Python time strftime() Method

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Description

The method **strftime()** converts a tuple or struct_time representing a time as returned by gmtime() or localtime() to a string as specified by the format argument.

If t is not provided, the current time as returned by localtime() is used. format must be a string. An exception ValueError is raised if any field in t is outside of the allowed range.

Syntax

Following is the syntax for **strftime()** method –

```
time.strftime(format[, t])
```

Parameters

t – This is the time in number of seconds to be formatted.

format – This is the directive which would be used to format given time. The following directives can be embedded in the format string –

Directive

%a - abbreviated weekday name

%A - full weekday name

%b - abbreviated month name

%B - full month name

%c - preferred date and time representation

%C - century number (the year divided by 100, range 00 to 99)

%d - day of the month (01 to 31)

%D - same as %m/%d/%y

%e - day of the month (1 to 31)

%g - like %G, but without the century

%G - 4-digit year corresponding to the ISO week number (see %V).

%h - same as %b

%H - hour, using a 24-hour clock (00 to 23)

%I - hour, using a 12-hour clock (01 to 12)

%j - day of the year (001 to 366)

%m - month (01 to 12)

%M - minute

%n - newline character

%p - either am or pm according to the given time value

%r - time in a.m. and p.m. notation

%R - time in 24 hour notation

%S - second

%t - tab character

%T - current time, equal to %H:%M:%S

%u - weekday as a number (1 to 7), Monday=1. Warning: In Sun Solaris Sunday=1

%U - week number of the current year, starting with the first Sunday as the first day of the first week

%V - The ISO 8601 week number of the current year (01 to 53), where week 1 is the first week that has at least 4 days in the current year, and with Monday as the first day of the week

%W - week number of the current year, starting with the first Monday as the first day of the first week

%w - day of the week as a decimal, Sunday=0

%x - preferred date representation without the time

%X - preferred time representation without the date

%y - year without a century (range 00 to 99)

%Y - year including the century

%Z or %z - time zone or name or abbreviation

%% - a literal % character

Return Value

This method does not return any value.

Example

The following example shows the usage of strftime() method.

```
#!/usr/bin/python
import time

t = (2009, 2, 17, 17, 3, 38, 1, 48, 0)
t = time.mktime(t)
print time.strftime("%b %d %Y %H:%M:%S", time.gmtime(t))
```

When we run above program, it produces following result −

```
Feb 18 2009 00:03:38
```

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