

# StringIO

The StringIO module implements an in-memory file like object. This object can then be used as input or output to most functions that would expect a standard file object.

The best way to show this is by example:

```
In [1]: import StringIO
```

```
In [16]: # Arbitrary String  
message = 'This is just a normal string.'
```

```
In [25]: # Use StringIO method to set as file object  
f = StringIO.StringIO(message)
```

Now we have an object *f* that we will be able to treat just like a file. For example:

```
In [30]: f.read()
```

```
Out[30]: ''
```

We can also write to it:

```
In [27]: f.write(' Second line written to file like object')
```

```
In [28]: # Reset cursor just like you would a file  
f.seek(0)
```

```
In [29]: # Read again  
f.read()
```

```
Out[29]: 'This is just a normal string. Second line written to file like object'
```

Great! Now you've seen how we can use StringIO to turn normal strings into in-memory file objects in our code. This kind of action has various use cases, especially in web scraping cases where you want to read some string you scraped as a file.

For more info on StringIO check out the documentation:<https://docs.python.org/2/library/stringio.html>  
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