
diceware Documentation

Release 0.7.1

Uli Fouquet

April 21, 2016

1	diceware	3
1.1	Install	3
1.2	Usage	4
1.3	What is it good for?	6
1.4	Is it secure?	6
1.5	Developer Install	6
1.6	Credits	7
1.7	Links	7
1.8	License	8
2	Sources of Randomness	9
2.1	System Random	9
2.2	Real Dice	9
2.3	Bring Your Own Source (for developers)	10
3	Configuration Files	13
3.1	Option Names	13
3.2	Config File Name and Path	13
3.3	Option Values	14
4	Wordlists	15
4.1	Add Own Wordlists	15
4.2	Plain Wordlists	16
4.3	Numbered Wordlists	16
4.4	PGP-signed Wordlists	16
5	API	19
5.1	<i>diceware</i> main module	19
5.2	<i>diceware.config</i>	20
5.3	<i>diceware.wordlist</i>	21
5.4	<i>diceware.random_sources</i>	22
6	Changes	25
6.1	0.7.1 (2016-04-21)	25
6.2	0.7 (2016-04-17)	25
6.3	0.6.1 (2015-12-15)	25
6.4	0.6 (2015-12-15)	25
6.5	0.5 (2015-08-05)	26
6.6	0.4 (2015-03-30)	26

6.7	0.3.1 (2015-03-29)	26
6.8	0.3 (2015-03-28)	26
6.9	0.2 (2015-03-27)	26
6.10	0.1 (2015-02-18)	26
7	Indices and tables	27
	Python Module Index	29

Version: 0.7.1

diceware

Passphrases to remember...

| [documentation](#) | [sources](#) | [issues](#)

diceware is a passphrase generator following the proposals of Arnold G. Reinhold on <http://diceware.com>. It generates passphrases by concatenating words randomly picked from wordlists. For instance:

```
$ diceware
MyraPend93rdSixthEagleAid
```

The passphrase contains by default six words (with first char capitalized) without any separator chars. Optionally you can let *diceware* insert special chars into the passphrase.

diceware supports several sources of randomness (including real life dice) and different wordlists (including cryptographically signed ones).

Contents

- *diceware*
 - *Install*
 - *Usage*
 - *What is it good for?*
 - *Is it secure?*
 - *Developer Install*
 - * *Documentation Install*
 - *Credits*
 - *Links*
 - *License*

1.1 Install

This Python package can be installed via [pip](#):

```
$ pip install diceware
```

The exact way depends on your operating system.

1.2 Usage

Once installed, use `--help` to list all available options:

```
$ diceware --help
Create a passphrase

positional arguments:
  INFILE                Input wordlist. '-' will read from stdin.

optional arguments:
  -h, --help            show this help message and exit
  -n NUM, --num NUM     number of words to concatenate. Default: 6
  -c, --caps            Capitalize words. This is the default.
  --no-caps             Turn off capitalization.
  -s NUM, --specials NUM
                        Insert NUM special chars into generated word.
  -d DELIMITER, --delimiter DELIMITER
                        Separate words by DELIMITER. Empty string by default.
  -r SOURCE, --randomsource SOURCE
                        Get randomness from this source. Possible values:
                        `realdice', `system'. Default: system
  -w NAME, --wordlist NAME
                        Use words from this wordlist. Possible values: `en',
                        `en_orig', `en_securedrop'. Wordlists are stored in
                        the folder displayed below. Default: en_securedrop
  --version             output version information and exit.
```

With `-n` you can tell how many words are supposed to be picked for your new passphrase:

```
$ diceware -n 1
Thud

$ diceware -n 2
KnitMargo
```

You can *diceware* additionally let generate special chars to replace characters in the ‘normal’ passphrase. The number of special chars generated can be determined with the `-s` option (*default is zero*):

```
$ diceware -s 2
Heroic%unkLon#DmLewJohns
```

Here `"%"` and `"#"` are the special chars.

Special chars are taken from the following list:

```
~!#$%^&*()-+=[]\{}:;\"'<>?/0123456789
```

Please note that several special chars might replace the same original char, resulting in a passphrase with less special chars than requested.

