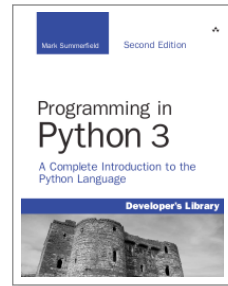


Moving from Python 2 to Python 3

Introduction This document is aimed at Python 2 programmers wishing to start developing using Python 3. The document lists those objects and idioms that have changed between the versions, showing how to change from Python 2-style to Python 3.1-style. It also lists some of the most useful new features in Python 3.1. Note that if you want to convert an existing program or module, the place to start is with the 2to3 tool (docs.python.org/library/2to3.html). For a complete introduction to the Python 3 language (covering both 3.0 and 3.1, and vastly more than there's room for here), see *Programming in Python 3* (Second Edition) by Mark Summerfield, ISBN 0321680561 (www.qtrac.eu/py3book.html).



| Strings and String Formatting | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Python 3 strings are Unicode; unicode() is gone | |
| Python 2 | Python 3.1 |
| s = unicode(x) | s = str(x) |
| s = u"\u20AC" | s = "\u20AC" |
| s = ur"\w" | s = r"\w" |
| String % operator is deprecated; use str.format() | |
| | "{} {}".format(i, s) |
| "%d %s" % (i, s) | "{0} {1}".format(i, s) |
| | "{i} {s}".format(i=i, s=s) |
| "%(i)d %(s)s" % (i, s) | "{0[i]} {0[s]}".format(i=i, s=s) |
| "{'i':i, 's':s}" | "{i} {s}".format(**{'i':i, 's':s}) |
| "%(i)d %(s)s" % (i, s) | "{i} {s}".format(**locals()) |
| "%s-%s" % ("X", "X") | "{0}-{0}".format("X") |
| | "{: .2f}".format(3.142) |
| "%.2f" % 3.142 | "{:0: .2f}".format(3.142) |
| | "{:π: .2f}".format(π=3.142) |
| "%.4s" % "Prime" | "{: .4}".format("Prime") |
| "{%d%}" % 20 | "{{{}}}".format(20) |
| "%0*d" % (3, 7) | "{:0{}}".format(7, 3) |

| Representational Form | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Backticks are gone; use repr() or str.format() | |
| Python 2 | Python 3.1 |
| | s = repr(x) |
| | s = "{!r}".format(x) |
| s = `x` | s = "{0!r}".format(x) |
| | s = "{z!r}".format(z=x) |
| Force ASCII representation with ascii() | |
| | s = ascii(x) |
| s = `x` | s = "{!a}".format(x) |

| Printing and Executing | |
|---|---|
| New functions print(), exec(); execfile() is gone | |
| Python 2 | Python 3.1 |
| print a, b, c | print(a, b, c) |
| print "%03d" % 7 | print("{:03d}".format(7)) |
| print x, | print(x, end=" ") |
| print>>sys.stderr, x | print(x, file=sys.stderr) |
| exec code | exec(code) |
| exec code in globals | exec(code, globals) |
| exec code in (globals, locals) | exec(code, globals, locals) |
| execfile(file) | with open(file) as fh: exec(fh.read()) |

| Numbers | |
|--|--------------------|
| Division doesn't truncate; long() is gone; octal literals must start with 0o (zero-oh) | |
| Python 2 | Python 3.1 |
| x = 5 / 2.0 # x==2.5 | x = 5 / 2 # x==2.5 |
| x = 5 / 2 # x==2 | x = 5 // 2 # x==2 |
| i = 2147483648L | i = 2147483648 |
| j = long(i * 2) | j = int(i * 2) |
| x = 0123 # x==83 | x = 0o123 # x==83 |

| Iterators | |
|--|---------------------|
| New next(); iterators must have __next__() | |
| Python 2 | Python 3.1 |
| x = iterator.next() | x = next(iterator) |
| class Iterator: | class Iterator: |
| def __init__(self): | def __init__(self): |
| self.i = -1 | self.i = -1 |
| def next(self): | def __next__(self): |
| self.i += 1 | self.i += 1 |
| return self.i | return self.i |

