

3. Built-in Constants

A small number of constants live in the built-in namespace. They are:

False

The false value of the `bool` type. Assignments to `False` are illegal and raise a `SyntaxError`.

True

The true value of the `bool` type. Assignments to `True` are illegal and raise a `SyntaxError`.

None

The sole value of the type `NoneType`. `None` is frequently used to represent the absence of a value, as when default arguments are not passed to a function. Assignments to `None` are illegal and raise a `SyntaxError`.

NotImplemented

Special value which should be returned by the binary special methods (e.g. `__eq__()`, `__lt__()`, `__add__()`, `__rsub__()`, etc.) to indicate that the operation is not implemented with respect to the other type; may be returned by the in-place binary special methods (e.g. `__imul__()`, `__iand__()`, etc.) for the same purpose. Its truth value is `true`.

Note: When a binary (or in-place) method returns `NotImplemented` the interpreter will try the reflected operation on the other type (or some other fallback, depending on the operator). If all attempts return `NotImplemented`, the interpreter will raise an appropriate exception. Incorrectly returning `NotImplemented` will result in a misleading error message or the `NotImplemented` value being returned to Python code.

See [Implementing the arithmetic operations](#) for examples.

Note: `NotImplementedError` and `NotImplemented` are not interchangeable, even though they have similar names and purposes. See [NotImplementedError](#) for details on when to use it.

Ellipsis

The same as `...`. Special value used mostly in conjunction with extended slicing syntax for user-defined container data types.

`__debug__`

This constant is true if Python was not started with an `-O` option. See also the `assert` statement.

Note: The names `None`, `False`, `True` and `__debug__` cannot be reassigned (assignments to them, even as an attribute name, raise `SyntaxError`), so they can be considered “true” constants.

3.1. Constants added by the `site` module

The `site` module (which is imported automatically during startup, except if the `-S` command-line option is given) adds several constants to the built-in namespace. They are useful for the interactive interpreter shell and should not be used in programs.

quit(*code=None*)

exit(*code=None*)

Objects that when printed, print a message like “Use quit() or Ctrl-D (i.e. EOF) to exit”, and when called, raise `SystemExit` with the specified exit code.

copyright

credits

Objects that when printed or called, print the text of copyright or credits, respectively.

license

Object that when printed, prints the message “Type license() to see the full license text”, and when called, displays the full license text in a pager-like fashion (one screen at a time).