



› AKIB2 – GRUNDLAGEN DER KI-PROGRAMMIERUNG

07 – Beginner Python 6 – Functions, Modularization & PEP 8

› FUNCTIONS IN PYTHON

07 Beginner Python 6 | P. Graf / TE / Angewandte KI

WHAT IS A FUNCTION?

- A function is a reusable block of code that performs a specific task.
- Functions help break programs into smaller, manageable parts.
- Why use functions?
 - Increases code reusability
 - Improves readability & organization
 - Makes debugging easier

Function Definition

```
def greet(name):  
    print("Hello, {}".format(name))  
greet("Pascal")
```



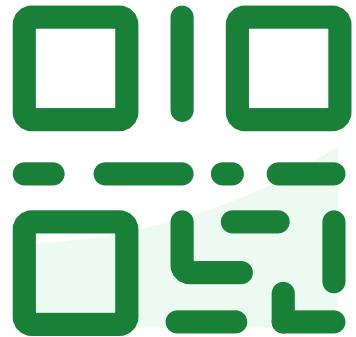
Functions make the code DRY (Don't Repeat Yourself)!

TYPES OF FUNCTIONS & FUNCTION STRUCTURE

- Built-in functions
 - print(), len(), max(), round()
- User-defined functions
- Key Parts of a Function:
 - def → Defines the function
 - function name → The function's name
 - parameters → Optional inputs for the function
 - return → Optional output

Function Definition

```
def function_name(parameters):
    """Optional docstring explaining the function."""
    value = parameters**2
    return value # (Optional)
```



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What are the main benefits of using functions in Python?

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What are the correct components of a function definition in Python?

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What happens if a function does not have a return statement?

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What can be said about this function definition?

```
def add_numbers(x: int, y: int) -> int:  
    return x + y
```

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› FUNCTION PARAMETERS

POSITIONAL VS KEYWORD ARGUMENTS & DEFAULT VALUES

- **Positional Arguments:** Assigned by position in the function call, order matters and must match the function signature
- **Keyword Arguments:** Assigned using the parameter name, can appear in any order, as long as names are correct

```
Positional vs Keyword Arguments

def greet(name, age):
    print(f"Hello {name}, you are {age} years old.")

greet("Pascal", 30) # name = "Pascal", age = 30
greet(age=30, name="Alice")
```

POSITIONAL VS KEYWORD ARGUMENTS & DEFAULT VALUES

- **Default Arguments:** Provide default values for parameters, these arguments become optional
- Positional arguments must come before keyword arguments
- Parameters with default values must come after those without in function definition

Default Arguments

```
def greet(name, age=18):  
    print(f"Hello {name}, you are {age} years old.")
```

```
greet("Bob")      # uses default: age = 18  
greet("Eve", 25)
```

ARBITRARY ARGUMENTS (*ARGS)

- Use *args to accept multiple positional arguments as a tuple
- Allows flexible function calls with arbitrary number of arguments

*args

```
def sum_numbers(*args):  
    return sum(args)  
  
print(sum_numbers(1, 2, 3))    # Output: 6  
print(sum_numbers(10, 20, 30, 40)) # Output: 100
```

ARBITRARY KEYWORD ARGUMENTS (**KWARGS)

- Use **kwargs to accept multiple named arguments as a dictionary
- Useful when passing dynamic key-value pairs

*kwargs

```
def print_info(**kwargs):
    for key, value in kwargs.items():
        print(f"{key}: {value}")

print_info(name="Alice", age=25, city="New York")
```

DOCSTRINGS

- A docstring describes what a function does including:
 - Parameters (inputs the function accepts)
 - Return values (what the function outputs)

Docstrings

```
def add(a: int, b: int) -> int:  
    """  
        Adds two numbers and returns the sum.  
    """
```

Parameters:

a (int): The first number.
b (int): The second number.

Returns:

int: The sum of a and b.
"""

`return a + b`

```
print(add.__doc__) # Prints the docstring
```

TYPE ANNOTATIONS IN FUNCTIONS

- Improves readability and helps with static analysis tools
- Type annotations are **not enforced** at runtime
- They are hints for developers and tools
- Use **Union[X, Y]** when a value could be either type X or type Y (with Python >3.10 you can use the | (pipe) operator instead.

