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Keras is an [open-source neural-network](#) library written in [Python](#).

It is capable of running on top of [TensorFlow](#), [Microsoft Cognitive Toolkit](#), [R](#), [Theano](#), or [PlaidML](#).^{[2][3][4]} Designed to enable fast experimentation with [deep neural networks](#), it focuses on being user-friendly, modular, and extensible. It was developed as the research effort of project ONEIROS (Open-ended Neural Electronic Intelligent Robot Operating System),^[5] and its primary author and maintainer is François Chollet, a [Google](#) engineer. Chollet also is the author of the Xception deep neural network model.^[6]

In 2017, Google's TensorFlow team decided to support Keras in TensorFlow's core library.^[7] Chollet explained that Keras was conceived to be an interface rather than a standalone machine learning framework. It offers a higher-level, more intuitive set of abstractions that make it easy to develop deep learning models regardless of the computational backend used.^[8] Microsoft added a CNTK backend to Keras as well, available as of CNTK v2.0.^{[9][10]}

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Keras contains numerous implementations of commonly used neural-network building blocks such as layers, [objectives](#), [activation functions](#), [optimizers](#), and a host of tools to make working with image and text data easier to simplify the coding necessary for writing deep neural network code. The code is hosted on [GitHub](#), and community support forums include the [GitHub issues page](#), and a [Slack](#) channel.

In addition to standard neural networks, Keras has support for [convolutional](#) and [recurrent neural networks](#). It supports other common utility layers like [dropout](#), [batch normalization](#), and [pooling](#).^[11]

Keras allows users to productize deep models on smartphones (iOS and Android), on the web, or on the Java Virtual Machine.^[3] It also allows use of distributed training of deep-learning models on clusters of Graphics processing units (GPU) and tensor processing units (TPU) principally in conjunction with CUDA.^[12]

Traction [\[edit\]](#)

Keras claims over 250,000 individual users as of mid-2018.^[3] Keras was the 10th most cited tool in the [KDnuggets](#) 2018 software poll and registered a 22% usage.^[13]

See also [\[edit\]](#)

- Comparison of deep-learning software

References [\[edit\]](#)

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Further reading [[edit](#)]

- Chollet, François; [Allaire, J. J.](#) (2018). *Deep Learning with R*. Manning. ISBN 978-1-61729-554-6.

External links [[edit](#)]

- [Official website](#)

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Proprietary	Maple · Neural Designer · Wolfram Mathematica · Apple Core ML
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