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# **wslwinreg Documentation**

***Release 1.0.6***

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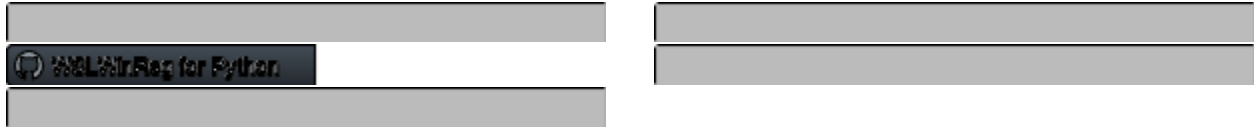
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The wslwinreg module is a drop in replacement for winreg for systems running under Cygwin, MSYS2, or Windows Subsystem for Linux.

- Documentation is found at <https://wslwinreg.readthedocs.io>
- Doxygen generated documentation is found at <https://wslwinreg.readthedocs.io/en/latest/doxygen>
- Python Packing Index (PyPI): <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/wslwinreg>
- Source code and issue tracker: <https://github.com/burgerbecky/wslwinreg>



## COMPATIBILITY

- Python 2.7.1 or higher
- Python 3.4 or higher





## INSTALLATION

Type in `pip install -U wslwinreg`. Some platforms may require the `sudo` prefix.



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## CHAPTER THREE

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### BUGS

If you find a bug, issue or have a feature request, please submit a bug report by emailing [becky@burgerbecky.com](mailto:becky@burgerbecky.com) and mention python version, integer size (32 bit or 64 bit) and what platform was used (Windows / MSYS2 / Cygwin / Windows Subsystem for Linux).



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### 4.1 Why wslwinreg?

Python runs on several Windows hosted platforms such as Windows itself, Cygwin, MSYS2 and Windows Subsystem for Linux (WSL). Each of these platforms has a Windows Subsystem which contains the Windows registry. Under Windows native versions of Python, the module `winreg` allows access to the Windows Registry API. However, this API exists under the other three platforms, but `winreg` is not available.

That's where `wslwinreg` comes in!

This module will grant access to all `winreg` calls on Windows native platforms, either by passing through calls to `winreg` or implementing custom code to grant access.

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#### 4.1.1 Windows support

On Windows native platform, `winreg` is directly imported and all calls simply are passed through so the native implementation is used instead of the alternate versions.

#### 4.1.2 Cygwin and MSYS2 support

CDLL on Cygwin and MSYS2 versions of Python allow access to the underlying native Windows APIs, so `wslwinreg` implements `winreg` calls through Python code that calls the native Windows API as needed.

#### 4.1.3 Windows Subsystem for Linux support

Ubuntu and other distributions of Linux running under WSL run in a virtual machine that is isolated from the Window host machine to the point that native calls are not possible. To solve this issue, a Windows native backend is launched and through a loopback TCP/IP socket, communication is established so remote procedure calls can be issued and results returned to `wslwinreg` to allow access to the native Windows registry.

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#### 4.1.4 Testing

A unit test package, lovingly ripped off from Python 3.9.1 is run on all four platforms to ensure the same behavior is exhibited across all supported platforms. It is located in the folder `unittests` in the github source code tree.

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#### 4.1.5 Building the backend

To build the C++ backend, use Visual Studio 2022 with the 2017 XP compiler for x86 and x64 compilation. ARM and ARM64 are built with the 2022 C++ tool chain. The Release target will place the executables in the `wslwinreg/bin` folder for you. This backend is only used when running `wslwinreg` under WSL. It's not used on any other platform.

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#### 4.1.6 Credits

`wslwinreg` is the insane creation of Rebecca Ann Heineman. If bugs are found, please send all information on how to recreate the bug to [becky@burgerbecky.com](mailto:becky@burgerbecky.com)

### 4.2 Constants

#### 4.2.1 wslwinreg constants

These values are set up on instantiation of the `wslwinreg` module.

##### **PY2**

```
wslwinreg.common.PY2 = 2
```

True if the interpreter is Python 2.x.

##### **IS\_LINUX**

```
wslwinreg.common.IS_LINUX = sys.platform.startswith("linux")
```

Running on linux?

##### **IS\_CYGWIN**

```
wslwinreg.common.IS_CYGWIN = sys.platform.startswith("cygwin")
```

Running on Cygwin.

## IS\_MSYS

```
wslwinreg.common.IS_MSYS = sys.platform.startswith("msys")
```

Running on MSYS.

## IS\_WSL

```
wslwinreg.common.IS_WSL = IS_LINUX and "icrosoft" in platform.platform()
```

Running on Windows Subsystem for Linux.

## 4.2.2 Windows constants

These integers are used to pass to Windows Registry calls.

### ERROR\_SUCCESS

```
wslwinreg.common.ERROR_SUCCESS = 0x00000000
```

The operation completed successfully.

### ERROR\_FILE\_NOT\_FOUND

```
wslwinreg.common.ERROR_FILE_NOT_FOUND = 0x00000002
```

The system cannot find the file specified.

### ERROR\_MORE\_DATA

```
wslwinreg.common.ERROR_MORE_DATA = 0x000000ea
```

More data is available.

### HKEY\_CLASSES\_ROOT

```
wslwinreg.common.HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT = 0x80000000
```

Registry entries subordinate to this key define types (or classes) of documents and the properties associated with those types.

## **HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER**

`wslwinreg.common.HKEY_CURRENT_USER = 0x80000001`

Registry entries subordinate to this key define the preferences of the current user.

## **HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE**

`wslwinreg.common.HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE = 0x80000002`

Registry entries subordinate to this key define the physical state of the computer, including data about the bus type, system memory, and installed hardware and software.

## **HKEY\_USERS**

`wslwinreg.common.HKEY_USERS = 0x80000003`

Registry entries subordinate to this key define the default user configuration for new users on the local computer and the user configuration for the current user.

## **HKEY\_PERFORMANCE\_DATA**

`wslwinreg.common.HKEY_PERFORMANCE_DATA = 0x80000004`

Registry entries subordinate to this key reference the text strings that describe counters in US English.

## **HKEY\_CURRENT\_CONFIG**

`wslwinreg.common.HKEY_CURRENT_CONFIG = 0x80000005`

Contains information about the current hardware profile of the local computer system.

## **HKEY\_DYN\_DATA**

`wslwinreg.common.HKEY_DYN_DATA = 0x80000006`

Windows registry hive that contains information about hardware devices, including Plug and Play and network performance statistics.

## **KEY\_QUERY\_VALUE**

`wslwinreg.common.KEY_QUERY_VALUE = 0x00000001`

Required to query the values of a registry key.



## KEY\_SET\_VALUE

wslwinreg.common.KEY\_SET\_VALUE = 0x00000002

Required to create, delete, or set a registry value.

## KEY\_CREATE\_SUB\_KEY

wslwinreg.common.KEY\_CREATE\_SUB\_KEY = 0x00000004

Required to create a subkey of a registry key.

## KEY\_ENUMERATE\_SUB\_KEYS

wslwinreg.common.KEY\_ENUMERATE\_SUB\_KEYS = 0x00000008

Required to enumerate the subkeys of a registry key.

## KEY\_NOTIFY

wslwinreg.common.KEY\_NOTIFY = 0x00000010

Required to request change notifications for a registry key or for subkeys of a registry key.

## KEY\_CREATE\_LINK

wslwinreg.common.KEY\_CREATE\_LINK = 0x00000020

Reserved for system use.

## KEY\_WOW64\_32KEY

wslwinreg.common.KEY\_WOW64\_32KEY = 0x00000200

Indicates that an application on 64-bit Windows should operate on the 32-bit registry view.

## KEY\_WOW64\_64KEY

wslwinreg.common.KEY\_WOW64\_64KEY = 0x00000100

Indicates that an application on 64-bit Windows should operate on the 64-bit registry view.

