-and-structfield/>)

[PySpark – Row Class](#)

(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-row-using-rdd-dataframe/>)

[PySpark – Column Class](#)

(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-column-functions/>)

[PySpark – select\(\)](#)

(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/select-columns-from-pyspark-dataframe/>)

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(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-collect/>)

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(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-withcolumn/>)

[PySpark – withColumnRenamed\(\)](#)

(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-rename-dataframe-column/>)

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(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-where-filter/>)

[PySpark – drop\(\) &](#)

[dropDuplicates\(\)](#)

(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-distinct-to-drop-duplicates/>)

[PySpark – orderBy\(\) and sort\(\)](#)

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```
Syntax:  date_format(column,format)
Example: date_format(current_timestamp(),format)
```

The below code snippet takes the current system date from `current_date()` and timestamp from the `current_timestamp()` function and converts it to String format on DataFrame.

```
pyspark.sql.functions import *

spark.createDataFrame([["1"]],["id"])
select(current_date().alias("current_date"),
        date_format(current_timestamp(),"yyyy-MM-dd").alias("current_timestamp"),
        date_format(current_timestamp(),"MM/dd/yyyy").alias("current_timestamp_MM_dd_yyyy"),
        date_format(current_timestamp(),"yyyy-MM-dd HH:mm:ss").alias("current_timestamp_HH_mm_ss"))
show()
```

Output:

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```
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
|current_date|yyyy MM dd|MM/dd/yyyy|
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 2021-02-23|2021 02 23|02/23/2021|
+-----+-----+-----+-----+
```

Alternatively, you can convert Data to String with SQL by using same functions.

```
#SQL
spark.sql("select current_date() as current_date,
           date_format(current_timestamp(), 'yyyy-MM-dd') as current_timestamp,
           date_format(current_timestamp(), 'MM/dd/yyyy') as current_timestamp_MM_dd_yyyy,
           date_format(current_timestamp(), 'yyyy-MM-dd HH:mm:ss') as current_timestamp_HH_mm_ss")
```

[spark/pyspark-orderby-and-sort-explained/](#)

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[PySpark – join\(\)](#)
(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-join-explained-with-examples/>)

[PySpark – union\(\) & unionAll\(\)](#)
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[PySpark – unionByName\(\)](#)
(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/spark/spark-merge-two-dataframes-with-different-columns/>)

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[pyspark – foreach\(\)](#)
(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-loop-iterate-through-rows-in-dataframe/#use-foreach-loop-through-dataframe>)

[PySpark – sample\(\) vs sampleBy\(\)](#)
(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-sampling-example/>)

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[PySpark – ArrayType Column \(Array\)](#)
(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-arraytype-column-with-examples/>)

Complete Example of Convert Date to String

```
from pyspark.sql import SparkSession

# Create SparkSession
spark = SparkSession.builder \
    .appName('SparkByExamples.com') \
    .getOrCreate()

from pyspark.sql.functions import current_date, current_timestamp, date_format

df=spark.createDataFrame([["1"]],["id"])
df.select(current_date().alias("current_date"),
          date_format(current_date(),"yyyy-MM-dd").alias("date_format_current_date"),
          current_timestamp().alias("current_timestamp"),
          date_format(current_timestamp(),"yyyy-MM-dd HH:mm:ss").alias("date_format_current_timestamp")) \
    .show()

#SQL

spark.sql("select current_date() as current_date, date_format(current_timestamp(), 'yyyy-MM-dd HH:mm:ss') as date_format_current_timestamp, current_timestamp() as current_timestamp, date_format(current_timestamp(), 'yyyy-MM-dd HH:mm:ss') as date_format_current_timestamp")
```

Conclusion:

In this article, you have learned how to convert Date to String format using the Date function `date_format()`.

Related Articles:

- [PySpark – How to Get Current Date & Timestamp](#)
(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-current-date-timestamp/>)
- [PySpark Convert String to Date Format](#)
(https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-to_date-convert-string-to-date-format/)
- [PySpark SQL Date and Timestamp Functions](#)
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[PySpark – Date and Timestamp Functions](https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/sql-date-and-timestamp-functions/)
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[PySpark – Read & Write Parquet File](https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/read-and-write-parquet-file/)
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[PySpark – Read & Write JSON file](https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/read-json-file-into-dataframe/)
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PySpark Built-In Functions


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(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/when-otherwise/>)

[PySpark – expr\(\)](https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/sql-expr-expression-function/)
(<https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/sql-expr-expression-function/>)


[PySpark – lit\(\)](https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/lit-add-literal-constant/)
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[PySpark – split\(\)](https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/convert-string-to-array-column/)
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[PySpark – to_date\(\)](#)
([https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark-to_date-convert-timestamp-to-date/](https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-to_date-convert-timestamp-to-date/)).

[PySpark – date_format\(\)](#)
([https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark-date_format-convert-date-to-string-format/](https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-date_format-convert-date-to-string-format/)).

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([https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark-difference-between-two-dates-days-months-years/#datediff](https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-difference-between-two-dates-days-months-years/#datediff)).

[PySpark – months_between\(\)](#)
([https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark-difference-between-two-dates-days-months-years/#months_between\(\)](https://sparkbyexamples.com/pyspark/pyspark-difference-between-two-dates-days-months-years/#months_between())).

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