Type Annotations

```
def function_name(param1: Type, param2: Type) -> ReturnType:  
    ...  
  
def greet(name: str | None = None) -> str:  
    return "Hello {}".format(name) if name else "Hello Stranger"
```



Which function calls are valid?

```
def greet(name, greeting="Hello"):  
    print(f"{greeting}, {name}!")
```

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What is the correct order of arguments in a function definition?

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What does *args collect?

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Which statements about `**kwargs` are true?

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Which docstring examples follow best practices?

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What does this function return?

```
def mystery(a, b=2, *args, **kwargs):  
    return a + b + len(args) + len(kwargs)
```

```
mystery(3, 4, 5, 6, x=1, y=2)
```

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› ADVANCED FUNCTION CONCEPTS

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RECURSIVE FUNCTIONS

- A recursive function calls itself within its definition
- Used for problems like factorial, Fibonacci sequence, and tree structures

Recursive Functions

```
def factorial(n):  
    if n == 1:  
        return 1  
    return n * factorial(n - 1)  
  
print(factorial(5)) # Output: 120
```

LAMBDA FUNCTIONS

- A lambda function is a small, single-expression function without a name
- Useful for short, one-time-use functions
- *lambda arguments: expression*
- Often used with *map*, *filter*, *sorted*

Lambda Expressions

```
numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4]
squared = list(map(lambda x: x ** 2, numbers))
print(squared) # Output: [1, 4, 9, 16]
```

CALLBACKS

- A callback is a function passed as an argument to another function
- Enables custom behavior or deferred execution inside functions
- Commonly used in:
 - Sorting (sorted(..., key=callback))
 - Event handling (GUI, web servers)
 - Modular design and testing

Callback

```
def greet_user(name: str, formatter):  
    print("Hello,", formatter(name))  
  
def uppercase(name):  
    return name.upper()  
  
def polite(name):  
    return "Mr./Ms. " + name  
  
greet_user("Alice", uppercase) # Hello, ALICE  
greet_user("Bob", polite)    # Hello, Mr./Ms. Bob
```

CALLBACKS

Callback 2

```
import time

def download_file(url, callback):
    print(f"Downloading {url}...")
    time.sleep(1) # Simulate delay
    callback(f"{url} finished!")

def on_download_complete(message):
    print("Callback received:", message)

# Usage
download_file("https://example.com/file", on_download_complete)
```

› MODULARIZATION

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MODULES

- Modularization means breaking code into multiple files (modules) for better structure.
- Why?
 - Increases Maintainability – Easier to read and update code.
 - Reusability – Use the same module across multiple projects.
 - Avoids Code Duplication – Write once, use multiple times.

Modularization

```
project/  
|--- main.py # Main script  
|--- utils.py # Helper functions  
|--- config.py # Configuration settings
```

DIFFERENT WAYS TO IMPORT MODULES

Imports

```
import math # Import the whole module  
print(math.sqrt(16))
```

```
from math import sqrt # Import a specific function  
print(sqrt(16))
```

```
import math as m # Use an alias  
print(m.sqrt(16))
```

```
from math import * # Import everything (not recommended)  
print(sqrt(16))
```

WORKING WITH PACKAGES (`__init__.py`)

- A package is a collection of modules inside a folder.
- A package needs an `__init__.py` file (can be empty) to be recognized (not strictly needed since Python 3.3).

Packages

```
mypackage/  
|__ __init__.py # Required for a package  
|__ module1.py  
|__ module2.py
```

```
from mypackage import module1  
module1.some_function()
```



What happens when you call this function?

```
def repeat(word: str, times: int = 3) -> str:  
    return word * times
```

```
repeat("hi", times="3")
```

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What does this function print?

```
def printer(*args, sep=", ", end="."):  
    print(sep.join(args), end=end)  
  
printer("a", "b", "c", sep="-", end="!\n")
```

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What are benefits of modularizing code into functions and modules?

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**How do you import the function foo()
from a file called tools.py in the
same directory?**

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Which of the following statements about lambda functions are true?

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What is printed by this code?



```
def mystery(n):  
    if n == 0:  
        return 0  
    return n + mystery(n - 1)
```

```
print(mystery(3))
```

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What is a potential danger of using recursion without a proper base case?

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What is a callback function in Python?

