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# **Model Mommy Documentation**

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Model-mommy offers you a smart way to create fixtures for testing in Django. With a simple and powerful API you can create many objects with a single line of code.



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## Contributing to Model Mommy

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As an open source project, Model Mommy welcomes contributions of many forms

Examples of contributions include:

- Code Patches
- Documentation improvements
- Bug reports





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**Install**

---

Run the command above

```
pip install model_mommy
```



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## Contributing

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1. Prepare a virtual environment.

```
pip install virtualenvwrapper
mkvirtualenv model_mommy --no-site-packages --distribute
```

2. Install the requirements.

```
pip install -r dev_requirements.txt
```

3. Run the tests.

```
make test
```



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**Inspiration**

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*Model-mommy* was inspired by many great open source software like ruby's ObjectDaddy and FactoryGirl.



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## Doubts? Loved it? Hated it? Suggestions?

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Join our mailing list for support, development and ideas!

- <https://groups.google.com/group/model-mommy>

Contents:

### 5.1 Basic Usage

Let's say you have an app **family** with a model like this:

File: model.py

```
class Kid(models.Model):
    """
    Model class Kid of family app
    """
    happy = models.BooleanField()
    name = models.CharField(max_length=30)
    age = models.IntegerField()
    bio = models.TextField()
    wanted_games_qtd = models.BigIntegerField()
    birthday = models.DateField()
    appointment = models.DateTimeField()
```

To create a persisted instance, just call Mommy:

File: test\_model.py

```
# -*- coding:utf-8 -*-

#Core Django imports
from django.test import TestCase

#Third-party app imports
from model_mommy import mommy
from model_mommy.recipe import Recipe, foreign_key

# Relative imports of the 'app-name' package
from .models import Kid

class KidTestModel(TestCase):
    """
```

```
Class to test the model
Kid
"""

def setUp(self):
    """
    Set up all the tests
    """
    self.kid = mommy.make(Kid)
```

No need to pass attributes every damn time.

Importing every model over and over again is boring. So let Mommy import them for you:

```
from model_mommy import mommy

# 1st form: app_label.model_name
kid = mommy.make('family.Kid')

# 2nd form: model_name
dog = mommy.make('Dog')
```

---

**Note:** You can only use the 2nd form on unique model names. If you have an app family with a Dog, and an app farm with a Dog, you must use the app\_label.model\_name form.

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**Note:** model\_name is case insensitive.

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### 5.1.1 Model Relationships

Mommy also handles relationships. Say the kid has a dog:

File: model.py

```
class Kid(models.Model):
    """
    Model class Kid of family app
    """
    happy = models.BooleanField()
    name = models.CharField(max_length=30)
    age = models.IntegerField()
    bio = models.TextField()
    wanted_games_qtd = models.BigIntegerField()
    birthday = models.DateField()
    appointment = models.DateTimeField()

    class Meta:
        verbose_name = _(u'Kid')
        verbose_name_plural = _(u'Kids')

    def __unicode__(self):
        """
        Return the name of kid
        """
        return u'%s' % (self.name)
```



```
class Dog(models.Model):
    """
    Model class Dog of family app
    """
    owner = models.ForeignKey('Kid')
```

when you ask Mommy:

File: test\_model.py

```
# -*- coding:utf-8 -*-

#Core Django imports
from django.test import TestCase

#Third-party app imports
from model_mommy import mommy
from model_mommy.recipe import Recipe, foreign_key

# Relative imports of the 'app-name' package

class DogTestModel(TestCase):
    """
    Class to test the model
    Dog
    """

    def setUp(self):
        """
        Set up all the tests
        """
        self.rex = mommy.make('family.Dog')
```

She will also create the Kid, automagically. **NOTE: ForeignKeys and OneToOneFields** Since Django 1.8, ForeignKey and OneToOne fields don't accept unpersisted model instances anymore. This means if you do:

```
mommy.prepare('family.Dog')
```

You'll end with a persisted "Kid" instance.

### 5.1.2 M2M Relationships

File: test\_model.py

```
# -*- coding:utf-8 -*-

#Core Django imports
from django.test import TestCase

#Third-party app imports
from model_mommy import mommy
from model_mommy.recipe import Recipe, foreign_key

# Relative imports of the 'app-name' package

class DogTestModel(TestCase):
    """
    Class to test the model
```

```
Dog
"""

def setUp(self):
    """
    Set up all the tests
    """
    self.rex = mommy.make('family.Dog', make_m2m=True)
```

### 5.1.3 Defining some attributes

Of course it's possible to explicitly set values for attributes.