## KEY\_WOW64\_RES

wslwinreg.common.KEY\_WOW64\_RES = 0x00000300

Mask for *common.KEY\_WOW64\_32KEY* or'd with *common.KEY\_WOW64\_64KEY*.

## KEY\_WRITE

wslwinreg.common.KEY\_WRITE = 0x00020006

Combines the STANDARD\_RIGHTS\_WRITE, *common.KEY\_SET\_VALUE*, and *common.KEY\_CREATE\_SUB\_KEY* access rights.

## KEY\_EXECUTE

wslwinreg.common.KEY\_EXECUTE = 0x00020019

Equivalent to KEY\_READ.

## KEY\_READ

wslwinreg.common.KEY\_READ = 0x00020019

Combines the STANDARD\_RIGHTS\_READ, *common.KEY\_QUERY\_VALUE*, *common.KEY\_ENUMERATE\_SUB\_KEYS*, and *common.KEY\_NOTIFY* values.

## KEY\_ALL\_ACCESS

wslwinreg.common.KEY\_ALL\_ACCESS = 0x000f003f

Combines the STANDARD\_RIGHTS\_REQUIRED, *common.KEY\_QUERY\_VALUE*, *common.KEY\_SET\_VALUE*, *common.KEY\_CREATE\_SUB\_KEY*, *common.KEY\_ENUMERATE\_SUB\_KEYS*, *common.KEY\_NOTIFY*, and *common.KEY\_CREATE\_LINK* access rights.

## REG\_OPTION\_RESERVED

wslwinreg.common.REG\_OPTION\_RESERVED = 0x00000000

Default key option, same as *common.REG\_OPTION\_NON\_VOLATILE*.

## REG\_OPTION\_NON\_VOLATILE

wslwinreg.common.REG\_OPTION\_NON\_VOLATILE = 0x00000000

This key is not volatile; this is the default.

## REG\_OPTION\_VOLATILE

`wslwinreg.common.REG_OPTION_VOLATILE = 0x00000001`

All keys created by the function are volatile.

## REG\_OPTION\_CREATE\_LINK

`wslwinreg.common.REG_OPTION_CREATE_LINK = 0x00000002`

This key is a symbolic link.

## REG\_OPTION\_BACKUP\_RESTORE

`wslwinreg.common.REG_OPTION_BACKUP_RESTORE = 0x00000004`

If this flag is set, the function ignores the `SamDesired` parameter and attempts to open the key with the access required to backup or restore the key.

## REG\_OPTION\_OPEN\_LINK

`wslwinreg.common.REG_OPTION_OPEN_LINK = 0x00000008`

The key to be opened is a symbolic link.

## REG\_LEGAL\_OPTION

`wslwinreg.common.REG_LEGAL_OPTION = REG_OPTION_RESERVED | \`  
`REG_OPTION_NON_VOLATILE | \`  
`REG_OPTION_VOLATILE | \`  
`REG_OPTION_CREATE_LINK | \`  
`REG_OPTION_BACKUP_RESTORE | \`  
`REG_OPTION_OPEN_LINK`

Mask for all registry key option flags.

## REG\_CREATED\_NEW\_KEY

`wslwinreg.common.REG_CREATED_NEW_KEY = 0x00000001`

The key did not exist and was created.

## REG\_OPENED\_EXISTING\_KEY

`wslwinreg.common.REG_OPENED_EXISTING_KEY = 0x00000002`

The key existed and was simply opened without being changed.

## **REG\_WHOLE\_HIVE\_VOLATILE**

`wslwinreg.common.REG_WHOLE_HIVE_VOLATILE = 0x00000001`

If specified, a new, volatile (memory only) set of registry information, or hive, is created.

## **REG\_REFRESH\_HIVE**

`wslwinreg.common.REG_REFRESH_HIVE = 0x00000002`

If set, the location of the subtree that the `hKey` parameter points to is restored to its state immediately following the last flush.

## **REG\_NO\_LAZY\_FLUSH**

`wslwinreg.common.REG_NO_LAZY_FLUSH = 0x00000004`

If set, disable lazy flushing.

## **REG\_NOTIFY\_CHANGE\_NAME**

`wslwinreg.common.REG_NOTIFY_CHANGE_NAME = 0x00000001`

Notify the caller if a subkey is added or deleted.

## **REG\_NOTIFY\_CHANGE\_ATTRIBUTES**

`wslwinreg.common.REG_NOTIFY_CHANGE_ATTRIBUTES = 0x00000002`

Notify the caller of changes to the attributes of the key, such as the security descriptor information.

## **REG\_NOTIFY\_CHANGE\_LAST\_SET**

`wslwinreg.common.REG_NOTIFY_CHANGE_LAST_SET = 0x00000004`

Notify the caller of changes to a value of the key.

## **REG\_NOTIFY\_CHANGE\_SECURITY**

`wslwinreg.common.REG_NOTIFY_CHANGE_SECURITY = 0x00000008`

Notify the caller of changes to the security descriptor of the key.

## REG\_LEGAL\_CHANGE\_FILTER

```
wslwinreg.common.REG_LEGAL_CHANGE_FILTER = REG_NOTIFY_CHANGE_NAME | \
REG_NOTIFY_CHANGE_ATTRIBUTES | \ REG_NOTIFY_CHANGE_LAST_SET | \
REG_NOTIFY_CHANGE_SECURITY
```

Mask for all REG\_NOTIFY flags.

## REG\_NONE

```
wslwinreg.common.REG_NONE = 0x00000000
```

No defined value type.

## REG\_SZ

```
wslwinreg.common.REG_SZ = 0x00000001
```

A null-terminated string.

## REG\_EXPAND\_SZ

```
wslwinreg.common.REG_EXPAND_SZ = 0x00000002
```

A null-terminated string that contains unexpanded references to environment variables (for example, “%PATH%”)

## REG\_BINARY

```
wslwinreg.common.REG_BINARY = 0x00000003
```

Binary data in any form.

## REG\_DWORD

```
wslwinreg.common.REG_DWORD = 0x00000004
```

A 32-bit number.

## REG\_DWORD\_LITTLE\_ENDIAN

```
wslwinreg.common.REG_DWORD_LITTLE_ENDIAN = 0x00000004
```

A 32-bit number in little-endian format.

## REG\_DWORD\_BIG\_ENDIAN

`wslwinreg.common.REG_DWORD_BIG_ENDIAN = 0x0000000005`

A 32-bit number in big-endian format.

## REG\_LINK

`wslwinreg.common.REG_LINK = 0x0000000006`

A null-terminated Unicode string that contains the target path of a symbolic link that was created by calling the `RegCreateKeyEx` function with *common.REG\_OPTION\_CREATE\_LINK*.

## REG\_MULTI\_SZ

`wslwinreg.common.REG_MULTI_SZ = 0x0000000007`

A sequence of null-terminated strings, terminated by an empty string (`\0`).

## REG\_RESOURCE\_LIST

`wslwinreg.common.REG_RESOURCE_LIST = 0x0000000008`

Device-driver resource list.

## REG\_FULL\_RESOURCE\_DESCRIPTOR

`wslwinreg.common.REG_FULL_RESOURCE_DESCRIPTOR = 0x0000000009`

A list of hardware resources that a physical device is using, detected and written into the `\HardwareDescription` tree by the system.

## REG\_RESOURCE\_REQUIREMENTS\_LIST

`wslwinreg.common.REG_RESOURCE_REQUIREMENTS_LIST = 0x000000000a`

A device driver's list of possible hardware resources it or one of the physical devices it controls can use, from which the system writes a subset into the `\ResourceMap` tree.

## REG\_QWORD

`wslwinreg.common.REG_QWORD = 0x000000000b`

A 64-bit number.

## **REG\_QWORD\_LITTLE\_ENDIAN**

`wslwinreg.common.REG_QWORD_LITTLE_ENDIAN = 0x0000000b`

A 64-bit number in little-endian format.

