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**pynoteslib**

***Release 0.5.0***

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**CHAPTER  
ONE**

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## **PYNOTESLIB**

**PyNoteslib** is a library of functions and classes to assist in building apps to manage GPG encrypted notes. It is based upon an earlier project of mine *Standard unix Notes* which was a set of bourne shell scripts that implemented an easy way to manage gpg encrypted notes.

Pynoteslib follows the same structure

### **1.1 Overview**

docs	
tests	
package	

Encrypted Library

- Free software: MIT license

### **1.2 Installation**

```
pip install pynoteslib
```

You can also install the in-development version with:

```
pip install https://github.com/Standard-Unix-Notes/pynoteslib/archive/master.zip
```

## 1.3 Documentation

The documentation for the library is hosted on ReadTheDocs.io at <https://pynoteslib.readthedocs.io/>

## 1.4 Development

Contributions and pull requests are welcome: see the [documentation](#) for details.

To run all the tests run:

```
tox
```

Note, to combine the coverage data from all the tox environments run:

Win-dows	Currently <b>not</b> available <b>for</b> Windows
Other	PYTEST_ADDOPTS=--cov-append tox

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**CHAPTER  
TWO**

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**INSTALLATION**

At the command line:

```
pip install pynoteslib
```



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**CHAPTER  
THREE**

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**USAGE**

To use pynoteslib in a project:

```
import pynoteslib
```



## 4.1 pynoteslib package

### 4.1.1 pynoteslib module

PYNOTESLIB the Python library implementation of Standard Unix Notes.

It implements the notes() class and a number of functions to manipulate notebooks and configuration.

NOTES allows the user to have multiple notebooks and even a default notebook. The initial notebook is called simply ‘Notes’ and all notes created or imported will default to this notebook.

The user may create additional notebooks at any time and choose to USE a preferred notebook where all future notes will be created until the user chooses to USE another notebook. The user can quickly switch back to a DEFAULT notebook by not specifying which notebook to USE.

Full documentation can be found at <https://pynoteslib.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>

```
class pynoteslib.Notes
    Bases: object

    Object for managing a noteand it's plaintext/ciphertext
```

#### Variables

- **title** – title of note
- **filename** – filename of note
- **fullpath** – full pathname of file containing note
- **ciphertext** – string containing the ciphertext of note
- **plaintext** – string containing the plaintext of note

NB only one of either ciphertext or plaintext should be set at any time.

Notes class constructor. Do not use directly use one of the following functions:

```
load_note_from_file(note_filename)  note_from_ciphertext(str)  note_from_plaintext(str)  im-
port_note_from_file(filename)
```

#### add\_extension()

Appends ‘.asc’ to the basename of self.filename

**Param** none

**Returns** none

```
property ciphertext
    ciphertext property of note

decrypt()
    Encrypts self.plaintext -> self.ciphertext and resets self.plaintext
        Returns self.ciphertext
        Return type str

encrypt()
    Encrypts self.plaintext -> self.ciphertext and resets self.plaintext
        Returns self.ciphertext
        Return type str

property filename
    filename property of note

get_extension()
    Returns extension of self.filename
        Param none
        Returns self.filename's extension
        Return type str

import_from_file()
    Loads plaintext from file self.filename (fullpath)
        Param none
        Returns none

is_encrypted()
    Check if note is encrypted
        Param none
        Returns True if self.ciphertext != ''

load_ciphertext()
    Loads ciphertext from file self.filename
        Param none
        Returns none

load_plaintext()
    Loads plaintext from file self.filename
        Param none
        Returns none

property plaintext
    plaintext property of note

remove_extension()
    Removes extension from self.filename
        Param none
        Returns none
```

**pynoteslib.save\_ciphertext()**

Saves Ciphertext of note to file named self.filename adding the extension ‘.asc’

**Param** none

**Returns** none

**pynoteslib.save\_plaintext()**

Saves Plaintext of note to file named self.filename

**Param** none

**Returns** none

**pynoteslib.property title**

title property of note

**pynoteslib.backup(conf)**

Backup configuration, notes and notebook to tar file in the directory above the NOTESDIR (default = HOME)

**Param** none

**Returns** The return code of tarfile creation/write

**Return type** bool

**pynoteslib.change\_spaces(string)**

Returns a string with all spaces in ‘string’ have been replaced with ‘\_’

