

# How can I use the “as\_index” parameter in a groupby operation in Pandas?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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The "as\_index" parameter in a groupby operation in Pandas allows users to specify whether the grouped by columns should be treated as an index in the resulting DataFrame. By setting this parameter to False, the grouped by columns will be included as regular columns in the DataFrame, while setting it to True will make them the index. This parameter can be useful for customizing the structure of the grouped data and for performing further operations on the resulting DataFrame. It is a versatile feature that adds flexibility to the grouping process in Pandas.

## **Pandas: Use as\_index in groupby**

**You can use the as\_index argument in a pandas groupby() operation to specify whether or not you'd like the column that you grouped by to be used as the index of the output.**

**The as\_index argument can take a value of True or False.**

**The default value is True.**

**The following example shows how to use the as\_index argument in practice.**

**Example: How to Use as\_index in pandas groupby**

**Suppose we have the following pandas DataFrame that shows the number of points scored by basketball players on various teams:**

```
import pandas as pd
```

```
#create DataFrame
```

```
df = pd.DataFrame({'team': ,  
'points': })
```

```
#view DataFrame
```

```
print(df)
```

```
team points
```

```
0 A 12
```

```
1 A 15
```

```
2 A 17
```

```
3 A 17
```

```
4 A 19
```

```
5 B 14
```

```
6 B 15
```

```
7 C 20
```

```
8 C 24
```

```
9 C 28
```

We can use the following syntax to group the rows by the team column and calculate the sum of the points column, while specifying `as_index=True` to use team as the index of the output:

```
#group rows by team and calculate sum of points
```

```
print(df.groupby('team', as_index=True).sum())
```

```
points
```

```
team
```

```
A 80
```

```
B 29
```

```
C 72
```

The output shows the sum of values in the points column, grouped by the values in the team column.

Notice that the team column is used as the index of the output.

If we instead specify `as_index=False` then the team column will not be used as the index of the output:

```
#group rows by team and calculate sum of points
```

```
print(df.groupby('team', as_index=False).sum())
```

```
team points
```

```
0 A 80
```

```
1 B 29
```

```
2 C 72
```

Notice that team is now used as a column in the output

**and the index column is simply numbered from 0 to 2.**

**Note: You can find the complete documentation for the pandas groupby() operation .**

**The following tutorials explain how to perform other common operations in pandas:**

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