## **FORMAT\_MESSAGE\_ALLOCATE\_BUFFER**

`wslwinreg.common.FORMAT_MESSAGE_ALLOCATE_BUFFER = 256`

The function allocates a buffer large enough to hold the formatted message, and places a pointer to the allocated buffer at the address specified by `lpBuffer`.

## **FORMAT\_MESSAGE\_IGNORE\_INSERTS**

`wslwinreg.common.FORMAT_MESSAGE_IGNORE_INSERTS = 512`

Insert sequences in the message definition such as `%1` are to be ignored and passed through to the output buffer unchanged.

## **FORMAT\_MESSAGE\_FROM\_STRING**

`wslwinreg.common.FORMAT_MESSAGE_FROM_STRING = 1024`

The `lpSource` parameter is a pointer to a null-terminated string that contains a message definition.

## **FORMAT\_MESSAGE\_FROM\_HMODULE**

`wslwinreg.common.FORMAT_MESSAGE_FROM_HMODULE = 2048`

The `lpSource` parameter is a module handle containing the message-table resource(s) to search.

## **FORMAT\_MESSAGE\_FROM\_SYSTEM**

`wslwinreg.common.FORMAT_MESSAGE_FROM_SYSTEM = 4096`

The function should search the system message-table resource(s) for the requested message.

## **FORMAT\_MESSAGE\_ARGUMENT\_ARRAY**

`wslwinreg.common.FORMAT_MESSAGE_ARGUMENT_ARRAY = 8192`

The `Arguments` parameter is not a `va_list` structure, but is a pointer to an array of values that represent the arguments.

## FORMAT\_MESSAGE\_MAX\_WIDTH\_MASK

wslwinreg.common.FORMAT\_MESSAGE\_MAX\_WIDTH\_MASK = 255

The function ignores regular line breaks in the message definition text.

## LANG\_NEUTRAL

wslwinreg.common.LANG\_NEUTRAL = 0x00

String has no associated language.

## SUBLANG\_DEFAULT

wslwinreg.common.SUBLANG\_DEFAULT = 0x01

User default sub language.

## 4.2.3 Windows C++ data types

These classes are used to describe the parameters to Windows functions.

### LPCVOID

wslwinreg.common.LPCVOID = c\_void\_p

const void \* C void pointer

### LPVOID

wslwinreg.common.LPVOID = c\_void\_p

void \* C void pointer

### BOOL

wslwinreg.common.BOOL = c\_long

BOOL 32 bit C integer type.



## WORD

wslwinreg.common.WORD = **c\_ushort**  
short int 16 bit C integer type

## DWORD

wslwinreg.common.DWORD = **c\_ulong**  
unsigned int 32 bit C integer type

## PDWORD

wslwinreg.common.PDWORD = **POINTER(DWORD)**  
unsigned int \* 32 bit C integer pointer

## LPDWORD

wslwinreg.common.LPDWORD = **PDWORD**  
FAR unsigned int \* 32 bit C pointer

## QWORD

wslwinreg.common.QWORD = **c\_ulonglong**  
unsigned long long 64 bit C integer type

## PQWORD

wslwinreg.common.PQWORD = **POINTER(QWORD)**  
unsigned long long \* 64 bit C integer pointer

## LPQWORD

wslwinreg.common.LPQWORD = **PQWORD**  
FAR unsigned long long \* 64 bit C integer pointer

## LONG

`wslwinreg.common.LONG = c_int`  
signed int 32 bit signed C integer type

## PLONG

`wslwinreg.common.PLONG = POINTER(LONG)`  
signed int \* 32 bit signed C integer pointer

## PBYTE

`wslwinreg.common.PBYTE = c_char_p`  
signed char 8 bit signed C integer type

## LPBYTE

`wslwinreg.common.LPBYTE = PBYTE`  
unsigned char 8 bit unsigned C integer type

## LPSTR

`wslwinreg.common.LPSTR = c_char_p`  
char \* C string pointer

## LPWSTR

`wslwinreg.common.LPWSTR = c_wchar_p`  
wchar\_t \* C string pointer (16-bit)

## LPCWSTR

`wslwinreg.common.LPCWSTR = LPWSTR`  
FAR wchar\_t \* C string pointer (16-bit)

## HANDLE

wslwinreg.common.HANDLE = c\_void\_p  
HANDLE C data type from Windows (void \*)

## HKEY

wslwinreg.common.HKEY = HANDLE  
HKEY C data type for Windows registry keys (void \*)

## PHKEY

wslwinreg.common.PHKEY = POINTER(HKEY)  
HKEY \* C pointer to Windows HKEY (void \*\*)

## HLOCAL

wslwinreg.common.HLOCAL = c\_void\_p  
HLOCAL Windows HLOCAL data type (void \*)

## REGSAM

wslwinreg.common.REGSAM = c\_uint  
REGSAM Windows REGSAM C data type (unsigned int)

## PFILETIME

wslwinreg.common.PFILETIME = POINTER(FILETIME)  
*FILETIME* \* pointer to Windows *FILETIME* structure

## 4.3 Classes

### 4.3.1 FILETIME

wslwinreg.common.FILETIME : public Structure  
Structure to mimic the Windows *FILETIME* data type.  
**Parameters**  
None –

### 4.3.2 WindowsError

**wslwinreg.cygwinapi.WindowsError** : public OSError

This exception doesn't exist in Cygwin/MSYS, provide it.

#### Public Functions

**\_\_init\_\_**(*self*, *winerror*, *strerror*=None, *filename*=None)

Initialize a *WindowsError* exception.

#### Parameters

- **winerror** – The windows error code
- **strerror** – The string describing the error
- **filename** – Name of the file that caused this error, if applicable.

**\_\_str\_\_**(*self*)

Convert the class into a string.

#### Returns

String describing the error contained.

#### Public Members

**winerror**

Windows error code.

**errno**

Linux style error code.

**strerror**

Description string of the error.

**filename**

Name of the responsible file for this error.

### 4.3.3 PyHKEY

**class PyHKEY**

A Python object representing a win32 registry key.

This object wraps a Windows HKEY object, automatically closing it when the object is destroyed. To guarantee cleanup, you can call either the *Close()* method on the object, or the *CloseKey()* function.

All registry functions in this module return one of these objects.

All registry functions in this module which accept a handle object also accept an integer, however, use of the handle object is encouraged.

Handle objects provide semantics for **bool()** – thus

```
if handle:
    print("Yes")
```

will print Yes if the handle is currently valid (has not been closed or detached).

The object also support comparison semantics, so handle objects will compare true if they both reference the same underlying Windows handle value.

Handle objects can be converted to an integer (e.g., using the built-in `int()` function), in which case the underlying Windows handle value is returned. You can also use the [\*Detach\(\)\*](#) method to return the integer handle, and also disconnect the Windows handle from the handle object.

## Public Functions

**`__init__(self, hkey, null_ok=False)`**

Initialize the *PyHKEY* class.

### Parameters

- **hkey** – Integer value representing the pointer to the HKEY
- **null\_ok** – True if None is acceptable.

**`__del__(self)`**

Called when this object is garbage collected.

**`Close(self)`**

Closes the underlying Windows handle.

---

**Note:** If the handle is already closed, no error is raised.

---

**`Detach(self)`**

Detaches the Windows handle from the handle object.

After calling this function, the handle is effectively invalidated, but the handle is not closed. You would call this function when you need the underlying win32 handle to exist beyond the lifetime of the handle object.

On 64 bit windows, the result of this function is a long integer.

---

**Note:** The result is the value of the handle before it is detached. If the handle is already detached, this will return zero.

---

### Returns

Previous HKEY integer.

**`__enter__(self)`**

Called when object is entered.

---

**Note:** Needed for the Python `with` statement.

---

**\_\_exit\_\_**(*self*, *exc\_type*, *exc\_value*, *exc\_traceback*)

Release handle on class destruction.