**Parameters** **string** – String to have spaces replaced

**Type** str

**Returns** Supplied ‘string’ with spaces replaced with ‘\_’

**Return type** str

**pynoteslib.config\_file\_exists()**

Checks to see if NOTESDIR/config file exists

**Param** none

**Returns** True if NOTESDIR/config file exists

**Return type** bool

**pynoteslib.copy\_to\_notebook(filename, notebook)**

Copies note from current USE’d notebook to another notebook

**Parameters**

- **filename** (str) – The filename of note to be copied
- **notebook** (str) – The target notebook name

**Returns** True on successful copy

**Return type** bool

**pynoteslib.create\_config()**

Create directory structure under NOTESDIR and TOML config file NOTESDIR/config

**Param** none

**Returns** none

**pynoteslib.create\_notebook(title)**

Create a notebook with foldername ‘title’

**Parameters** `title` (`str`) – title of notebook

**Returns** True on successful creation of notebook's folder

**Return type** bool

`pynoteslib.default_notebook(notebook)`

Set a notebook as the default notebook (use\_notebook() defaults to the DEFAULT notebook if '' instead of a notebook title)

**Parameters** `notebook` (`str`) – notebook to set as default

**Returns** Returns True on success of write\_config() with updated configuration

**Return type** bool

`pynoteslib.delete_note(filename)`

Deletes a note on disk inside the currently USE'd notebook

**Parameters** `filename` (`str`) – A string containing the filename of note to be deleted

**Returns** True on successful deletion of note

**Return type** bool

`pynoteslib.delete_notebook(title)`

Deletes an existing notebook oldtitle and included notes

**Parameters** `title` (`str`) – Title of existing notebook

**Returns** True on successful deletion of notebook's folder

**Return type** bool

`pynoteslib.duplicate_note(oldname, newname)`

Duplicates an encrypted note on disk inside the currently USE'd notebook

**Parameters**

- `oldname` (`str`) – The new filename for note

- `newname` (`str`) – The new filename for note

**Returns** True on successful rename of note

**Return type** bool

`pynoteslib.duplicate_notebook(oldtitle, newtitle)`

Duplicates an existing notebook oldtitle as newtitle with all notes duplicated.

**Parameters**

- `oldtitle` (`str`) – Title of existing notebook

- `newtitle` (`str`) – New Title for notebook

**Returns** True on successful duplication of notebook's folder

**Return type** bool

`pynoteslib.get_config()`

Reads configuration from the TOML file NOTESDIR/config. If 'config' file does not exist, calls create\_config() to create

**Param** none

**Returns** Configuration loaded from the TOML file 'config'

**Return type** dict

**pynoteslib.get\_config\_file()**

Get the fullpath to the app configuration file NOTESDIR/config

**Param** none

**Returns** fullpath to the config file fullpath

**Return type** str

**pynoteslib.get\_default\_gpg\_key()**

Locates the first private key in the users GPG keyring

Under testing conditions it returns the test@pynoteslib GPG key shown in \_default\_config['gpgkey'] to use in testing

In normal conditions it returns the first private gpgkey found in the user's keyring

**Param** none

**Returns** The first GPG key ID found in user's keyring

**Return type** str

**pynoteslib.get\_default\_notebook()**

Reads config file and returns what notebook is the default

**Param** none

**Returns** The name of the default notebook

**Return type** str

**pynoteslib.get\_fullpath(name)**

Return full pathname of passed parameter

**Parameters** **name** (str) – A notebook, filename (eg. ‘config’) or expression`

**Returns** Returns full path for ‘name’ UNDER the NOTESDIR

**Return type** str

**pynoteslib.get\_note\_fullpath(note, notebook="")**

Returns the full pathname of a note within the currently USE'd Notebook

**Parameters** **note** – The title (or filename) of a note

**Type** str

**Returns** Returns full path to a note

**Return type** str

**pynoteslib.get\_notebooks()**

Returns a list of all notebooks in NOTESDIR

**Param** none

**Returns** A list[] of notebooks

**Return type** list

**pynoteslib.get\_notes(notebook="")**

Returns a list of note in given notebook (or the USE'd notebook)