File: test\_model.py

```
# -*- coding:utf-8 -*-

#Core Django imports
from django.test import TestCase

#Third-party app imports
from model_mommy import mommy
from model_mommy.recipe import Recipe, foreign_key

# Relative imports of the 'app-name' package
from .models import Kid

class KidTestModel(TestCase):
    """
    Class to test the model
    Kid
    """

    def setUp(self):
        """
        Set up all the tests
        """
        self.kid = mommy.make(
            Kid,
            age=3
        )

        self.another_kid = mommy.make(
            'family.Kid',
            age=6
        )
```

Related objects attributes are also reachable by their name or related names:

File: test\_model.py

```
# -*- coding:utf-8 -*-

#Core Django imports
from django.test import TestCase

#Third-party app imports
from model_mommy import mommy
```

```

from model_mommy.recipe import Recipe, foreign_key

# Relative imports of the 'app-name' package
from .models import Dog

class DogTestModel(TestCase):
    """
    Class to test the model
    Dog
    """

    def setUp(self):
        """
        Set up all the tests
        """

        self.bobs_dog = mommy.make(
            'family.Dog',
            owner__name='Bob'
        )

```

### 5.1.4 Non persistent objects

If you don't need a persisted object, *Mommy* can handle this for you as well:

```

from model_mommy import mommy

kid = mommy.prepare('family.Kid')

```

It works like *make*, but it doesn't persist the instance neither the related instances.

If you want to persist only the related instances but not your model, you can use the *\_save\_related* parameter for it:

```

from model_mommy import mommy

dog = mommy.prepare('family.Dog', _save_related=True)
assert dog.id is None
assert bool(dog.owner.id) is True

```

### 5.1.5 More than one instance

If you need to create more than one instance of the model, you can use the *\_quantity* parameter for it:

```

from model_mommy import mommy

kids = mommy.make('family.Kid', _quantity=3)
assert len(kids) == 3

```

It also works with *prepare*:

```

from model_mommy import mommy

kids = mommy.prepare('family.Kid', _quantity=3)
assert len(kids) == 3

```

## 5.2 How mommy behaves?

By default, *model-mommy* skips fields with `null=True` or `blank=True`. Also if a field has a *default* value, it will be used.

You can override this behavior by:

1. Explicitly defining values

```
# from "Basic Usage" page, assume all fields either null=True or blank=True
from .models import Kid
from model_mommy import mommy

kid = mommy.make(Kid, happy=True, bio='Happy kid')
```

2. Passing `_fill_optional` with a list of fields to fill with random data

```
kid = mommy.make(Kid, _fill_optional=['happy', 'bio'])
```

3. Passing `_fill_optional=True` to fill all fields with random data

```
kid = mommy.make(Kid, _fill_optional=True)
```

### 5.2.1 When shouldn't you let mommy generate things for you?

If you have fields with special validation, you should set their values by yourself.

*Model-mommy* should handle fields that:

1. don't matter for the test you're writing;
2. don't require special validation (like unique, etc);
3. are required to create the object.

### 5.2.2 Currently supported fields

- BooleanField, IntegerField, BigIntegerField, SmallIntegerField, PositiveIntegerField, PositiveSmallIntegerField, FloatField, DecimalField
- CharField, TextField, BinaryField, SlugField, URLField, EmailField, IPAddressField, GenericIPAddressField
- ForeignKey, OneToOneField, ManyToManyField (even with through model)
- DateField, DateTimeField, TimeField
- FileField, ImageField

### 5.2.3 Custom fields

Model-mommy allows you to define generators methods for your custom fields or overrides its default generators. This could be achieved by specifying the field and generator function for the `generators.add` function. Both can be the real python objects imported in settings or just specified as import path string.

Examples:

```

from model_mommy import mommy

def gen_func():
    return 'value'

mommy.generators.add('test.generic.fields.CustomField', gen_func)

```

```

# in the module code.path:
def gen_func():
    return 'value'

# in your tests.py file:
from model_mommy import mommy

mommy.generatos.add('test.generic.fields.CustomField', 'code.path.gen_func')

```

## 5.2.4 Customizing Mommy

In some rare cases, you might need to customize the way Mommy behaves. This can be achieved by creating a new class and specifying it in your settings files. It is likely that you will want to extend Mommy, however the minimum requirement is that the custom class have *make* and *prepare* functions. In order for the custom class to be used, make sure to use the `model_mommy.mommy.make` and `model_mommy.mommy.prepare` functions, and not `model_mommy.mommy.Mommy` directly.