---

**Note:** Needed for the Python `with` statement.

---

**\_\_hash\_\_**(*self*)

Convert the object into a hash.

---

**Note:** The implementation returns the id, which should be random enough.

---

**\_\_int\_\_**(*self*)

Converting a handle to an integer returns the Win32 handle.

**\_\_nonzero\_\_**(*self*)

Handles with an open object return true, otherwise false.

**\_\_bool\_\_**(*self*)

Handles with an open object return true, otherwise false.

**\_\_repr\_\_**(*self*)

Return descriptive string for the class object.

**\_\_str\_\_**(*self*)

Return short string for the handle object.

## Public Members

**hkey**

Integer that represents the HANDLE pointer.

## Public Static Functions

**make**(*hkey*, *null\_ok=None*)

Convert a pointer into a *PyHKEY* object.

### 4.3.4 WinRegKey

**class WinRegKey**

Registry key helper class.

Manage entries in a registry key by using indexing and scanning.

## Public Functions

**`__init__(self, root_key, subkey, access)`**

Initialize the class.

### Parameters

- **`root_key`** – Root key enumeration
- **`subkey`** – String or None for name of sub key
- **`access`** – Access flags to pass to `OpenKeyEx()`

**`__enter__(self)`**

Enable enter/exit functionality.

**`__exit__(self, exception_type, exception_value, traceback)`**

Release resources on class release.

### Parameters

- **`exception_type`** – Ignored
- **`exception_value`** – Ignored
- **`traceback`** – Ignored

**`close(self)`**

Release existing key, if any.

**`open_subkey(self, subkey, access=None)`**

Open a sub key.

### Parameters

- **`subkey`** – Name of the subkey to open
- **`access`** – Desired access to the subkey.

### Returns

An instance of the *WinRegKey* of the new key.

**`get_subkeys(self)`**

Return the list of all of the sub key names.

Iterate over **all** of the sub keys **and** place their names **in** a **list**.  
Return the **list**. Unicode **is** properly handled.

### Returns

list of names of all the subkeys.

**`get_value(self, value_name=None)`**

Read a value from a registry key.

---

**Note:** If the type returned is `REG_SZ`, scan for a null and truncate. If the type returned is `REG_EXPAND_SZ`, call

`ExpandEnvironmentStrings()`

**Parameters**

**value\_name** – String of the name of the value, None for default.

**Returns**

Value returned from QueryValueEx()

**get\_all\_values**(*self*)

Return a dict of all key name and associated values.

**Returns**

dict with each item is the returned value from QueryValueEx()

**\_\_getitem\_\_**(*self*, *subkey*)

Call *open\_subkey()* with subscript.

Uses the access flags **from this** key to **open** the sub key.

**Parameters**

**subkey** – Requested sub key.

**Returns**

An instance of the *WinRegKey* of the new key.

**\_\_iter\_\_**(*self*)

Iterator of the sub keys.

Call *get\_subkeys()* **and** encapsulate the value **in** an *iter()*

**Returns**

iter of *get\_subkeys()*

**Public Members**

**key**

Key handle of opened key.

**access**

Access used to open this key, used as default to open sub keys.



## 4.4 Functions

### 4.4.1 Helper functions

#### `wslwinreg.common.winerror_to_errno`

`wslwinreg.common.winerror_to_errno(winerror)`

Convert a Windows error code into the matching errno code.

**Parameters**

**`winerror`** – Integer error code number returned by Windows

**Returns**

Corresponding errno error code or EINVAL if no match.

#### `wslwinreg.common.convert_to_utf16`

`wslwinreg.common.convert_to_utf16(input_string)`

Convert the input string into utf-16-le.

**Parameters**

**`input_string`** – string encoded in `locale.getpreferredencoding()`

**Returns**

Byte array in little endian UTF-16

#### `wslwinreg.common.to_registry_bytes`

`wslwinreg.common.to_registry_bytes(value, typ)`

Convert input data into appropriate Windows registry type.

**Exception**

`ValueError` for invalid input or `TypeError` for bad type.

**Parameters**

- **`value`** – Value to convert
- **`typ`** – Windows registry type to convert to (Example `REG_DWORD`)

**Returns**

A `ctypes.c_char` array.

### wslwinreg.common.from\_registry\_bytes

`wslwinreg.common.from_registry_bytes(input_data, input_size, typ)`

Convert raw Windows registry data into an appropriate Python object.

#### Parameters

- **input\_data** – Raw binary data
- **input\_size** – Size in bytes of the input data
- **typ** – Windows registry type to convert from (Example REG\_DWORD)

#### Returns

Data converted to appropriate Python object, or None.

### wslwinreg.get\_HKCU

`wslwinreg.get_HKCU()`

Open HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER.

#### Returns

Read only *WinRegKey* for HKEY\_CURRENT\_USER

### wslwinreg.get\_HKLM\_32

`wslwinreg.get_HKLM_32()`

Open HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE, 32 bit view.

#### Returns

Read only *WinRegKey* for HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE with KEY\_WOW64\_32KEY

### wslwinreg.get\_HKLM\_64

`wslwinreg.get_HKLM_64()`

Open HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE, 64 bit view.

#### Returns

Read only *WinRegKey* for HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE with KEY\_WOW64\_64KEY

## 4.4.2 Null implementation

On operating systems such as macOS and Linux that doesn't have a Windows operating system underpinning, all functions will raise a `NotImplementedError` exception.

### wslwinreg.nullapi.CloseKey

wslwinreg.nullapi.**CloseKey**(*hkey*)

Not implemented.

#### Exception

NotImplementedError is always thrown.

### wslwinreg.nullapi.ConnectRegistry

wslwinreg.nullapi.**ConnectRegistry**(*computer\_name*, *key*)

Not implemented.

#### Exception

NotImplementedError is always thrown.

### wslwinreg.nullapi.CreateKey

wslwinreg.nullapi.**CreateKey**(*key*, *sub\_key*)

Not implemented.

#### Exception

NotImplementedError is always thrown.

### wslwinreg.nullapi.CreateKeyEx

wslwinreg.nullapi.**CreateKeyEx**(*key*, *sub\_key*, *reserved*=0, *access*=KEY\_WRITE)

Not implemented.

#### Exception

NotImplementedError is always thrown.

### wslwinreg.nullapi.DeleteKey

wslwinreg.nullapi.**DeleteKey**(*key*, *sub\_key*)

Not implemented.

#### Exception

NotImplementedError is always thrown.

### wslwinreg.nullapi.DeleteKeyEx

wslwinreg.nullapi.**DeleteKeyEx**(*key*, *sub\_key*, *access*=KEY\_WOW64\_64KEY, *reserved*=0)

Not implemented.

#### Exception

NotImplementedError is always thrown.

### wslwinreg.nullapi.DeleteValue

wslwinreg.nullapi.**DeleteValue**(*key*, *value*)

Not implemented.

#### Exception

NotImplementedError is always thrown.

### wslwinreg.nullapi.EnumKey

wslwinreg.nullapi.**EnumKey**(*key*, *index*)

Not implemented.

#### Exception

NotImplementedError is always thrown.

### wslwinreg.nullapi.EnumValue

wslwinreg.nullapi.**EnumValue**(*key*, *index*)

Not implemented.

#### Exception

NotImplementedError is always thrown.

### wslwinreg.nullapi.ExpandEnvironmentStrings

wslwinreg.nullapi.**ExpandEnvironmentStrings**(*str*)

Not implemented.

#### Exception

NotImplementedError is always thrown.

### wslwinreg.nullapi.FlushKey

wslwinreg.nullapi.**FlushKey**(*key*)

Not implemented.

#### Exception

NotImplementedError is always thrown.

### wslwinreg.nullapi.LoadKey

wslwinreg.nullapi.**LoadKey**(*key*, *sub\_key*, *file\_name*)

Not implemented.

#### Exception

NotImplementedError is always thrown.