With `-d` you can advise *diceware* to put a delimiter string between the words generated:

```
$ diceware -d "_"
Wavy_Baden_400_Whelp_Quest_Macon
```

By default we use the empty string as delimiter, which is good for copying via double click on Linux systems. But other delimiters might make your passphrases more readable.

By default the single phrase words are capitalized, i.e. the first char of each word is made uppercase. This does not necessarily give better security (1 bit at most), but it helps reading a phrase.

You can nevertheless disable caps with the `--no-caps` option:

```
$ diceware --no-caps
oceanblendbaronferrylistenvalet
```

This leads to lower-case passphrases, maybe easier to type on smart phones or similar.

diceware supports also different sources of randomness, which can be chosen with the `-r <SOURCENAME>` or `--randomsource <SOURCENAME>` option. Use the `--help` option to list all valid values for this option.

By default we use the `random.SystemRandom` class of standard Python lib but you can also bring your own dice to create randomness:

```
$ diceware -r realdice
Please roll 5 dice (or a single dice 5 times).
What number shows dice number 1? 2
What number shows dice number 2? 3
...
DogmaAnyShrikeSageSableHoar
```

We support even sources of randomness from other packages. See the [documentation](#) for more details.

diceware comes with an English wordlist provided by Heartsucker, which will be used by default and contains 8192 different words. This list is based off the original diceware list written by Arnold G. Reinhold.

Both the original and 8k diceware wordlists by Mr. Reinhold are provided. You can enable a certain (installed) wordlist with the `-w` option:

```
$ diceware --wordlist en_orig
YorkNodePrickEchoToriNiobe
```

See `diceware --help` for a list of all installed wordlists.

If you do not like the wordlists provided, you can use your own one. Any *INFILE* provided will be parsed line by line and each line considered a possible word. For instance:

```
$ echo -e "hi\nhello\n" > mywordlist.txt
$ diceware mywordlist.txt
HelloHelloHiHiHiHello
```

With dash (`-`) as filename you can pipe in wordlists:

```
$ echo -e "hi\nhello\n" > mywordlist.txt
$ cat mywordlist.txt | diceware -
HiHiHelloHiHiHello
```

In custom wordlists we take each line for a valid word and ignore empty lines (i.e. lines containing whitespace characters only). Oh, and we handle even PGP-signed wordlists.

You can set customized default values in a configuration file `.diceware.ini` (note the leading dot) placed in your home directory. This file could look like this:

```
[diceware]
num = 7
caps = off
specials = 2
delimiter = "MYDELIMITER"
randomsource = "system"
wordlist = "en"
```

The options names have to match long argument names, as output by `--help`. The values set must meet the requirements valid for commandline usage. All options must be set within a section `[diceware]`.

1.3 What is it good for?

Normally, *diceware* passphrases are easier to remember than shorter passwords constructed in more or less bizarre ways. But at the same time *diceware* passphrases provide more entropy as *xkcd* can show with the famous ‘936’ proof: The standard english wordlist of this *diceware* implementation contains $8192 = 2^{13}$ different english words. It is a hand-compiled 8192-words list provided by *Heartsucker*. Therefore, picking a random word from this list gives an entropy of 13 bits. Picking six words means an entropy of $6 \times 13 = 78$ bits.

The special chars replacing chars of the originally created passphrase give some more entropy (the more chars you have, the more additional entropy), but not much. For instance, for a sixteen chars phrase you have sixteen possibilities to place one of the 36 special chars. That makes 36×16 possibilities or an entropy of about 9.17 you can add. To get an entropy increase of at least 10 bits, you have to put a special char in a phrase with at least 29 chars (while at the same time an additional word would give you 13 bits of extra entropy). Therefore you might think again about using special chars in your passphrase.

1.4 Is it secure?

The security level provided by *Diceware* depends heavily on your source of random. If the delivered randomness is good, then your passphrases will be very strong. If instead someone can foresee the numbers generated by a random number generator, your passphrases will be surprisingly weak.

This Python implementation uses (by default) the `random.SystemRandom` source provided by Python. On Unix systems it accesses `/dev/urandom`. You might want to follow reports about manipulated random number generators in operating systems closely.

The Python API of this package allows usage of other sources of randomness when generating passphrases. This includes real dice. See the `-r` option.

