Calling/Invoking A Function

Once you have defined a function, you can call it from another function, program, or even the Python prompt. To use a function that has been defined earlier, you need to write a **function call**.

A **function call** takes the following form:

```
<function-name> (<value-to-be-passed-as-argument>)
```

The function definition does not execute the function body. The function gets executed only when it is called or invoked. To call the above function we can write:

```
add(5,7)
```

In this function call, `a = 5` and `b = 7`.

Arguments And Parameters

As you know that you can pass values to functions. For this, you define variables to receive values in the **function definition** and you send values via a function call statement. For example, in the `add()` function, we have variables **a** and **b** to receive the values and while calling the function we pass the values 5 and 7. We can define these two types of values:

- **Arguments:** The values being passed to the function from the function call statement are called arguments. Eg. **5** and **7** are arguments to the `add()` function.

- **Parameters:** The values received by the function as inputs are called parameters. Eg. **a** and **b** are the parameters of the `add()` function.

Types Of Functions

We can divide functions into the following two types:

1. **User-defined functions:** Functions that are defined by the users. Eg. The `add()` function we created.

2. **Inbuilt Functions:** Functions that are inbuilt in python. Eg. The `print()` function.