### wslwinreg.nullapi.OpenKey

wslwinreg.nullapi.**OpenKey**(*key*, *sub\_key*, *reserved*=0, *access*=KEY\_READ)

Not implemented.

#### Exception

NotImplementedError is always thrown.

### wslwinreg.nullapi.OpenKeyEx

wslwinreg.nullapi.**OpenKeyEx**(*key*, *sub\_key*, *reserved*=0, *access*=KEY\_READ)

Not implemented.

#### Exception

NotImplementedError is always thrown.

### wslwinreg.nullapi.QueryInfoKey

wslwinreg.nullapi.**QueryInfoKey**(*key*)

Not implemented.

#### Exception

NotImplementedError is always thrown.

### **wslwinreg.nullapi.QueryValue**

`wslwinreg.nullapi.QueryValue(key, sub_key)`

Not implemented.

#### **Exception**

`NotImplementedError` is always thrown.

### **wslwinreg.nullapi.QueryValueEx**

`wslwinreg.nullapi.QueryValueEx(key, value_name)`

Not implemented.

#### **Exception**

`NotImplementedError` is always thrown.

### **wslwinreg.nullapi.SaveKey**

`wslwinreg.nullapi.SaveKey(key, file_name)`

Not implemented.

#### **Exception**

`NotImplementedError` is always thrown.

### **wslwinreg.nullapi.SetValue**

`wslwinreg.nullapi.SetValue(key, sub_key, type, value)`

Not implemented.

#### **Exception**

`NotImplementedError` is always thrown.

### **wslwinreg.nullapi.SetValueEx**

`wslwinreg.nullapi.SetValueEx(key, value_name, reserved, type, value)`

Not implemented.

#### **Exception**

`NotImplementedError` is always thrown.

### **wslwinreg.nullapi.DisableReflectionKey**

`wslwinreg.nullapi.DisableReflectionKey(key)`

Not implemented.

#### **Exception**

`NotImplementedError` is always thrown.

### **wslwinreg.nullapi.EnableReflectionKey**

`wslwinreg.nullapi.EnableReflectionKey(key)`

Not implemented.

#### **Exception**

`NotImplementedError` is always thrown.

### **wslwinreg.nullapi.QueryReflectionKey**

`wslwinreg.nullapi.QueryReflectionKey(key)`

Not implemented.

#### **Exception**

`NotImplementedError` is always thrown.

### **wslwinreg.nullapi.convert\_to\_windows\_path**

`wslwinreg.nullapi.convert_to_windows_path(path_name)`

Convert pathname to Windows.

This is the null function, it returns the `path_name` unchanged.

#### **Return**

`path_name` as is.

#### **Parameters**

**`path_name`** – Absolute Windows pathname

### **wslwinreg.nullapi.convert\_from\_windows\_path**

`wslwinreg.nullapi.convert_from_windows_path(path_name)`

Convert pathname from Windows.

This is the null function, it returns the `path_name` unchanged.

#### **Return**

`path_name` as is.

**Parameters**

**path\_name** – Absolute Windows pathname

**wslwinreg.nullapi.get\_file\_info**

`wslwinreg.nullapi.get_file_info(path_name, string_name)`

Not implemented.

**Return**

None

**Parameters**

- **path\_name** – Name of the windows file.
- **string\_name** – Name of the data chunk to retrieve

### 4.4.3 Cygwin / MSYS2 implementation

On Cygwin and MSYS2 platforms, the CDLL exposes the Windows API directly so these python functions mimic the C code from Python for Windows and calls the Windows API to perform the low level work.

**wslwinreg.cygwinapi.CloseKey**

`wslwinreg.cygwinapi.CloseKey(hkey)`

Closes a previously opened registry key.

The hkey argument specifies a previously opened key.

---

**Note:** If hkey is not closed using this method (or via `hkey.Close()`), it is closed when the hkey object is destroyed by Python.

---

**Parameters**

**hkey** – *PyHKEY* object or None.

**wslwinreg.cygwinapi.ConnectRegistry**

`wslwinreg.cygwinapi.ConnectRegistry(computer_name, key)`

Establishes a connection to a predefined registry handle.

Establishes a connection to a predefined registry handle on another computer, and returns a handle object.

**Exception**

*WindowsError* or *FileNotFoundError*

**Parameters**

- **computer\_name** – Is the name of the remote computer, of the form `r"\\computername"`. If None, the local computer is used.



- **key** – Is the predefined handle to connect to.

**Returns**

*PyHKEY* object

**wslwinreg.cygwinapi.CreateKey**

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**CreateKey**(key, sub\_key)

Creates or opens the specified key.

If key is one of the predefined keys, sub\_key may be None. In that case, the handle returned is the same key handle passed in to the function.

If the key already exists, this function opens the existing key.

**Exception**

*WindowsError* or *FileNotFoundError*

**Parameters**

- **key** – Is an already open key, or one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **sub\_key** – Is a string that names the key this method opens or creates.

**Returns**

Handle of the opened key.

**wslwinreg.cygwinapi.CreateKeyEx**

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**CreateKeyEx**(key, sub\_key, reserved=0, access=KEY\_WRITE)

Creates or opens the specified key.

If key is one of the predefined keys, sub\_key may be None. In that case, the handle returned is the same key handle passed in to the function.

If the key already exists, this function opens the existing key.

**Exception**

*WindowsError* or *FileNotFoundError*

**Parameters**

- **key** – Is an already open key, or one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants
- **sub\_key** – Is a string that names the key this method opens or creates.
- **reserved** – Is a reserved integer, and must be zero. The default is zero.
- **access** – Is an integer that specifies an access mask that describes the desired security access for the key. Default is *common.KEY\_WRITE*.

**Returns**

Handle of the opened key.

### wslwinreg.cygwinapi.DeleteKey

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.DeleteKey(*key*, *sub\_key*)

Deletes the specified key.

If the method succeeds, the entire key, including all of its values, is removed.

#### Exception

*WindowsError*

---

**Note:** This method can not delete keys with subkeys.

---

#### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **sub\_key** – Is a string that must be a subkey of the key identified by the key parameter. This value must not be None, and the key may not have subkeys.

### wslwinreg.cygwinapi.DeleteKeyEx

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.DeleteKeyEx(*key*, *sub\_key*, *access*=KEY\_WOW64\_64KEY, *reserved*=0)

Deletes the specified key.

If the method succeeds, the entire key, including all of its values, is removed.

#### Exception

*WindowsError*

---

**Note:** This method can not delete keys with subkeys.

---

#### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **sub\_key** – Os a string that must be a subkey of the key identified by the key parameter. This value must not be None, and the key may not have subkeys.
- **access** – Is an integer that specifies an access mask that describes the desired security access for the key. Default is *common.KEY\_WOW64\_64KEY*.
- **reserved** – Is a reserved integer, and must be zero. The default is zero.

### wslwinreg.cygwinapi.DeleteValue

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**DeleteValue**(*key*, *value*)

Removes a named value from a registry key.

#### Exception

*WindowsError* or *FileNotFoundError*

#### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **value** – Is a string that identifies the value to remove.

### wslwinreg.cygwinapi.EnumKey

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**EnumKey**(*key*, *index*)

Enumerates subkeys of an open registry key, returning a string.

The function retrieves the name of one subkey each time it is called. It is typically called repeatedly until an *OSError* exception is raised, indicating no more values are available.

#### Exception

*WindowsError* or *FileNotFoundError*

#### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **index** – Is an integer that identifies the index of the key to retrieve.

### wslwinreg.cygwinapi.EnumValue

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**EnumValue**(*key*, *index*)

Enumerates values of an open registry key, returning a tuple.

The function retrieves the name of one subkey each time it is called. It is typically called repeatedly, until an *OSError* exception is raised, indicating no more values.