**Parameters** **notebook**(str, optional) – Specified notebook to USE, defaults to DEFAULT notebook

**Returns** list of notes in notebook; or [] for invalid notebook

**Return type** list

**pynoteslib.get\_notesdir()**

Gets the fullpath to the main app directory

**Param** none

**Returns** the app's home folder (either NOTESDIR or \$HOME/.notes)

**Return type** str

**pynoteslib.get\_use\_notebook()**

Reads config file and returns what notebook is currently used notebook

**Param** none

**Returns** The currently 'use'd notebook (where notes will be created)

**Return type** str

**pynoteslib.import\_note\_from\_file(*filename*)**

Imports note from file

**Parameters** **filename** (str) – filename to be imported

**Returns** note

**Return type** class

**pynoteslib.load\_note\_from\_file(*filename*)**

Opens file and assigns contents to plaintext or ciphertext

**Parameters** **filename** (str) – fullpath of filename

**Returns** returns success or failure

**Return type** bool

**pynoteslib.move\_to\_notebook(*filename*, *notebook*)**

Moves a note from the currently USE'd notebook to another notebook

**Parameters**

- **filename** (str) – The filename to move
- **notebook** – The target notebook name

**Returns** True on successful move of note to notebook

**Return type** bool

**pynoteslib.new\_key(*newkey*)**

Change encryption key for all notes. Traverses filesystem in NOTESDIR/[all notebooks]. Decrypts and re-encrypts with specified newkey

**Parameters** **newkey** (str) – New valid gpg privakey keyid

**Returns** Returns True on re-encryption; False on invalid private key

**Return type** bool

**pynoteslib.note\_from\_ciphertext(*ciphertext*)**

Creates note from supplied ciphertext

**Parameters** **ciphertext** (str) – ciphertext of note

**Returns** note

**Return type** class

`pynoteslib.note_from_plaintext(plaintext)`

Creates note from supplied plaintext

**Parameters** `plaintext (str)` – plaintext of note

**Returns** note

**Return type** class

`pynoteslib.pynoteslib_version()`

Returns version no of library

`pynoteslib.rename_note(oldname, newname)`

Renames a note on disk inside the currently USE'd notebook

**Parameters**

- `oldname (str)` – The old filename for note
- `newname (str)` – The new filename for note

**Returns** True on sucessful renaming of note

**Return type** bool

`pynoteslib.rename_notebook(oldtitle, newtitle)`

Renames existing notebook oldtitle as newtitle

**Parameters**

- `oldtitle (str)` – Title of existing notebook
- `newtitle (str)` – New Title for notebook

**Returns** True on successful rename of notebook's folder

**Return type** bool

`pynoteslib.use_notebook(notebook="")`

Reads config file and returns the DEFAULT notebook. If no notebook is specified then the USE notebook is set to the DEFAULT notebook

**Parameters** `notebook (str)` – Title of notebook to USE, optional

**Returns** Returns True on successful write of new config file

**Return type** bool

`pynoteslib.validate_gpg_key(gpgkeyid)`

Validates the specified gpgkeyid is a private key in the user's keyring

**Param** none

**Returns** True if gpgkey is a valid private key

**Return type** bool

`pynoteslib.write_config(conf)`

Writes app configuration to TOML file NOTESDIR/config (see \_default\_config as a sample structure)

**Parameters** `conf` – Dictionary containing configuration data

**Type** dict

**Returns** True on successful write of configfile

**Return type** bool



## CONTRIBUTING

Contributions are welcome, and they are greatly appreciated! Every little bit helps, and credit will always be given.

### 5.1 Bug reports

When [reporting a bug](#) please include:

- Your operating system name and version.
- Any details about your local setup that might be helpful in troubleshooting.
- Detailed steps to reproduce the bug.

### 5.2 Documentation improvements

pynoteslib could always use more documentation, whether as part of the official pynoteslib docs, in docstrings, or even on the web in blog posts, articles, and such.

### 5.3 Feature requests and feedback

The best way to send feedback is to file an issue at <https://github.com/Standard-Unix-Notes/pynoteslib/issues>.

If you are proposing a feature:

- Explain in detail how it would work.
- Keep the scope as narrow as possible, to make it easier to implement.
- Remember that this is a volunteer-driven project, and that code contributions are welcome :)

## 5.4 Development

To set up *pynoteslib* for local development:

1. Fork [pynoteslib](#) (look for the “Fork” button).
2. Clone your fork locally:

```
git clone git@github.com:YOURGITHUBNAME/pynoteslib.git
```

3. Create a branch for local development:

```
git checkout -b name-of-your-bugfix-or-feature
```

Now you can make your changes locally.