1.5 Developer Install

Developers want to [fork me on github](#):

```
$ git clone https://github.com/ulif/diceware.git
```

We recommend to create and activate a [virtualenv](#) first:

```
$ cd diceware/
$ virtualenv -p /usr/bin/python3.3 py33
$ source py33/bin/activate
(py33) $
```

We support Python versions 2.6, 2.7, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, pypy.

Now you can create the devel environment:

```
(py33) $ python setup.py dev
```

This will fetch test packages ([py.test](#)). You should be able to run tests now:

```
(py33) $ py.test
```

If you have also different Python versions installed you can use [tox](#) for using them all for testing:

```
(py33) $ pip install tox    # only once
(py33) $ tox
```

Should run tests in all supported Python versions.

1.5.1 Documentation Install

The docs can be generated with [Sphinx](#). The needed packages are installed via:

```
(py33) $ python setup.py docs
```

To create HTML you have to go to the `docs/` directory and use the prepared Makefile:

```
(py33) $ cd docs/
(py33) $ make
```

This should generate the docs in `docs/_build/html/`.

1.6 Credits

Arnold G. Reinhold deserves all merits for the working parts of [Diceware](#). The non-working parts are certainly my fault.

People that helped spotting bugs, providing solutions, etc.:

- [Conor Schaefer](#) ([conorsch](#))
- Rodolfo Gouveia suggested to activate the `--delimiter` option.
- [drebs](#) provided patches and discussion for different sources of randomness.
- [Heartsucker](#) hand-compiled and added a new english wordlist.
- [dwcoder](#) revealed and fixed bug #19. Also showed sound knowledge of (theoretical) entropy. A pleasure to work with.

Many thanks to all of them!

1.7 Links

- The [Diceware](#) home page. Reading definitely recommended!
- [fork me on github](#)

Wordlists:

- [Diceware8k list](#) by Arnold G. Reinhold.
- [Diceware SecureDrop list](#) by Heartsucer.

1.8 License

This Python implementation of Diceware, (C) 2015, 2016 Uli Fouquet, is licensed under the GPL v3+.

The Copyright for the [Diceware](#) idea and the [Diceware8k list](#) are Copyright by Arnold G. Reinhold. The Copyright for the the [Diceware SecureDrop list](#) are copyright by Heartsucker. See file LICENSE for details.

Sources of Randomness

The security of your passphrase depends naturally heavily on the source of randomness you use. If the source is good, it is really hard to predict your passphrase. If it is bad, your passphrase might be surprisingly easy to guess. *diceware* does not provide own pseudo-random number generators or similar. Instead we let you choose yourself the source of randomness you trust.

diceware supports different sources of randomness, which can be chosen with the `-r <SOURCENAME>` or `--randomsource <SOURCENAME>` option.

Use the `--help` option to list all valid values for the `--randomsource` option.

Python-developers can provide their own source of randomness. If their package is installed together with *diceware* (and their source is registered correctly), *diceware* will offer their source as valid option.

2.1 System Random

By default *diceware* uses the Python standard lib `random.SystemRandom` class to retrieve randomness. This class calls an OS-specific source of randomness that returns data normally unpredictable enough for our purposes. The quality of randomness therefore depends on the quality of your OS implementation.

As a user you can enforce the use of this source of randomness with the `-r system` option.

Please note that the Raspberry Pi is said to provide a hardware random number generator that delivers “real randomness”. One has to enable it system-wide to make it the active source of randomness on a Raspberry Pi. If done properly, also `random.SystemRandom` (and hence *diceware*) should use good quality random numbers.

2.2 Real Dice

diceware also supports real dice as source of randomness. You can pick this source of randomness with the `-r realdice` option.:

```
$ diceware -r realdice
Warning: entropy is reduced!
Please roll 5 dice (or a single dice 5 times).
What number shows dice number 1? 1
What number shows dice number 2? 2
What number shows dice number 3? 3
What number shows dice number 4? 4
What number shows dice number 5? 5
Warning: entropy is reduced!
```

```
Please roll 5 dice (or a single dice 5 times).
What number shows dice number 1? 2
What number shows dice number 2? 3
What number shows dice number 3? 3
What number shows dice number 4? 5
What number shows dice number 5? 1

...

What number shows dice number 5? 3
AnyDogmaShrikeSageSableHoar
```

If you see a warning “entropy is reduced!”, this means that not the whole range of the wordlist you use can be put to account. Instead we use (in case of 5 rolls) the first 6^5 words only. If you use a wordlist with 6^n elements (for instance the original list with 7776 elements of Mr. Rheinhold), you will not get this warning.