Removals and Replacements

An operator, an exception, a constant, some types, several global functions, several dictionary methods, and some itertools functions are gone

| <i>Python 2</i> | <i>Python 3.1</i> |
|---------------------------------|---|
| if a <> b: | if a != b: |
| apply(fn, args) | fn(*args) |
| apply(fn, args, kwargs) | fn(*args, **kwargs) |
| if isinstance(x, basestring): | if isinstance(x, str): |
| x = buffer(y) | x = memoryview(y) # this is <i>similar</i> |
| if callable(x): | if hasattr(x, "__call__"): |
| fh = file(fname, mode) | fh = open(fname, mode) |
| if d.has_key(k): | if k in d: |
| for k, v in \ d.iteritems(): | for k, v in d.items(): |
| for k in d.iterkeys(): | for k in d.keys(): for k in d: |
| for v in \ d.itervalues(): | for v in d.values(): |
| for line in \ file.readlines(): | for line in file: |
| x = input(msg) | x = eval(input(msg)) |
| intern(s) | sys.intern(s) |
| f = itertools.ifilter(fn, seq) | f = filter(fn, seq) |
| m = itertools.imap(fn, seq) | m = map(fn, seq) |
| z = itertools.izip(seq1, seq2) | z = zip(seq1, seq2) |
| dir = os.getcwd() | dir = os.getcwd() |
| s = raw_input(msg) | s = input(msg) |
| r = reduce(fn, seq) | r = functools.reduce(fn, seq) |
| reload(module) | imp.reload(module) |
| class MyErr(StandardError): | class MyErr(Exception): |
| sys.maxint | sys.maxsize |
| for i in xrange(n): | for i in range(n): |

Renamed Attributes and Methods

Implement `__bool__()` instead of `__nonzero__()` to return a custom class's truth value

| <i>Python 2</i> | <i>Python 3.1</i> |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| fn.func_closure | fn.__closure__ |
| fn.func_code | fn.__code__ |

| | |
|---|--|
| fn.func_defaults | fn.__defaults__ |
| fn.func_dict | fn.__dict__ |
| fn.func_doc | fn.__doc__ |
| fn.func_globals | fn.__globals__ |
| fn.func_name | fn.__name__ |
| obj.method.im_func | obj.method.__func__ |
| obj.method.im_self | obj.method.__self__ |
| obj.method.im_class | obj.method.__class__ |
| string.letters | string.ascii_letters |
| string.lowercase | string.ascii_lowercase |
| string.uppercase | string.ascii_uppercase |
| threading.Lock. \ acquire_lock() | threading.Lock. \ acquire() |
| threading.Lock. \ release_lock() | threading.Lock. \ release() |
| class Thing: def __init__(self, x): self.x = x def __nonzero__(self): return \ bool(self.x) | class Thing: def __init__(self, x): self.x = x def __bool__(self): return bool(self.x) |

Exceptions

Catching exception objects requires the `as` keyword; raising exceptions with arguments requires parentheses; strings cannot be used as exceptions

| <i>Python 2</i> | <i>Python 3.1</i> |
|---|--|
| try: process() except ValueError, \ err: print err | try: process() except ValueError \ as err: print(err) |
| try: process() except (MyErr1, MyErr2), err: print err | try: process() except (MyErr1, MyErr2) as err: print(err) |
| raise MyErr, msg | raise MyErr(msg) |
| raise MyErr, msg, tb | raise MyErr(msg). \ with_traceback(tb) |
| raise "Error" | raise Exception("Error") |
| generator.throw(MyErr, msg) | generator.throw(MyErr(msg)) |
| generator.throw("Error") | generator.throw(Exception("Error")) |

Renamed Modules

Data read from a URL, e.g., using `urllib.request.urlopen()` is returned as a bytes object; use `bytes.decode(encoding)` to convert it to a string. The `bsddb` (Berkeley DB library) is gone—but is available from pypi.python.org/pypi/bsddb3. See PEP 3108 (www.python.org/dev/peps/pep-3108) for module renaming details

