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# importlib module: import\_module

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- ❖ Usually backs the ``import`` statement
  - ❖ Can be changed with ``builtins.__import__`` (but don't)
- ❖ The usual need is to import a module by variable name:

```
import importlib
module_name = 'foo'
globals()[module_name] = importlib.import_module(module_name)
```
- ❖ ``import foo`` puts ``foo`` into the (module's) namespace
  - ❖ ``__import__`` and ``importlib.import_module`` don't

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# importlib: reload

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- ❖ Useful in development to reload within a REPL
- ❖ Reloads and “reruns” the module
- ❖ Does not expunge the old module
  - ❖ Removed things still exist from last run
  - ❖ Objects created before the reload use old code
  - ❖ Modules loaded from module are not reloaded
  - ❖ ``from foo import bar`` not affected