Currently we support only 6-sided dice.

2.3 Bring Your Own Source (for developers)

diceware uses Python entry-points for looking up sources of randomness. That means you can write your own source of randomness in Python, register it in your own package and once both, your package and *diceware* are installed together on a system, your source of randomness will be offered and used by *diceware* (if the user selects it).

To build your own source of randomness you have to provide a class with a constructor that accepts a single *options* object. Furthermore a source of randomness has to provide a *choice(sequence)* method. It comes down to something like that:

```
class MySourceOfRandomness(object):
    "Tell about your source..."
    def __init__(self, options):
        # initialize, etc.

    def choice(sequence):
        # return one of the elements in `sequence`
```

The *choice()* method will be called for each word of the passphrase and for each special char. Please do not make assumptions about the *sequence* passed to choice. It will be a list of “somethings” and be indexable.

If your source is ready, you can register it in the `setup.py` of your package like this:

```
# setup.py

...

setup(
    ...
    entry_points={
        'diceware_random_sources': [
            'mysrc = mypkg.sources:MySourceOfRandomness',
            # add more sources of randomness here...
        ],
    }
)
```

Here we assume that you defined *MySourceOfRandomness* in a package *mypkg* and a module called *sources*. Once this package is installed, you can run *diceware* like this:

```
$ diceware -r mysrc
```

and your source of randomness will be used.

Configuration Files

You can use configuration files to persistently override built-in defaults and make your custom settings the default.

diceware configuration files follow simple `.ini`-style and look like this:

```
[diceware]
num = 3
caps = off
specials = 2
delimiter = MYDELIMITER
randomsource = system
wordlist = en
```

These settings would mean that by default phrases with seven words (instead six) would be created. Commandline options, however, override config file settings. So, with the settings above:

```
$ diceware
Duma7YDELIMITER56MYDE^IMITERJock
```

we will get three-word phrases while with:

```
$ diceware --delimiter=FOO
AmuseFOO]us(FOO18th
```

we will override the config file setting for `delimiter`. Other settings from config file are still valid.

3.1 Option Names

The options names have to match long argument names, as output with `--help`. The values set must meet the requirements valid for commandline usage.

You can use all or only some (or none) of the above options. Please note that other entries, providing unknown option names, are ignored. That means that also typos might lead to ignored entries.

Please note, that all options must be set within a section `[diceware]`.

3.2 Config File Name and Path

Currently, we look for configuration files only in the calling users' home directory. The file must be called:

`.diceware.ini`

(please note the leading dot). If such a file is missing, build-in defaults apply.

3.3 Option Values

The option values set can be strings, integers, or boolean values.

diceware accepts `yes`, `no`, `1`, `0`, `true`, `false`, `on`, and `off` as boolean values.

Some options require their setting to be taken from a fixed set of names/values, for instance the `randomsource` option.

If some value cannot be parsed, an exception is raised.

Wordlists

The passphrases generated by *diceware* naturally depend on the set of words used, the wordlists.

diceware comes with some wordlists out-of-the-box, that might be a good choice for usual private use.

By default we use a hand-crafted *en_securedrop* wordlist provided by @Heartsucker. It contains 8,192 english words and phrases. This list is based on the *diceware standard wordlist* and extended to offer better memorable words. Please see <https://github.com/heartsucker/diceware> for details. The name *en_securedrop* refers to the *securedrop* project.

Apart from it we also provide the so-called *8k wordlist* from Mr. Reinhold as published on <http://diceware.com/>. It also contains 8,192 english words and phrases and is something like the canonical wordlist for use with binary-gearred entities like computers or nerds.

