



# **Python OOP: Getters, Setters, & Properties**



# Getters



## Key Takeaways

- Getters:

- Methods that instances can call to “**get**” the value of a protected instance attribute.
- They serve as intermediaries to avoid accessing the data directly.
- Naming Rules:
  - **get** + **\_** + <attribute>
  - Examples: get\_age, get\_name, get\_code

Keyword

Name

```
def <get_attribute>(self):  
    return self.<attribute>
```

Return the value of the attribute

```
def get_name(self):  
    return self._name
```



# Setters



## Key Takeaways

- Setters:

- Methods that instances can call to “**set**” the value of a protected instance attribute.
- They serve as intermediaries to avoid accessing the data directly.
- You can check if the value is valid before assigning it and you can react appropriately if the value is not valid.
- They take one argument: the new value for the attribute.
- Naming Rules:
  - **set** + **\_** + <attribute>
  - Examples: set\_age, set\_name, set\_code

Keyword

Name

Parameter

```
def set_name(self, name):  
    if isinstance(name, str):  
        self._name = name  
    else:  
        print("Please enter a valid name")
```

Update the value





# Properties



## Key Takeaways

- Properties:

- They are the “pythonic” way of working with getters and setters.
- The property can be accessed with the same syntax used to access public instance attributes.
- No need to call getters and setters explicitly, but they do act as intermediaries “behind the scenes”.
- Two alternatives:
  - Using the built-in function **property()**.
  - Using the **@property** decorator.
- @property is the recommended syntax to work with properties in Python.
  - Advantages:
    - ✓ More compact.
    - ✓ Improved readability.
    - ✓ No namespace pollution.



# Properties



## Key Takeaways

- Using property():

```
class Patient:

    def __init__(self, name, age, id_num, num_children=0):
        self.name = name
        self.age = age
        self._id_num = id_num
        self._num_children = num_children

    def get_id_num(self):
        print("Getter")
        return self._id_num

    def set_id_num(self, new_id):
        print("Setter")
        if isinstance(new_id, str):
            self._id_num = new_id
        else:
            print("Please enter a valid id")

    id_num = property(get_id_num, set_id_num)
```

Getter

Setter

```
patient = Patient("Gino", 15, "4535")

patient.id_num # Calls getter

patient.id_num = "545435" # Calls setter
```



# Properties



## Key Takeaways

- Using @property:

```
class House:

    def __init__(self, price):
        self._price = price

    @property
    def price(self):
        return self._price

    @price.setter
    def price(self, new_price):
        if price > 0:
            self._price = _price
        else:
            print("Please enter a valid price")
```

```
house = House(50000)
```

```
house.price # Calls getter
```

```
house.price = 60000 # Call setter
```