Examples:

```

# in the module code.path:
class CustomMommy(mommy.Mommy)
    def get_fields(self):
        return [
            field
            for field in super(CustomMommy, self).get_fields()
            if not field isinstance CustomField
        ]

# in your settings.py file:
MOMMY_CUSTOM_CLASS = 'code.path.CustomMommy'

```

## 5.2.5 Save method custom parameters

If you have overwritten the *save* method for a model, you can pass custom parameters to it using model mommy. Example:

```

class ProjectWithCustomSave(models.Model)
    # some model fields
    created_by = models.ForeignKey(settings.AUTH_USER_MODEL)

    def save(self, user, *args, **kwargs):
        self.created_by = user
        return super(ProjectWithCustomSave, self).save(*args, **kwargs)

#with model mommy:
user = mommy.make(settings.AUTH_USER_MODEL)
project = mommy.make(ProjectWithCustomSave, _save_kwargs={'user': user})
assert user == project.user

```

## 5.3 Recipes

If you're not comfortable with random data or even you just want to improve the semantics of the generated data, there's hope for you.

You can define a recipe, which is a set of rules to generate data for your models. Create a module called `mommy_recipes.py` at your app's root directory:

```
fixtures/
migrations/
templates/
tests/
__init__.py
admin.py
managers.py
models.py
mommy_recipes.py
urls.py
views.py
```

File: `mommy_recipes.py`

```
from model_mommy.recipe import Recipe
from family.models import Person

person = Recipe(
    Person,
    name = 'John Doe',
    nickname = 'joe',
    age = 18,
    birthday = date.today(),
    appointment = datetime.now()
)
```

---

**Note:** You don't have to declare all the fields if you don't want to. Omitted fields will be generated automatically.

---

File: `test_model.py`

```
# -*- coding:utf-8 -*-

#Core Django imports
from django.test import TestCase

#Third-party app imports
from model_mommy import mommy
from model_mommy.recipe import Recipe, foreign_key

# Relative imports of the 'app-name' package
from .models import Person, Contact

class PersonTestModel(TestCase):
    """
    Class to test the model
    Person
    """

    def setUp(self):
```

```

"""
Set up all the tests
"""
self.person_one = mommy.make_recipe(
    'family.person'
)

self.person_simpsons = Recipe(
    Person,
    name='Moe',
)

self.contact = Recipe(
    Contact,
    person=foreign_key(self.person_simpsons),
    tel='3333333eeeeR'
)

def test_kind_contact_create_instance(self):
    """
    True if create instance
    """
    contact = self.contact.make()
    self.assertIsInstance(contact, Contact)

```

Or if you don't want a persisted instance:

```

from model_mommy import mommy

mommy.prepare_recipe('family.person')

```

Another examples

---

**Note:** You can use the `_quantity` parameter as well if you want to create more than one object from a single recipe.

---



---

**Note:** You can define recipes locally to your module or test case as well. This can be useful for cases where a particular set of values may be unique to a particular test case, but used repeatedly there.

---

Look:

File: `mommy_recipes.py`

```

company_recipe = Recipe(Company, name='WidgetCo'

```

File: `test_model.py`

```

class EmployeeTest(TestCase):
    def setUp(self):
        self.employee_recipe = Recipe(
            Employee,
            name=seq('Employee '),
            company=company_recipe.make()
        )

    def test_employee_list(self):
        self.employee_recipe.make(_quantity=3)

```

```
# test stuff....

def test_employee_tasks(self):
    employee1 = self.employee_recipe.make()
    task_recipe = Recipe(Task, employee=employee1)
    task_recipe.make(status='done')
    task_recipe.make(due_date=datetime(2014, 1, 1))
# test stuff....
```

### 5.3.1 Recipes with foreign keys

You can define *foreign\_key* relations:

```
from model_mommy.recipe import Recipe, foreign_key
from family.models import Person, Dog

person = Recipe(Person,
    name = 'John Doe',
    nickname = 'joe',
    age = 18,
    birthday = date.today(),
    appointment = datetime.now()
)

dog = Recipe(Dog,
    breed = 'Pug',
    owner = foreign_key(person)
)
```

Notice that *person* is a *recipe*.

You may be thinking: “I can put the Person model instance directly in the owner field”. That’s not recommended.

Using the *foreign\_key* is important for 2 reasons:

- Semantics. You’ll know that attribute is a foreign key when you’re reading;
- The associated instance will be created only when you call *make\_recipe* and not during recipe definition;

You can also use *related*, when you want two or more models to share the same parent:

```
from model_mommy.recipe import related, Recipe

dog = Recipe(Dog,
    breed = 'Pug',
)
other_dog = Recipe(Dog,
    breed = 'Boxer',
)
person_with_three_dogs = Recipe(Person,
    dog_set = related('dog', 'other_dog')
)
```

Note this will only work when calling *make\_recipe* because the related manager requires the objects in the *related\_set* to be persisted. That said, calling *prepare\_recipe* the *related\_set* will be empty.