Warning: We do – by default – *not* use the *diceware standard wordlist* (which contains 7,776 words), because computers prefer powers of two and we use the Python standard lib random source by default (we do not want to waste entropy).
But the “original” list is included in *diceware* as well and you can pick it with the `-w en_orig` option. You *should* pick it when you use real dice as source of randomness.

You can pick another list with the `-w` or `--wordlist` option.

4.1 Add Own Wordlists

You can use any wordlist you like. Simply give the filename and it will be used:

```
$ diceware mywordlist.txt
HiHelloHelloHiHiHi
```

You can even pipe-in dynamic wordlists. Just use the dash `-` as filename:

```
$ cat mywordgenerator.sh | diceware -
HiHiHelloHiHiHello
```

for instance.

Of course you have to give the filenames of your files with each call to *diceware*.

But, if you want to store a wordlist persistently, you can do so too.

The wordlists we offer for use with *diceware* are all stored in a single folder. The exact location is output by `--help` at the very end:

```
$ diceware --help
...
Wordlists are stored in /some/path/to/folder
```

Just put your own wordlists into this folder (here: `/some/path/to/folder`) and rename the file to something like `wordlist_MY_SPECIAL_NAME.txt`. Afterwards you can pick your wordlist by running:

```
$ diceware -w MY_SPECIAL_NAME
```

diceware will use this file of yours then to create a passphrase. Please note that *diceware* only accepts files that are named like:

```
wordlist_NAME.txt
```

or:

```
wordlist_OTHER_NAME.asc
```

I.e. we expect `wordlist_` at the beginning and some filename extension like `.txt` at the end. Furthermore names must not contain funny characters. In fact we accept regular letters, dashes, numbers, and underscores only. Files that do not follow these naming convention are ignored.

A list of all available wordlist names can also be retrieved with `--help`. See the `--wordlist` explanation.

4.2 Plain Wordlists

Out of the box, *diceware* supports plain wordlists, PGP-signed wordlists, and numbered wordlists. Plain wordlists look like this:

```
termone
termtwo
anotherterm
```

Each line in such a file is considered a word of the wordlist. Empty lines are ignored.

Whitespaces are allowed if they are not at the beginning or end of a line, stripped off otherwise.

4.3 Numbered Wordlists

Numbered wordlists contain numbers in each line, telling a sequence of dice rolls like so:

```
11111   aterm
11112   anotherterm
...
```

diceware detects such lines and in this case extracts `aterm` and `anotherterm` as wordlist entries.

4.4 PGP-signed Wordlists

PGP-signed wordlists are wordlists (ordinary or numbered ones), that have been cryptographically signed with PGP or GPG. They look like this:

```
-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----  
Hash: SHA512  
  
foo  
bar  
baz  
  
-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----  
Version: GnuPG v1  
  
iJwEAQEKAAYFA1W00GEACgkQ+5ktCoLaPzSutwP8DVgdjBFqRXNKaZ1vd8pR+P3k  
8xx5XLC0OFwZQF4Ls8x13+/xfvCNxCGSZjD6BGPzNZCK7bmQQYWcrsoEyX5jAC3  
dXjAPj0nct/PkJQlrUjUI2qr00dFfU7sRj0Gn9TO1QQkKoQVwy7pY/6HaScGNepL  
J8BNUPYdOWeVgY1jSY=  
=WXfu  
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----
```

and are normally stored with the `.asc` filename extension. Signed wordlists can be verified to detect changes, although this is not automatically done by *diceware*.

Warning: Diceware does *not* automatically verify PGP-signed files.

API

diceware code is geared towards commandline usage. You can, however, use it from Python. The API docs are here to assist you with that.

For using *diceware* in your own, *setuptools*-based Python project, you can add it as an install requirement in `setup.py` of your project:

```
from setuptools import setup
# ...
setup(
    name="myproject",
    # ...
    install_requires=[
        # packages we depend on...
        'setuptools',
        'diceware',
        # ...
    ],
    # ...
)
```

Of course there are other ways to make *diceware* available.

5.1 *diceware* main module

diceware – rememberable passphrases

`diceware.SPECIAL_CHARS = '~!#$%^&*()-=+[]\{};:'" '<>?/0123456789'`

Special chars inserted on demand

`diceware.get_passphrase(options=None)`

Get a *diceware* passphrase.

options is a set of arguments as provided by `argparse.ArgumentParser.parse_args()`.

