

ISO 8601

Date and time format

Looking for an unambiguous calendar-and-clock format that is internationally understood?
It's time for **ISO 8601**.

This **ISO** standard helps remove doubts that can result from the various day-date conventions, cultures and time zones that impact a global operation. It gives a way of presenting dates and times that is clearly defined and understandable to both people and machines.

What can ISO 8601 do for me?

When dates are represented with numbers they can be interpreted in different ways. For example, **01/05/22** could mean **January 5, 2022**, or **May 1, 2022**. On an individual level this uncertainty can be very frustrating, in a business context it can be very expensive. Organizing meetings and deliveries, writing contracts and buying airplane tickets can be very difficult when the date is unclear.

ISO 8601 tackles this uncertainty by setting out an internationally agreed way to represent dates:

YYYY-MM-DD

Therefore, the order of the elements used to express date and time in **ISO 8601** is as follows: year, month, day, hour, minutes, seconds, and milliseconds.

For example, **September 27, 2022 at 6 p.m.** is represented as **2022-09-27 18:00:00.000**.

ISO 8601 can be used by anyone who wants to use a standardized way of presenting:

- Date
- Time of day
- Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)
- Local time with offset to UTC
- Date and time
- Time intervals
- Recurring time intervals

%g,%G A 2-digit and 4-digit year suitable for use with the week-based calendar (standard **ISO 8601**)
%y,%Y Neither yields correct value for use with **ISO 8601** week numbers, use %g and %G instead
%u,%w Number of day of the week. %u Monday-Sunday 1-7 (**ISO 8601**), %w Sunday-Saturday 0-6

clock format [**clock** seconds] -format {%g %G}
clock format [**clock** seconds] -format {%A %d %B %Y %R}
clock format [**clock** seconds] -format {%a %d %b %R}
clock format [**clock** seconds] -format {%x %X} -locale de
clock format [**clock** seconds] -format %+

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO_8601