If you want to set m2m relationship you can use *related* as well:



```

class Dog(models.Model):
    owner = models.ForeignKey('Person')
    breed = models.CharField(max_length=50)
    created = models.DateTimeField(auto_now_add=True)
    friends_with = models.ManyToManyField('Dog')

from model_mommy.recipe import related, Recipe

dog = Recipe(Dog,
             breed = 'Pug',
             )

dog_with_friends = dog.extend(
    friends_with=related(dog, dog),
)

```

### 5.3.2 Recipes with callables

It's possible to use *callables* as recipe's attribute value.

```

from datetime import date
from model_mommy.recipe import Recipe
from family.models import Person

person = Recipe(Person,
                birthday = date.today,
                )

```

When you call *make\_recipe*, *Mommy* will set the attribute to the value returned by the callable.

### 5.3.3 Recipes with iterators

You can also use *iterators* (including *generators*) to provide multiple values to a recipe.

```

from itertools import cycle

colors = ['red', 'green', 'blue', 'yellow']
person = Recipe(Person,
                favorite_color = cycle(colors)
                )

```

*Mommy* will use the next value in the *iterator* every time you create a model from the recipe.

### 5.3.4 Sequences in recipes

Sometimes, you have a field with an unique value and using *make* can cause random errors. Also, passing an attribute value just to avoid uniqueness validation problems can be tedious. To solve this you can define a sequence with *seq*

```

from model_mommy.recipe import Recipe, seq
from family.models import Person

person = Recipe(Person,
                name = seq('Joe'),
                age = seq(15)
                )

```

```
)  
  
p = mommy.make_recipe('myapp.person')  
p.name  
>>> 'Joel'  
p.age  
>>> 16  
  
p = mommy.make_recipe('myapp.person')  
p.name  
>>> 'Joe2'  
p.age  
>>> 17
```

This will append a counter to strings to avoid uniqueness problems and it will sum the counter with numerical values.

You can also provide an optional *increment\_by* argument which will modify incrementing behaviour. This can be an integer, float, Decimal or timedelta.

```
from datetime import datetime, timedelta  
from model_mommy.recipe import Recipe, seq  
from family.models import Person  
  
person = Recipe(Person,  
    age = seq(15, increment_by=3)  
    height_ft = seq(5.5, increment_by=.25)  
    # assume today's date is 21/07/2014  
    appointment = seq(datetime.date(2014, 7, 21), timedelta(days=1))  
)  
  
p = mommy.make_recipe('myapp.person')  
p.age  
>>> 18  
p.height_ft  
>>> 5.75  
p.appointment  
>>> datetime.date(2014, 7, 22)  
  
p = mommy.make_recipe('myapp.person')  
p.age  
>>> 21  
p.height_ft  
>>> 6.0  
p.appointment  
>>> datetime.date(2014, 7, 23)
```

---

**Note:** If your Python's interpreter version is 2.6.x or earlier then *increment\_by* is not available for you. *seq* will simply ignore this argument.

---

### 5.3.5 Overriding recipe definitions

Passing values when calling *make\_recipe* or *prepare\_recipe* will override the recipe rule.

```
from model_mommy import mommy

mommy.make_recipe('model_mommy.person', name='Peter Parker')
```

This is useful when you have to create multiple objects and you have some unique field, for instance.

### 5.3.6 Recipe inheritance

If you need to reuse and override existent recipe call extend method:

```
dog = Recipe(Dog,
             breed = 'Pug',
             owner = foreign_key(person)
)
extended_dog = dog.extend(
    breed = 'Super basset',
)
```

## 5.4 Deprecation Warnings

Because of the changes of model\_mommy's API, the following methods are deprecated and will be removed in one of the future releases:

- *mommy.make\_one* -> should use the method *mommy.make* instead
- *mommy.prepare\_one* -> should use the method *mommy.prepare* instead
- *mommy.make\_many* -> should use the method *mommy.make* with the *\_quantity* parameter instead
- *mommy.make\_many\_from\_recipe* -> should use the method *mommy.make\_recipe* with the *\_quantity* parameter instead
- *MOMMY\_CUSTOM\_FIELDS\_GEN* -> should use the method *mommy.generators.add* instead

## 5.5 Known Issues

### 5.5.1 django-taggit

Model-mommy identifies django-taggit's *TaggableManager* as a normal Django field, which can lead to errors:

```
TypeError: <class 'taggit.managers.TaggableManager'> is not supported by mommy.
```

The fix for this is to set `blank=True` on your *TaggableManager*.

## 5.6 Extensions

### 5.6.1 GeoDjango

Works with it? This project has some custom generators for it: [https://github.com/sigma-consultoria/mommy\\_spatial\\_generators](https://github.com/sigma-consultoria/mommy_spatial_generators)



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## Indices and tables

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