The passphrase returned will contain *options.num* words delimited by *options.delimiter* and *options.specials* special chars.

For the passphrase generation we will use the random source registered under the name *options.randomsource* (something like “system” or “dice”).

If *options.capitalize* is `True`, all words will be capitalized.

If *options.infile*, a file descriptor, is given, it will be used instead of a ‘built-in’ wordlist. *options.infile* must be open for reading.

`diceware.get_random_sources()`

Get a dictionary of all entry points called `diceware_random_source`.

Returns a dictionary with names mapped to callables registered as *entry_point*’s for the ‘*diceware_randomsource*’ group.

Callables should accept *options* when called and return something that provides a *choice(sequence)* method that works like the respective method in the standard Python lib *random* module.

`diceware.handle_options(args)`

Handle commandline options.

`diceware.insert_special_char(word, specials='~!#$%^&*()-=+[\\{};:\'<>?/0123456789',
rnd=None)`

Insert a char out of *specials* into *word*.

rnd, if passed in, will be used as a (pseudo) random number generator. We use *.choice()* only.

Returns the modified word.

`diceware.main(args=None)`

Main programme.

Called when *diceware* script is called.

args is a list of command line arguments to process. If no such args are given, we use *sys.argv*.

`diceware.print_version()`

Output current version and other infos.

5.2 *diceware.config*

config – diceware configuration

diceware is configurable via commandline, configuration files and direct API calls.

`diceware.config.get_config_dict(path_list=None)`

Get config values found in files from *path_list*.

Read files in *path_list* config files and return option values as regular dictionary.

We only accept values for which a default exists in *OPTIONS_DEFAULTS*.

Values are interpolated to have same value type as same-named values from *OPTIONS_DEFAULTS* if they are integers or boolean.

`diceware.config.get_configparser(path_list=None)`

Parse *path_list* for config values.

If no list is given we use *valid_locations()*.

Return a list of paths read and a config parser instance.

`diceware.config.valid_locations()`

The list of valid paths we look up for config files.

5.3 *diceware.wordlist*

`wordlist.py` – special handling of wordlists.

`diceware.wordlist.MAX_IN_MEM_SIZE = 20971520`

Maximum in-memory file size in bytes (20 MB).

This value is used when creating temporary files replacing unseekable input streams. If an input file is larger, we write to disk.

`diceware.wordlist.RE_NUMBERED_WORDLIST_ENTRY = <_sre.SRE_Pattern object>`

A regular expression matching numbered entries in wordlists.

`diceware.wordlist.RE_VALID_WORDLIST_FILENAME = <_sre.SRE_Pattern object>`

A regular expression describing valid wordlist file names.

`diceware.wordlist.RE_WORDLIST_NAME = <_sre.SRE_Pattern object>`

A regular expression matching allowed wordlist names. We allow names that cannot easily mess up filesystems.

`diceware.wordlist.WORDLISTS_DIR = '/home/docs/checkouts/readthedocs.org/user_builds/diceware/envs/v0.7.1/local/lib`

The directory in which wordlists are stored

class `diceware.wordlist.WordList` (*path_or_filelike=None*)

A word list contains words for building passphrases.

path_or_filelike is the path of the wordlist file or an already opened file. Opened files must be open for reading, of course. We expect filelike objects to support at least *read()*.

If a file-like object does not support *seek()* (like *sys.stdin*), we create a temporary, seekable copy of the input stream. The copy is written to disk only, if it is larger than *MAX_IN_MEM_SIZE*. Otherwise the wordlist is kept in memory.

Please note that open file descriptors are not closed after reading.

Wordlist files are expected to contain words, one word per line. Empty lines are ignored, also whitespaces before or trailing a line are stripped. If a “word” contains inner whitespaces, then these are preserved.

The input file can be a signed wordlist. Signed wordlists are expected to be ordinary lists of words but with ASCII armored signatures (as described in RFC 4880).

In case of signed wordlists the signature headers/footers are stripped and the contained list of words is read.

`WordList` are generators. That means, that you can retrieve the words of a wordlist by iterating over an instance of `WordList`.