Index	Meaning
0	A string that identifies the value.
1	An object that holds the value data, and whose type depends on the underlying registry type
2	An integer that identifies the type of the value data

#### Exception

*WindowsError* or *FileNotFoundError*

#### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.

- **index** – Is an integer that identifies the index of the value to retrieve.

**Returns**

A tuple of 3 items.

## wslwinreg.cygwinapi.ExpandEnvironmentStrings

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**ExpandEnvironmentStrings**(*str*)

Expands environment variables.

Expands environment variable placeholders NAME% in strings like REG\_EXPAND\_SZ.

**Exception**

*WindowsError*

**Parameters**

**str** – String to expand.

**Returns**

Expanded string

## wslwinreg.cygwinapi.FlushKey

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**FlushKey**(*key*)

Writes all the attributes of a key to the registry.

It is not necessary to call `FlushKey()` to change a key. Registry changes are flushed to disk by the registry using its lazy flusher. Registry changes are also flushed to disk at system shutdown. Unlike `CloseKey()`, the `FlushKey()` method returns only when all the data has been written to the registry. An application should only call `FlushKey()` if it requires absolute certainty that registry changes are on disk.

**Exception**

*WindowsError*

---

**Note:** If you don't know whether a `FlushKey()` call is required, it probably isn't.

---

**Parameters**

**key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.

## wslwinreg.cygwinapi.LoadKey

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**LoadKey**(*key*, *sub\_key*, *file\_name*)

Creates a subkey under the specified key.

Creates a subkey under the specified key and stores registration information from a specified file into that subkey.

This file must have been created with the `SaveKey()` function. Under the file allocation table (FAT) file system, the filename may not have an extension.

A call to `LoadKey()` fails if the calling process does not have the SE\_RESTORE\_PRIVILEGE privilege.

If key is a handle returned by `ConnectRegistry()`, then the path specified in `fileName` is relative to the remote computer.

**Exception**

*WindowsError* or *FileNotFoundError*

**Parameters**

- **key** – Is a handle returned by `ConnectRegistry()` or one of the constants *common.HKEY\_USERS* or *common.HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE*.
- **sub\_key** – Is a string that identifies the sub\_key to load
- **file\_name** – Is the name of the file to load registry data from.

**wslwinreg.cygwinapi.OpenKey**

`wslwinreg.cygwinapi.OpenKey(key, sub_key, reserved=0, access=KEY_READ)`

Opens the specified key, returning a handle object.

**Exception**

*WindowsError* or *FileNotFoundError*

**Parameters**

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined `HKEY_*` constants.
- **sub\_key** – Is a string that identifies the sub\_key to open
- **reserved** – Is a reserved integer, and must be zero. Default is zero.
- **access** – Is an integer that specifies an access mask that describes the desired security access for the key. Default is `KEY_READ`.

**Returns**

A new handle to the specified key.

**wslwinreg.cygwinapi.OpenKeyEx**

`wslwinreg.cygwinapi.OpenKeyEx(key, sub_key, reserved=0, access=KEY_READ)`

Opens the specified key, returning a handle object.

**Exception**

*WindowsError* or *FileNotFoundError*

**Parameters**

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined `HKEY_*` constants.
- **sub\_key** – Is a string that identifies the sub\_key to open
- **reserved** – Is a reserved integer, and must be zero. Default is zero.
- **access** – Is an integer that specifies an access mask that describes the desired security access for the key. Default is `KEY_READ`.

**Returns**

A new handle to the specified key.

**wslwinreg.cygwinapi.QueryInfoKey**

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**QueryInfoKey**(*key*)

Returns information about a key, as a tuple.

In- dex	Meaning
0	An integer giving the number of sub keys this key has.
1	An integer giving the number of values this key has.
2	An integer giving when the key was last modified (if available) as 100's of nanoseconds since Jan 1, 1601.

**Exception**

*WindowsError* or *FileNotFoundError*

**Parameters**

**key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.

**Returns**

A tuple of 3 items.

**wslwinreg.cygwinapi.QueryValue**

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**QueryValue**(*key*, *sub\_key*)

Retrieves the unnamed value for a key, as a string.

Values in the registry have name, type, and data components. This method retrieves the data for a key's first value that has a NULL name. But the underlying API call doesn't return the type, so always use `QueryValueEx()` if possible.

**Exception**

*WindowsError* or *FileNotFoundError*

**Parameters**

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **sub\_key** – Is a string that holds the name of the subkey with which the value is associated. If this parameter is `None` or empty, the function retrieves the value set by the `SetValue()` method for the key identified by `key`.

### wslwinreg.cygwinapi.QueryValueEx

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**QueryValueEx**(key, value\_name)

Retrieves the type and data for a specified value name.

Retrieves the type and data for a specified value name associated with an open registry key.

Index	Meaning
0	The value of the registry item.
1	An integer giving the registry type for this value.

#### Exception

*WindowsError* or *FileNotFoundError*

#### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **value\_name** – Is a string indicating the value to query.

#### Returns

A tuple of 2 items.

### wslwinreg.cygwinapi.SaveKey

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**SaveKey**(key, file\_name)

Saves the specified key, and all its subkeys to the specified file.

If key represents a key on a remote computer, the path described by file\_name is relative to the remote computer. The caller of this method must possess the SeBackupPrivilege security privilege.

This function passes NULL for security\_attributes to the API.

#### Exception

*WindowsError* or *FileNotFoundError*

---

**Note:** Privileges are different than permissions.

---

#### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **file\_name** – Is the name of the file to save registry data to. This file cannot already exist. If this filename includes an extension, it cannot be used on file allocation table (FAT) file systems by the LoadKey() method.

## wslwinreg.cygwinapi.SetValue

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.SetValue(*key*, *sub\_key*, *type*, *value*)

Associates a value with a specified key.

If the key specified by the *sub\_key* parameter does not exist, the SetValue function creates it.

Value lengths are limited by available memory. Long values (more than 2048 bytes) should be stored as files with the filenames stored in the configuration registry. This helps the registry perform efficiently.

The key identified by the *key* parameter must have been opened with *common.KEY\_SET\_VALUE* access.

### Exception

TypeError, *WindowsError* or *FileNotFoundError*

### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **sub\_key** – Is a string that names the subkey with which the value is associated.
- **type** – is an integer that specifies the type of the data. Currently this must be REG\_SZ, meaning only strings are supported. Use the SetValueEx() function for support for other data types.
- **value** – Is a string that specifies the new value.

## wslwinreg.cygwinapi.SetValueEx

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.SetValueEx(*key*, *value\_name*, *reserved*, *type*, *value*)

Stores data in the value field of an open registry key.

This method can also set additional value and type information for the specified key. The key identified by the *key* parameter must have been opened with KEY\_SET\_VALUE access.

To open the key, use the CreateKeyEx() or OpenKeyEx() methods.

Value lengths are limited by available memory. Long values (more than 2048 bytes) should be stored as files with the filenames stored in the configuration registry. This helps the registry perform efficiently.

### Exception

*WindowsError* or *FileNotFoundError*

### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **value\_name** – Is a string that names the subkey with which the value is associated.
- **reserved** – can be anything – zero is always passed to the API.
- **type** – Is an integer that specifies the type of the data.
- **value** – Is a string that specifies the new value.



### wslwinreg.cygwinapi.DisableReflectionKey

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**DisableReflectionKey**(*key*)

Disables registry reflection.

Disables registry reflection for 32-bit processes running on a 64-bit operating system.

If the key is not on the reflection list, the function succeeds but has no effect. Disabling reflection for a key does not affect reflection of any subkeys.

#### Exception

*WindowsError*

#### Parameters

**key** – Is an already open key, or one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.

### wslwinreg.cygwinapi.EnableReflectionKey

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**EnableReflectionKey**(*key*)

Restores registry reflection for the specified disabled key.

Restoring reflection for a key does not affect reflection of any subkeys.

