

# Python locals () function

The locals () function in Python returns a dictionary containing the variables defined in the local namespace.

**The locals () function** in Python returns a dictionary containing the variables defined in the local namespace. Call locals () in the global namespace like calling globals () and return a dictionary representing the module's global namespace. So how does the syntax of locals () function, what parameters do it have, and how is it used? Invites you to read the track.

## Python syntax of locals () function

```
locals()
```

1. There are no parameters and arguments in the function.

## Value returned from locals

**The locals () function** updates and returns the dictionary associated with the current local symbol table.

## Example: How does the locals () function work?

```
locals()
```

Run the program, the result is:

```
{'In': ['', 'locals()'],
 'Out': {},
 '_': '',
 '___': '',
 '____': '',
 '__builtin__': ,    '__builtin__': ,
 '__builtins__': ,    '__builtins__': ,
 '__name__': '__main__',
 '_dh': ['/tmp/tmp98r7zamj'],
 '_i': '',
 '_i1': 'locals()',
 '_ih': ['', 'locals()'],
 '_ii': '',
 '_iii': '',
 '_oh': {},
 '_sh': ,    '_sh': ,
```

```
'exit': ,  
'get_ipython': >,  
'quit': }
```

## Example 2: How does Locals () work in local scope?

```
def localsNotPresent():  
    return locals()  
  
def localsPresent():  
    present = True  
    return locals()  
  
print('localsNotPresent:', localsNotPresent())  
print('localsPresent:', localsPresent())
```

Running the program results in:

```
localsNotPresent: {}  
localsPresent: {'present': True}
```

## Example 3: Update values ??with locals ()

```
def localsPresent():  
    present = True  
    print(present)  
    locals()['present'] = False;  
    print(present)  
  
localsPresent()
```

Running the program results in:

```
True  
True
```

Unlike the globals dictionary that can change the value of a variable, locals do not change information inside the local namespace.

Previous post: The globals () function in Python

Next lesson: List () function in Python

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