`is_signed()`

check, whether this file is cryptographically signed.

This operation is expensive and resets the file descriptor to the beginning of file.

`refine_entry(entry)`

Apply modifications to form a proper wordlist entry.

Refining means: strip() *entry* remove escape-dashes (if this is a signed wordlist) and extract the term if it is preceded by numbers.

`diceware.wordlist.get_wordlist_names()`

Get a all names of wordlists stored locally.

`diceware.wordlist.get_wordlist_path(name)`

Get path to a wordlist file for a wordlist named *name*.

The *name* string must not contain special chars beside -, _, regular chars A-Z (upper or lower case) or numbers. Invalid names raise a `ValueError`.

If a path with the given name (names are not filenames here) does not exist, *None* is returned.

5.4 *diceware.random_sources*

Sources of randomness.

Please register all sources as entry point in `setup.py`. Look out for “SystemRandomSource” for an example.

For developers of interfaces to other sources of randomness: Currently, you can extend *diceware* random sources by registering a class, that provides a suitable `__init__(self, options)` and a `choice(self, sequence)` method.

The `__init__` method of your class will be called with *options*, a set of options as parsed from the commandline. The initialization code can use the options to determine further actions or ignore it. The `__init__` method is also the right place to ask users for one-time infos you need. This includes infos like the number of sides of a dice, an API key for random.org or other infos that should not change between generating different words (but might change from one *diceware* call to the next).

The *choice* method then, will get a sequence of chars, strings, or numbers and should pick one of them based on the source of randomness intended to be utilized by your code. If further user interaction is required, *choice* might also ask users for input or similar. Typically, *choice* is called once for each word and once for each special char to generate.

Finally, to register the source, add some stanza in *setup.py* of your project that looks like:

```
# ...
setup(
    # ...
    entry_points={
        # console scripts and other entry points...
        'diceware_random_sources': [
            'myrandom = mypkg.mymodule:MyRandomSource',
            'myothersrc = mypkg.mymodule:MyOtherSource',
        ],
    },
    # ...
)
```

Here the *myrandom* and *myothersrc* lines register random sources that (if installed) *diceware* will find on startup and offer to users under the name given. In the described case, users could do for instance:

```
diceware -r myrandom
```

and the random source defined in the given class would be used for generating a passphrase.

class *diceware.random_sources.RealDiceRandomSource* (*options*)

A source of randomness working with real dice.

choice (*sequence*)

Pick one item out of *sequence*.

pre_check (*num_rolls, sequence*)

Checks performed before picking an item of a sequence.

We make sure that *num_rolls*, the number of rolls, is in an acceptable range and issue an hint about the procedure.

class *diceware.random_sources.SystemRandomSource* (*options*)

A Random Source utilizing the standard Python *SystemRandom* call.

As time of writing, *SystemRandom* makes use of `/dev/urandom` to get fairly useable random numbers.

This source is registered as `entry_point` in `setup.py` under the name ‘system’ in the `diceware_random_sources` group.

The constructor will be called with options at beginning of a programme run if the user has chosen the respective source of random.

The `SystemRandomSource` is the default source.

choice (*sequence*)

Pick one item out of *sequence*.

The *sequence* will normally be a sequence of strings (wordlist), special chars, or numbers.

Sequences can be (at least) lists, tuples and other types that have a *len*. Generators do not have to be supported (and are in fact not supported by this source).

This method should return one item of the *sequence* picked based on the underlying source of randomness.

In the long run, the choice should return each *sequence* item (i.e.: no items should be ‘unreachable’).

It should also cope with any length > 0 of *sequence* and not break if a sequence is “too short” or “too long”. Empty sequences, however, might raise exceptions.

Changes

6.1 0.7.1 (2016-04-21)

- Fixed #19. @dwcoder revealed and fixed a nasty bug in the real-dice randomness-source. Thanks a lot!

6.2 0.7 (2016-04-17)

- Added sample `.diceware.ini`.
- Added new english wordlist `en_securedrop`. This is the new default list. Thanks to [heartsucker](#) who compiled and added the list.
- Remove support for Python 3.2. Several packages we depend on for testing and sandboxing stopped Python 3.2 support. We follow them.