| <i>Python 2</i> | <i>Python 3.1</i> |
|--|--|
| <code>import anydbm</code> | <code>import dbm</code> |
| <code>import whichdb</code> | |
| <code>import BaseHTTPServer</code> | |
| <code>import \ SimpleHTTPServer</code> | <code>import http.server</code> |
| <code>import CGIHTTPServer</code> | |
| <code>import __builtin__</code> | <code>import builtins</code> |
| <code>import commands</code> | <code>import subprocess</code> |
| <code>import ConfigParser</code> | <code>import configparser</code> |
| <code>import Cookie</code> | <code>import http.cookies</code> |
| <code>import cookielib</code> | <code>import http.cookiejar</code> |
| <code>import copy_reg</code> | <code>import copyreg</code> |
| <code>import dbm</code> | <code>import dbm.ndbm</code> |
| <code>import DocXMLRPCServer</code> | |
| <code>import \ SimpleXMLRPCServer</code> | <code>import xmlrpc.server</code> |
| <code>import dumbdbm</code> | <code>import dbm.dumb</code> |
| <code>import gdbm</code> | <code>import dbm.gnu</code> |
| <code>import httplib</code> | <code>import http.client</code> |
| <code>import Queue</code> | <code>import queue</code> |
| <code>import repr</code> | <code>import reprlib</code> |
| <code>import robotparser</code> | <code>import \ urllib.robotparser</code> |
| <code>import SocketServer</code> | <code>import socketserver</code> |
| <code>import \ test.test_support</code> | <code>import test.support</code> |
| <code>import Tkinter</code> | <code>import tkinter</code> |
| | <code>import \ urllib.request, \ urllib.parse, \ urllib.error</code> |
| <code>import urllib</code> | |
| | <code>import \ urllib.request, \ urllib.error</code> |
| <code>import urllib2</code> | |
| <code>import urlparse</code> | <code>import urllib.parse</code> |
| <code>import xmlrpclib</code> | <code>import xmlrpc.client</code> |

Python 3.1 Idioms

Tuples need parentheses in comprehensions; metaclasses are set with the `metaclass` keyword; import the `pickle` and `string` I/O modules directly; `lambda` doesn't unpack tuples; set literals are supported (the empty set is `set()`; `{}` is an empty dict); sorting is fastest using a key function; `super()` is better; type-testing is more robust with `isinstance()`; use `True` and `False` rather than `1` and `0`

| <i>Python 2</i> | <i>Python 3.1</i> |
|---|--|
| <code>L = [x for x in 3, 6]</code> | <code>L = [x for x in (3, 6)]</code> |
| <code>class A: \ _metaclass_ = \ MyMeta</code> | <code>class A(\ metaclass=MyMeta): \ pass</code> |
| <code>class B(MyBase): \ _metaclass_ = \ MyMeta</code> | <code>class B(MyBase, \ metaclass=MyMeta): \ pass</code> |
| <code>try: \ import cPickle \ as pickle</code> | <code>import pickle</code> |
| <code>except ImportError: \ import pickle</code> | |
| <code>try: \ import StringIO \ as StringIO</code> | <code>import io</code> |
| <code>except ImportError: \ import StringIO</code> | |
| <code>fn = lambda (a,): \ abs(a)</code> | <code>fn = lambda t: \ abs(t[0])</code> |
| | <code>fn = lambda a: abs(a)</code> |
| <code>fn = lambda (a, b): \ a + b</code> | <code>fn = lambda t: \ t[0] + t[1]</code> |
| | <code>fn = lambda a, b: a + b</code> |
| <code>S = set((2, 4, 6))</code> | <code>S = {2, 4, 6}</code> |
| <code>S = set([2, 4, 6])</code> | |
| <code>L = list(seq)</code> | <code>L = sorted(seq)</code> |
| <code>L.sort()</code> | |
| <code>words.sort(\ lambda x, y: \ cmp(x.lower(), \ y.lower()))</code> | <code>words.sort(\ key=lambda x: \ x.lower())</code> |
| <code>class B(A): \ def __init__(self): \ super(B, self). \ __init__()</code> | <code>class B(A): \ def __init__(self): \ super(). \ __init__()</code> |
| <code>if type(x) == X:</code> | <code>if isinstance(x, X):</code> |
| <code>if type(x) is X:</code> | |
| <code>while 1: \ process()</code> | <code>while True: \ process()</code> |

New in Python 3.1

Dictionary and set comprehensions; * unpacking; binary literals; bytes and bytearray types; bz2.BZ2File and gzip.GzipFile are context managers; collections.Counter dictionary type; collections.OrderedDict insertion-ordered dictionary type; decimal.Decimal can be created from floats

| Python 2 | Python 3.1 |
|--|--|
| <pre>d = {} for x in range(5): d[x] = x**3</pre> | <pre>d = {x: x**3 for x in range(5)}</pre> |
| <pre>S = set([x for x in seq])</pre> | <pre>S = {x for x in seq}</pre> |

