how do I insert a column at a specific column index in pandas?

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Can I insert a column at a specific column index in pandas?

```
import pandas as pd
df = pd.DataFrame({'l':['a','b','c','d'], 'v':[1,2,1,2]})
df['n'] = 0
```

This will put column `n` as the last column of `df`, but isn't there a way to tell `df` to put `n` at the beginning?

python   indexing   pandas

asked Sep 7 '13 at 13:59

HappyPy
2,152   6   22   36

Insert a column at the beginning (leftmost end) of a DataFrame - more solutions + generalised solution for inserting any sequence (not just a constant value). – coldspeed Feb 5 at 22:03

2 Answers

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see docs: http://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-docs/stable/generated/pandas.DataFrame.insert.html

using loc = 0 will insert at the beginning

```
df.insert(loc, column, value)
```

```
df = pd.DataFrame({'B': [1, 2, 3]

df
Out:
   B  C
0  1  4
1  2  5
```

```
df.insert(loc=idx, column='A', va
```

```
df
```
Out:
```
   A  B  C
0  7  1  4
1  8  2  5
2  9  3  6
```

edited Jan 23 at 23:34

coldspeed
141k   25   156   241

answered Sep 7 '13 at 15:32

Jeff
80.8k   13   160   145

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13   For future users, the new parameters
are *"loc"*, *"column"*, and *"value"*.
Source – Peter Maguire Jan 24 '17 at
19:12

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You could try to extract columns as
list, massage this as you want, and
reindex your dataframe:

```
>>> cols = df.columns.tolist()
>>> cols = [cols[-1]]+cols[:-1] #
>>> df.reindex(columns=cols)
```

```
   n  l  v
0  0  a  1
1  0  b  2
2  0  c  1
3  0  d  2
```

EDIT: this can be done in one line ;
however, this looks a bit ugly. Maybe
some cleaner proposal may come...

```
>>> df.reindex(columns=['n']+df.co
```

```
   n  l  v
0  0  a  1
1  0  b  2
2  0  c  1
3  0  d  2
```

edited Sep 19 '17 at 18:56

coldspeed
141k   25   156   241

answered Sep 7 '13 at 14:24

Nic
1,219   1   12   23