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Which line correctly passes a callback to calculate()?



```
def calculate(a, b, operation):  
    return operation(a, b)
```

```
def subtract(x, y):  
    return x - y
```

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› PEP 8 – THE PYTHON STYLE GUIDE

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WHY FOLLOW PEP 8?

- What is PEP 8?
 - PEP 8 stands for Python Enhancement Proposal 8 and defines the official style guide for Python.
 - Helps maintain consistency, readability, and best practices across projects.
- Why is PEP 8 Important?
 - Improves code readability and makes collaboration easier.
 - Ensures code is easy to understand, debug, and maintain.
 - Helps avoid common pitfalls & bad practices.

NAMING CONVENTIONS

- Variable & Function Names - Use **snake_case**
- Class Names - Use **PascalCase** (CapitalizedWords format)
- Constants - Use **UPPER_CASE_WITH_UNDERSCORES**
- Private Variables - Use a **single underscore _var**

OTHER RULES

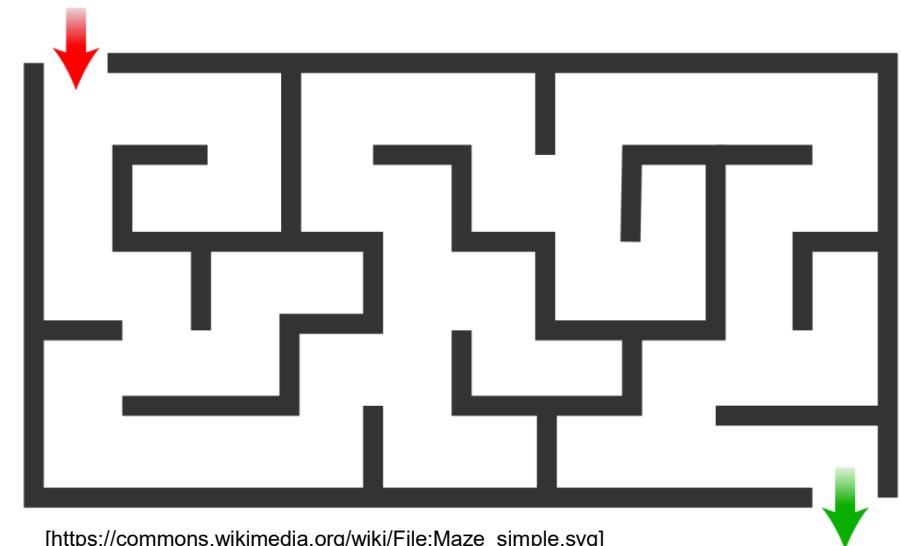
- Use 4 spaces per indentation level
- Keep lines ≤ 79 characters and structure imports properly
- Write clear docstrings & comments
- Use two blank lines between top-level functions/classes.
- Use one blank line inside functions to separate logic.

› SEARCH / PATHFINDING ALGORITHMS

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PATHFINDING & SEARCHING

- Search algorithms explore graphs or problem spaces to find a path from a start to a goal
- Can be uninformed (e.g. BFS, DFS) or informed (e.g. A* uses heuristics)
- Pathfinding algorithms focus on finding the shortest or most efficient route
- Key trade-offs include speed, memory usage, and path optimality
- Common applications: maps, games, navigation