#### Exception

*WindowsError*

#### Parameters

**key** – Is an already open key, or one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.

### wslwinreg.cygwinapi.QueryReflectionKey

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**QueryReflectionKey**(*key*)

Determines the reflection state for the specified key.

#### Parameters

**key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.

#### Returns

True if reflection is disabled.

### wslwinreg.cygwinapi.convert\_to\_windows\_path

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**convert\_to\_windows\_path**(*path\_name*)

Convert a MSYS/Cygwin path to windows if needed.

If the path is already Windows format, it will be returned unchanged.

#### See also:

*convert\_from\_windows\_path*

**Return**

Pathname converted to Windows.

**Parameters**

**path\_name** – Windows or Linux pathname

**wslwinreg.cygwinapi.convert\_from\_windows\_path**

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**convert\_from\_windows\_path**(*path\_name*)

Convert an absolute Windows path to Cygwin/MSYS2.

If the path is already Cygwin/MSYS2 format, it will be returned unchanged.

**See also:**

*[convert\\_to\\_windows\\_path](#)*

**Return**

Pathname converted to Linux.

**Parameters**

**path\_name** – Absolute Windows pathname

**wslwinreg.cygwinapi.get\_file\_info**

wslwinreg.cygwinapi.**get\_file\_info**(*path\_name*, *string\_name*)

Extract information from a windows exe file version resource.

Given a windows exe file, extract the “StringFileInfo” resource and parse out the data chunk named by *string\_name*.

Full list of resource names: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/desktop/menurc/stringfileinfo-block>

**Examples**

```
file_version = get_file_info("devenv.exe", "FileVersion")
product_version = get_file_info("devenv.exe", "ProductVersion")
```

**Return**

None if no record found or an error, or a valid string

**Parameters**

- **path\_name** – Name of the windows file.
- **string\_name** – Name of the data chunk to retrieve

#### 4.4.4 Windows Subsystem for Linux implementation

On Windows Subsystem for Windows, the calls are sent to a server that will issue the calls directly in the Windows host which performs the actual the low level work.

##### wslwinreg.wslapi.CloseKey

wslwinreg.wslapi.**CloseKey**(*hkey*)

Closes a previously opened registry key.

The *hkey* argument specifies a previously opened key.

---

**Note:** If *hkey* is not closed using this method (or via *hkey.Close()*), it is closed when the *hkey* object is destroyed by Python.

---

##### Parameters

**hkey** – PyHKEY object or None.

##### wslwinreg.wslapi.ConnectRegistry

wslwinreg.wslapi.**ConnectRegistry**(*computer\_name*, *key*)

Establishes a connection to a predefined registry handle.

Establishes a connection to a predefined registry handle on another computer, and returns a handle object.

##### Exception

WindowsError or FileNotFoundError

##### Parameters

- **computer\_name** – Is the name of the remote computer, of the form `r"\\computername"`. If None, the local computer is used.
- **key** – Is the predefined handle to connect to.

##### Returns

PyHKEY object

##### wslwinreg.wslapi.CreateKey

wslwinreg.wslapi.**CreateKey**(*key*, *sub\_key*)

Creates or opens the specified key.

If *key* is one of the predefined keys, *sub\_key* may be None. In that case, the handle returned is the same key handle passed in to the function.

If the key already exists, this function opens the existing key.

##### Exception

WindowsError or FileNotFoundError

#### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **sub\_key** – Is a string that names the key this method opens or creates.

#### Returns

Handle of the opened key.

### wslwinreg.wslapi.CreateKeyEx

wslwinreg.wslapi.**CreateKeyEx**(key, sub\_key, reserved=0, access=KEY\_WRITE)

Creates or opens the specified key.

If key is one of the predefined keys, sub\_key may be None. In that case, the handle returned is the same key handle passed in to the function.

If the key already exists, this function opens the existing key.

#### Exception

WindowsError or FileNotFoundError

#### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants
- **sub\_key** – Is a string that names the key this method opens or creates.
- **reserved** – Is a reserved integer, and must be zero. The default is zero.
- **access** – Is an integer that specifies an access mask that describes the desired security access for the key. Default is *common.KEY\_WRITE*.

#### Returns

Handle of the opened key.

### wslwinreg.wslapi.DeleteKey

wslwinreg.wslapi.**DeleteKey**(key, sub\_key)

Not implemented.

#### Exception

NotImplementedError is always thrown.

### wslwinreg.wslapi.DeleteKeyEx

wslwinreg.wslapi.**DeleteKeyEx**(key, sub\_key, access=KEY\_WOW64\_64KEY, reserved=0)

Deletes the specified key.

If the method succeeds, the entire key, including all of its values, is removed.

#### Exception

WindowsError

---

**Note:** This method can not delete keys with subkeys.

---

#### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **sub\_key** – Os a string that must be a subkey of the key identified by the key parameter. This value must not be `None`, and the key may not have subkeys.
- **access** – Is an integer that specifies an access mask that describes the desired security access for the key. Default is `common.KEY_WOW64_64KEY`.
- **reserved** – Is a reserved integer, and must be zero. The default is zero.

### wslwinreg.wslapi.DeleteValue

wslwinreg.wslapi.**DeleteValue**(key, value)

Removes a named value from a registry key.

#### Exception

WindowsError or FileNotFoundError

#### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **value** – Is a string that identifies the value to remove.

### wslwinreg.wslapi.EnumKey

wslwinreg.wslapi.**EnumKey**(key, index)

Enumerates subkeys of an open registry key, returning a string.

The function retrieves the name of one subkey each time it is called. It is typically called repeatedly until an `OSError` exception is raised, indicating no more values are available.

#### Exception

WindowsError or FileNotFoundError

#### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **index** – Is an integer that identifies the index of the key to retrieve.

## wslwinreg.wslapi.EnumValue

wslwinreg.wslapi.**EnumValue**(*key*, *index*)

Enumerates values of an open registry key, returning a tuple.

The function retrieves the name of one subkey each time it is called. It is typically called repeatedly, until an `OSError` exception is raised, indicating no more values.

Index	Meaning
0	A string that identifies the value.
1	An object that holds the value data, and whose type depends on the underlying registry type
2	An integer that identifies the type of the value data

### Exception

`WindowsError` or `FileNotFoundError`

### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined `HKEY_*` constants.
- **index** – Is an integer that identifies the index of the value to retrieve.

### Returns

A tuple of 3 items.

## wslwinreg.wslapi.ExpandEnvironmentStrings

wslwinreg.wslapi.**ExpandEnvironmentStrings**(*str*)

Expands environment variables.

Expands environment variable placeholders `NAME%` in strings like `REG_EXPAND_SZ`.

### Exception

`WindowsError`

### Parameters

**str** – String to expand.

### Returns

Expanded string

## wslwinreg.wslapi.FlushKey

wslwinreg.wslapi.**FlushKey**(key)

Writes all the attributes of a key to the registry.

It is not necessary to call `FlushKey()` to change a key. Registry changes are flushed to disk by the registry using its lazy flusher. Registry changes are also flushed to disk at system shutdown. Unlike `CloseKey()`, the `FlushKey()` method returns only when all the data has been written to the registry. An application should only call `FlushKey()` if it requires absolute certainty that registry changes are on disk.

### Exception

WindowsError

---

**Note:** If you don't know whether a `FlushKey()` call is required, it probably isn't.

---

### Parameters

**key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined `HKEY_*` constants.

## wslwinreg.wslapi.LoadKey

wslwinreg.wslapi.**LoadKey**(key, sub\_key, file\_name)

Creates a subkey under the specified key.

Creates a subkey under the specified key and stores registration information from a specified file into that subkey.

This file must have been created with the `SaveKey()` function. Under the file allocation table (FAT) file system, the filename may not have an extension.

A call to `LoadKey()` fails if the calling process does not have the `SE_RESTORE_PRIVILEGE` privilege.

If key is a handle returned by `ConnectRegistry()`, then the path specified in `fileName` is relative to the remote computer.

