

# How can I use the dropna() function in Pandas with a threshold value?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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The dropna() function in Pandas is a powerful tool that allows users to remove missing or null values from a dataset. This function can be used with a threshold value, which specifies the minimum number of non-null values required for a row or column to be kept. This means that any rows or columns with a number of missing values above the threshold will be dropped. By setting a threshold value, users can effectively filter out incomplete or irrelevant data from their dataset, resulting in a more accurate and reliable analysis. The dropna() function with a threshold value is a valuable feature in Pandas that helps users clean and manipulate their data efficiently.

## **Pandas: Use dropna() with thresh**

**You can use the dropna() function to drops rows from a pandas DataFrame that contain missing values.**

**You can also use the thresh argument to specify the minimum number of non-NaN values that a row or column must have in order to be kept in the DataFrame.**

**Here are the most common ways to use the thresh argument in practice:**

**Method 1: Only Keep Rows with Minimum Number of non-NaN Values**

**#only keep rows with at least 2 non-NaN values**  
**df.dropna(thresh=2)**

**Method 2: Only Keep Rows with Minimum % of non-NaN Values**

```
#only keep rows with at least 70% non-NaN values  
df.dropna(thresh=0.7*len(df.columns))
```

**Method 3: Only Keep Columns with Minimum Number of non-NaN Values**

```
#only keep columns with at least 6 non-NaN values  
df.dropna(thresh=6, axis=1)
```

**Method 4: Only Keep Columns with Minimum % of non-NaN Values**

```
#only keep columns with at least 70% non-NaN values  
df.dropna(thresh=0.7*len(df), axis=1)
```

The following examples show how to use each method in practice with the following pandas DataFrame:

```
import pandas as pd  
import numpy as np  
  
#create DataFrame  
df = pd.DataFrame({'team': ,  
'points': ,  
'assists': ,
```

```
'rebounds': })
```

```
#view DataFrame
```

```
print(df)
```

```
team points assists rebounds
```

```
0 A 18.0 5.0 11.0
```

```
1 B NaN NaN NaN
```

```
2 C 19.0 NaN 10.0
```

```
3 D 14.0 9.0 6.0
```

```
4 E 14.0 NaN 6.0
```

```
5 F 11.0 9.0 5.0
```

```
6 G 20.0 9.0 9.0
```

```
7 H NaN 4.0 NaN
```

Example 1: Only Keep Rows with Minimum Number of non-NaN Values

We can use the following syntax to only keep the rows in the DataFrame that have at least 2 non-NaN values:

```
#only keep rows with at least 2 non-NaN values
```

```
df.dropna(thresh=2)
```

```
team points assists rebounds
```

```
0 A 18.0 5.0 11.0
```

**2 C 19.0 NaN 10.0**  
**3 D 14.0 9.0 6.0**  
**4 E 14.0 NaN 6.0**  
**5 F 11.0 9.0 5.0**  
**6 G 20.0 9.0 9.0**  
**7 H NaN 4.0 NaN**

**Notice that the row in index position 1 has been dropped since it only had 1 non-NaN value in the entire row.**

**Example 2: Only Keep Rows with Minimum % of non-NaN Values**

**We can use the following syntax to only keep the rows in the DataFrame that have at least 70% non-NaN values:**

**#only keep rows with at least 70% non-NaN values**  
**df.dropna(thresh=0.7\*len(df.columns))**

**team points assists rebounds**

**0 A 18.0 5.0 11.0**  
**2 C 19.0 NaN 10.0**  
**3 D 14.0 9.0 6.0**  
**4 E 14.0 NaN 6.0**

5 F 11.0 9.0 5.0

6 G 20.0 9.0 9.0

Notice that the rows in index positions 1 and 7 have been dropped since those rows did not have at least 70% of the values as non-NaN values.

**Example 3: Only Keep Columns with Minimum Number of non-NaN Values**

We can use the following syntax to only keep the columns in the DataFrame that have at least 6 non-NaN values:

```
#only keep columns with at least 6 non-NaN values  
df.dropna(thresh=6, axis=1)
```

**team points rebounds**

0 A 18.0 11.0

1 B NaN NaN

2 C 19.0 10.0

3 D 14.0 6.0

4 E 14.0 6.0

5 F 11.0 5.0

6 G 20.0 9.0

## 7 H NaN NaN

Notice that the 'assists' column has been dropped because that column did not have at least 6 non-NaN values in the column.

### Example 4: Only Keep Columns with Minimum % of non-NaN Values

We can use the following syntax to only keep the columns in the DataFrame that have at least 70% non-NaN values:

```
#only keep columns with at least 70% non-NaN values  
df.dropna(thresh=0.7*len(df), axis=1)
```

team points rebounds

0 A 18.0 11.0

1 B NaN NaN

2 C 19.0 10.0

3 D 14.0 6.0

4 E 14.0 6.0

5 F 11.0 5.0

6 G 20.0 9.0

7 H NaN NaN

**Notice that the 'assists' column has been dropped because that column did not have at least 70% non-NaN values in the column.**

**Note: You can find the complete documentation for the pandas dropna() function .**

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

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