Python 3.1

```
a, *b = (1, 2, 3)      # a==1; b==[2, 3]
*a, b = (1, 2, 3)     # a==[1, 2]; b==3
a, *b, c = (1, 2, 3, 4) # a==1; b==[2, 3]; c==4
x = 0b1001001        # x==73
s = bin(97)          # s=='0b1100001'
y = int(s, 2)        # y==97

u = "The €" # or: u = "The \u20ac"
           # or: u = "The \N{euro sign}"
v = u.encode("utf8") # v==b'The \xe2\x82\xac'
w = v.decode("utf8") # w=='The €'
x = bytes.fromhex("54 68 65 20 E2 82 AC")
           # x==b'The \xe2\x82\xac'
y = x.decode("utf8") # y=='The €'
z = bytearray(y)
z[-3:] = b"$"        # z==bytearray(b'The $')

with bz2.BZ2File(filename) as fh:
    data = fh.read()

counts = collections.Counter("alphabetical")
# counts.most_common(2)==[('a', 3), ('l', 2)]

d = collections.OrderedDict(
    (("x", 1), ("k", 2), ("q", 3)))
# list(d.keys())==['x', 'k', 'q']

dec = decimal.Decimal.from_float(3.75)
# dec==Decimal('3.75')
```

Special Methods

The slice methods (`__delslice()`, `__getslice()`, `__setslice()`) are gone; instead `__delitem()`, `__getitem()`, and `__setitem()` are called with a slice object.

The methods `__hex__()` and `__oct__()` are gone; use `hex()` and `oct()`. To provide an integer, implement `__index__()`.

General Notes

Python 3 often returns iterables where Python 2 returned lists. This is usually fine, but if a list is really needed, use the `list()` factory function. For example, given dictionary, `d`, `list(d.keys())` returns its keys as a list. Affected functions and methods include `dict.items()`, `dict.keys()`, `dict.values()`, `filter()`, `map()`, `range()`, and `zip()`.

Most of the `types` module's types (such as `types.LongType`) have gone. Use the factory function instead. For example, replace `if isinstance(x, types.IntType)` with `if isinstance(x, int)`.

Comparisons are strict—`x < y` will work for compatible types (e.g., `x` and `y` are both numbers or both strings); otherwise raises a `TypeError`.

Some doctests involving floating point numbers might break because Python 3.1 uses David Gay's algorithm to show the shortest representation that preserves the number's value. For example, `1.1` in Python 2 and 3.0 is displayed as `1.1000000000000001`, and in Python 3.1 as `1.1`.

String Format Specifications

`str.format()` strings have one or more replacement fields of form: `{Name!Conv:Spec}`. `Name` identifies the object to format. Optional `!Conv` is: `!` (ASCII `repr()` format), `!r` (`repr()` format), or `!s` (string format). Optional `:Spec` is of form:

`: Fill Align Sign # 0 Width , .Prec Type`

`Fill` is any character except `}`. `Align` is: `<` (left), `>` (right), `^` (center), `=` (pad between sign and number). `Sign` is: `+` (force), `-` (- if needed), or `" "` (space or -). `#` prefixes ints with `0b`, `0o`, or `0x`. `0` means 0-pad numbers. `Width` is the minimum width. The `,` means use grouping commas. `.Prec` is the maximum width for str's and number of decimal places for floats. `Type` is: `%` (percent), `b` (binary), `d` (decimal), `e` or `E` (exponential), `f` (float) `g` or `G` (general float) `n` (localized) `o` (octal), `x` or `X` (hex). Everything is optional, except that `Fill` requires `Align`.

```
"{: *+10.1f}".format(12345.67) # '+++12345.7'
"{: *>+10.1f}".format(12345.67) # '***12345.7'
"{: +010.1f}".format(12345.67) # '+0012345.7'
"{: ,.2f}".format(12345.678) # '#12,345.68'
```

informIT

An **informIT.com**
publication by
Mark Summerfield.

#3

Copyright © Qtrac Ltd. 2009.



License: Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 U.S.