### Exception

WindowsError or FileNotFoundError

### Parameters

- **key** – Is a handle returned by `ConnectRegistry()` or one of the constants *common.HKEY\_USERS* or *common.HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE*.
- **sub\_key** – Is a string that identifies the sub\_key to load
- **file\_name** – Is the name of the file to load registry data from.

### wslwinreg.wslapi.OpenKey

wslwinreg.wslapi.**OpenKey**(key, sub\_key, reserved=0, access=KEY\_READ)

Opens the specified key, returning a handle object.

#### Exception

WindowsError or FileNotFoundError

#### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **sub\_key** – Is a string that identifies the sub\_key to open
- **reserved** – Is a reserved integer, and must be zero. Default is zero.
- **access** – Is an integer that specifies an access mask that describes the desired security access for the key. Default is KEY\_READ.

#### Returns

A new handle to the specified key.

### wslwinreg.wslapi.OpenKeyEx

wslwinreg.wslapi.**OpenKeyEx**(key, sub\_key, reserved=0, access=KEY\_READ)

Opens the specified key, returning a handle object.

#### Exception

WindowsError or FileNotFoundError

#### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **sub\_key** – Is a string that identifies the sub\_key to open
- **reserved** – Is a reserved integer, and must be zero. Default is zero.
- **access** – Is an integer that specifies an access mask that describes the desired security access for the key. Default is KEY\_READ.

#### Returns

A new handle to the specified key.

### wslwinreg.wslapi.QueryInfoKey

wslwinreg.wslapi.**QueryInfoKey**(key)

Returns information about a key, as a tuple.



In- dex	Meaning
0	An integer giving the number of sub keys this key has.
1	An integer giving the number of values this key has.
2	An integer giving when the key was last modified (if available) as 100's of nanoseconds since Jan 1, 1601.

**Exception**

WindowsError or FileNotFoundError

**Parameters**

**key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.

**Returns**

A tuple of 3 items.

**wslwinreg.wslapi.QueryValue**

wslwinreg.wslapi.**QueryValue**(key, sub\_key)

Retrieves the unnamed value for a key, as a string.

Values in the registry have name, type, and data components. This method retrieves the data for a key's first value that has a NULL name. But the underlying API call doesn't return the type, so always use QueryValueEx() if possible.

**Exception**

WindowsError or FileNotFoundError

**Parameters**

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **sub\_key** – Is a string that holds the name of the subkey with which the value is associated. If this parameter is None or empty, the function retrieves the value set by the SetValue() method for the key identified by key.

**wslwinreg.wslapi.QueryValueEx**

wslwinreg.wslapi.**QueryValueEx**(key, value\_name)

Retrieves the type and data for a specified value name.

Retrieves the type and data for a specified value name associated with an open registry key.

Index	Meaning
0	The value of the registry item.
1	An integer giving the registry type for this value.

**Exception**

WindowsError or FileNotFoundError

**Parameters**

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **value\_name** – Is a string indicating the value to query.

**Returns**

A tuple of 2 items.

## wslwinreg.wslapi.SaveKey

wslwinreg.wslapi.**SaveKey**(key, file\_name)

Saves the specified key, and all its subkeys to the specified file.

If key represents a key on a remote computer, the path described by file\_name is relative to the remote computer. The caller of this method must possess the SeBackupPrivilege security privilege.

This function passes NULL for security\_attributes to the API.

**Exception**

WindowsError or FileNotFoundError

---

**Note:** Privileges are different than permissions.

---

**Parameters**

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **file\_name** – Is the name of the file to save registry data to. This file cannot already exist. If this filename includes an extension, it cannot be used on file allocation table (FAT) file systems by the LoadKey() method.

## wslwinreg.wslapi.SetValue

wslwinreg.wslapi.**SetValue**(key, sub\_key, type, value)

Associates a value with a specified key.

If the key specified by the sub\_key parameter does not exist, the SetValue function creates it.

Value lengths are limited by available memory. Long values (more than 2048 bytes) should be stored as files with the filenames stored in the configuration registry. This helps the registry perform efficiently.

The key identified by the key parameter must have been opened with *common.KEY\_SET\_VALUE* access.

**Exception**

TypeError, WindowsError or FileNotFoundError

**Parameters**

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **sub\_key** – Is a string that names the subkey with which the value is associated.

- **type** – is an integer that specifies the type of the data. Currently this must be REG\_SZ, meaning only strings are supported. Use the SetValueEx() function for support for other data types.
- **value** – Is a string that specifies the new value.

### wslwinreg.wslapi.SetValueEx

wslwinreg.wslapi.SetValueEx(*key, value\_name, reserved, type, value*)

Stores data in the value field of an open registry key.

This method can also set additional value and type information for the specified key. The key identified by the key parameter must have been opened with KEY\_SET\_VALUE access.

To open the key, use the CreateKeyEx() or OpenKeyEx() methods.

Value lengths are limited by available memory. Long values (more than 2048 bytes) should be stored as files with the filenames stored in the configuration registry. This helps the registry perform efficiently.

#### Exception

WindowsError or FileNotFoundError

#### Parameters

- **key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.
- **value\_name** – Is a string that names the subkey with which the value is associated.
- **reserved** – can be anything – zero is always passed to the API.
- **type** – Is an integer that specifies the type of the data.
- **value** – Is a string that specifies the new value.

### wslwinreg.wslapi.DisableReflectionKey

wslwinreg.wslapi.DisableReflectionKey(*key*)

Disables registry reflection.

Disables registry reflection for 32-bit processes running on a 64-bit operating system.

If the key is not on the reflection list, the function succeeds but has no effect. Disabling reflection for a key does not affect reflection of any subkeys.

#### Exception

WindowsError

#### Parameters

- key** – Is an already open key, or one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.

### wslwinreg.wslapi.EnableReflectionKey

wslwinreg.wslapi.**EnableReflectionKey**(*key*)

Restores registry reflection for the specified disabled key.

Restoring reflection for a key does not affect reflection of any subkeys.

#### Exception

WindowsError

#### Parameters

**key** – Is an already open key, or one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.

### wslwinreg.wslapi.QueryReflectionKey

wslwinreg.wslapi.**QueryReflectionKey**(*key*)

Determines the reflection state for the specified key.

#### Parameters

**key** – Is an already open key, or any one of the predefined HKEY\_\* constants.

#### Returns

True if reflection is disabled.

### wslwinreg.wslapi.convert\_to\_windows\_path

wslwinreg.wslapi.**convert\_to\_windows\_path**(*path\_name*)

Convert a WSL path to windows if needed.

If the path is already Windows format, it will be returned unchanged.

#### See also:

[\*convert\\_from\\_windows\\_path\*](#)

#### Return

Pathname converted to Windows.

#### Parameters

**path\_name** – Windows or Linux pathname

### wslwinreg.wslapi.convert\_from\_windows\_path

wslwinreg.wslapi.**convert\_from\_windows\_path**(*path\_name*)

Convert an absolute Windows path to WSL.

If the path is already Linux format, it will be returned unchanged.

#### See also:

[\*convert\\_to\\_windows\\_path\*](#)

**Return**

Pathname converted to Linux.

**Parameters**

**path\_name** – Absolute Windows pathname

**wslwinreg.wslapi.get\_file\_info**

wslwinreg.wslapi.get\_file\_info(path\_name, string\_name)

Extract information from a windows exe file version resource.

Given a windows exe file, extract the “StringFileInfo” resource and parse out the data chunk named by string\_name.

Full list of resource names: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/desktop/menurc/stringfileinfo-block>

**Examples**

```
file_version = get_file_info("devenv.exe", "FileVersion")
product_version = get_file_info("devenv.exe", "ProductVersion")
```

**Return**

None if no record found or an error, or a valid string

**Parameters**

- **path\_name** – Name of the windows file.
- **string\_name** – Name of the data chunk to retrieve

## 4.5 License

### 4.5.1 MIT License

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