6.3 0.6.1 (2015-12-15)

- Minor doc changes: add separate config file docs.
- Fix docs: the default wordlist is named `en`. Some docs were not up-to-date in that regard.

6.4 0.6 (2015-12-15)

- Officially support Python 3.5.
- Tests do not depend on *pytest-cov*, *pytest-xdist* anymore.
- Support configuration files. You can set different defaults in a file called `.diceware.ini` in your home directory.
- Renamed wordlist `en_8k` to `en` as it serves as the default for english passphrases.

6.5 0.5 (2015-08-05)

- New option `-r, --randomsource`. We support a pluggable system to define alternative sources of randomness. Currently supported sources: `"system"` (to retrieve randomness from standard library, default) and `realdice`, which allows use of real dice.
- New option `-w, --wordlist`. We now provide several wordlists for users to choose from. Own wordlists could already be fed to *diceware* before. By default we still use the 8192 words list from <http://diceware.com>.
- Rename `SRC_DIR` to `WORDLISTS_DIR` (reflecting what it stands for).
- Use also flake8 with tox.
- Pass *options* to `get_passphrase()` instead of a bunch of single args.
- Output wordlists dir in help output.

6.6 0.4 (2015-03-30)

- Add `--delimiter` option (thanks to Rodolfo Gouveia).

6.7 0.3.1 (2015-03-29)

- Turned former *diceware* module into a Python package. This is to fix [bug #1 Wordlists aren't included during installation](#), this time really. Wordlists will from now on be stored inside the *diceware* package. Again many thanks to [conorsch](#) who digged deep into the matter and also came up with a very considerable solution.
- Use readthedocs theme in docs.

6.8 0.3 (2015-03-28)

- Fix [bug #1 Wordlists aren't included during installation](#) . Thanks to [conorsch](#)
- Add `--version` option.

6.9 0.2 (2015-03-27)

- Minor documentation changes.
- Updated copyright infos.
- Add support for custom wordlists.

6.10 0.1 (2015-02-18)

- Initial release.

_heartsucker: ‘

Indices and tables

- `genindex`
- `modindex`
- `search`

d

`diceware`, [19](#)
`diceware.config`, [20](#)
`diceware.random_sources`, [22](#)
`diceware.wordlist`, [21](#)

C

`choice()` (`diceware.random_sources.RealDiceRandomSource` method), 22

`choice()` (`diceware.random_sources.SystemRandomSource` method), 23

D

`diceware` (module), 19

`diceware.config` (module), 20

`diceware.random_sources` (module), 22

`diceware.wordlist` (module), 21

G

`get_config_dict()` (in module `diceware.config`), 20

`get_configparser()` (in module `diceware.config`), 20

`get_passphrase()` (in module `diceware`), 19

`get_random_sources()` (in module `diceware`), 20

`get_wordlist_names()` (in module `diceware.wordlist`), 21

`get_wordlist_path()` (in module `diceware.wordlist`), 21

H

`handle_options()` (in module `diceware`), 20

I

`insert_special_char()` (in module `diceware`), 20

`is_signed()` (`diceware.wordlist.WordList` method), 21

M

`main()` (in module `diceware`), 20

`MAX_IN_MEM_SIZE` (in module `diceware.wordlist`), 21

P

`pre_check()` (`diceware.random_sources.RealDiceRandomSource` method), 22

`print_version()` (in module `diceware`), 20

R

`RE_NUMBERED_WORDLIST_ENTRY` (in module `diceware.wordlist`), 21

`RE_VALID_WORDLIST_FILENAME` (in module `diceware.wordlist`), 21

`RE_WORDLIST_NAME` (in module `diceware.wordlist`), 21

`RealDiceRandomSource` (class in `diceware.random_sources`), 22

`refine_entry()` (`diceware.wordlist.WordList` method), 21

S

`SPECIAL_CHARS` (in module `diceware`), 19

`SystemRandomSource` (class in `diceware.random_sources`), 22

V

`valid_locations()` (in module `diceware.config`), 20

W

`WordList` (class in `diceware.wordlist`), 21

`WORDLISTS_DIR` (in module `diceware.wordlist`), 21