4. When you’re done making changes run all the checks and docs builder with `tox` one command:

```
tox
```

5. Commit your changes and push your branch to GitHub:

```
git add .  
git commit -m "Your detailed description of your changes."  
git push origin name-of-your-bugfix-or-feature
```

6. Submit a pull request through the GitHub website.

### 5.4.1 Pull Request Guidelines

If you need some code review or feedback while you’re developing the code just make the pull request.

For merging, you should:

1. Include passing tests (run `tox`)<sup>1</sup>.
2. Update documentation when there’s new API, functionality etc.
3. Add a note to `CHANGELOG.rst` about the changes.
4. Add yourself to `AUTHORS.rst`.

### 5.4.2 Tips

To run a subset of tests:

```
tox -e envname -- pytest -k test_myfeature
```

To run all the test environments in *parallel*:

```
tox -p auto
```

---

<sup>1</sup> If you don’t have all the necessary python versions available locally you can rely on Travis - it will [run the tests](#) for each change you add in the pull request.

It will be slower though ...

## PYNOTES & THE TEST GPG KEYS

### 6.1 GPG keys used in the pytest testing suite

The test suite GPG keys can be found in the gpgkeys directory and should be imported into the developers keyring prior to running the PYTEST test suite.

Without importing and marking them as trusted GPG will fail to use them for decrypting during testing (GPG will prompt for use anyway but this will break the tests and fail the assertions used afterwards).

---

### 6.2 Importing the test gpg keys

To import the test gpgkeys:

```
$ gpg --import gpgkeys/*.asc
```

### 6.3 Changing the gpg trust level for the test keys

You will then need to change the trust level:

```
$ gpg -K
```

and then for each of the `test@pynotes.lib` and `alttest@pynotes.lib` run the following to mark the test gpg keys as trusted:

```
$ gpg --edit-key <uid>
```

```
gpg> trust
```

Please decide how far you trust this user to correctly verify other users' keys (by looking at passports, checking fingerprints from different sources, etc.)

- 1 = I don't know or won't say
- 2 = I do NOT trust
- 3 = I trust marginally
- 4 = I trust fully
- 5 = I trust ultimately

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```
m = back to the main menu

Your decision? 5
Do you really want to set this key to ultimate trust? (y/N) y

Please note that the shown key validity is not necessarily correct
unless you restart the program.

gpg> quit
```

These two keys are only used in the pytest test suite for PYNOTESLIB and are not used elsewhere so it is safe to mark these as trust ultimately.

---

## 6.4 Pytest encryption errors

Without marking the gpg keys as trusted the GPG decryption will fail and the new\_key test will crash:

```
----- test_new_key -----
def test_new_key():
    conf = nl.get_config()
    print(conf['gpgkey'])

    # Create a note with TESTKEY1 (default in unittest)
    message = "This is some text to test new_key()"
    n1 = nl.Notes(title='testing newkey')
    n1.set_plaintext(message)
    ct = n1.encrypt()
    n1.save_ciphertext()
    assert os.path.exists(nl.get_note_fullpath(n1.filename))

    # change all the notes to TESTKEY2
    assert nl.new_key(TESTKEY2)

    # import same key into new Notes object and decrypt
    n2 = nl.Notes(filename='testing_newkey.asc')
    print(f'n2 => {n2}')
>     assert n2.decrypt() == message
E     AssertionError: assert '' == 'This is some...est new_key()'
E         - This is some text to test new_key()

tests/notes_class/test_new_key.py:27: AssertionError
```

```
----- Captured log call -----
WARNING gnupg:gnupg.py:1015 gpg returned a non-zero error code: 2
WARNING gnupg:gnupg.py:1015 gpg returned a non-zero error code: 2
WARNING gnupg:gnupg.py:1015 gpg returned a non-zero error code: 2
```

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```
===== short test summary info =====
FAILED tests/notes_class/test_new_key.py::test_new_key - AssertionError:
assert '' == 'This is some...est n...
===== 1 failed, 27 passed in 2.80s =====
```



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**CHAPTER  
SEVEN**

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**AUTHORS**

- Ian Stanley - <https://github.com/iandstanley>



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CHAPTER  
**EIGHT**

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## **CHANGELOG**

### **8.1 0.1.0 (2021-08-08)**

- First release on PyPI.



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NINE**

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