

32.8. `tabnanny` — Detection of ambiguous indentation

Source code: [Lib/tabnanny.py](#)

For the time being this module is intended to be called as a script. However it is possible to import it into an IDE and use the function `check()` described below.

Note: The API provided by this module is likely to change in future releases; such changes may not be backward compatible.

`tabnanny.check(file_or_dir)`

If `file_or_dir` is a directory and not a symbolic link, then recursively descend the directory tree named by `file_or_dir`, checking all `.py` files along the way. If `file_or_dir` is an ordinary Python source file, it is checked for whitespace related problems. The diagnostic messages are written to standard output using the `print()` function.

`tabnanny.verbose`

Flag indicating whether to print verbose messages. This is incremented by the `-v` option if called as a script.

`tabnanny.filename_only`

Flag indicating whether to print only the filenames of files containing whitespace related problems. This is set to true by the `-q` option if called as a script.

exception `tabnanny.NannyNag`

Raised by `process_tokens()` if detecting an ambiguous indent. Captured and handled in `check()`.

`tabnanny.process_tokens(tokens)`

This function is used by `check()` to process tokens generated by the `tokenize` module.

See also:

Module `tokenize`

Lexical scanner for Python source code.