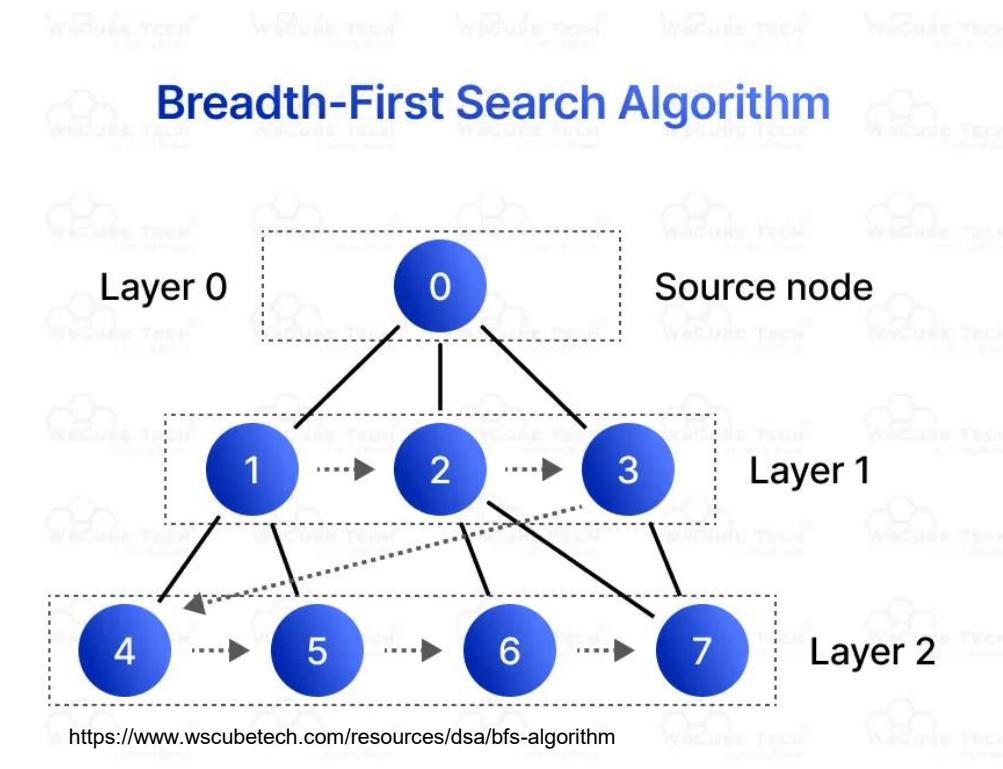


[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Maze_simple.svg]

```
maze = [  
    [0, 1, 0, 0, 0],  
    [0, 1, 0, 1, 0],  
    [0, 0, 0, 1, 0],  
    [1, 1, 0, 0, 0],  
    [0, 0, 0, 1, 0],  
]
```

BREADTH-FIRST SEARCH ALGORITHM (BFS)

- Explores all neighbors at the current depth before moving deeper (level-by-level search)
- Uses a queue (FIFO) to manage nodes to visit
- Guarantees the shortest path in unweighted graphs or mazes
- Complete and optimal, but can be memory-heavy in large graphs



BREADTH-FIRST SEARCH ALGORITHM (BFS)

Algorithm 3 BFS Maze Solver

```
1: procedure BFS_SOLVE_MAZE(maze, start, goal)
2:   Q  $\leftarrow$  empty queue
3:   enqueue start into Q
4:   visited  $\leftarrow \{start\}
5:   came_from  $\leftarrow$  dictionary with start  $\mapsto$  None
6:   while Q is not empty do
7:     current  $\leftarrow$  dequeue from Q
8:     if current = goal then
9:       return RECONSTRUCT_PATH(came_from, start, goal)
10:    end if
11:    for all neighbor  $\in$  GET_NEIGHBORS(current) do
12:      if neighbor is in bounds and maze[neighbor] = 0 and neighbor  $\notin$ 
        visited then
13:        enqueue neighbor into Q
14:        add neighbor to visited
15:        came_from[neighbor]  $\leftarrow$  current
16:      end if
17:    end for
18:  end while
19:  return empty list
20: end procedure$ 
```

› PYCHARM HOTKEY CHEAT SHEET

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PYCHARM HOTKEY CHEAT SHEET

➤ Cheat sheet can be downloaded from Ilias



Find any action inside the IDE Ctrl + Shift + A

CREATE AND EDIT

Show intention actions	Alt + Enter
Basic code completion	Ctrl + Space
Smart code completion	Ctrl + Shift + Space
Type name completion	Ctrl + Alt + Space
Complete statement	Ctrl + Shift + Enter
Parameter information / context info	Ctrl + P / Alt + Q
Quick definition	Ctrl + Shift + I
Quick / external documentation	Ctrl + Q / Shift + F1
Generate code	Alt + Insert
Override / implement members	Ctrl + O / Ctrl + I
Surround with...	Ctrl + Alt + T
Comment with line comment	Ctrl + /
Extend / shrink selection	Ctrl + W / Ctrl + Shift + W
Optimize imports	Ctrl + Alt + O
Auto-indent lines	Ctrl + Alt + I
Cut / Copy / Paste	Ctrl + X / Ctrl + C / Ctrl + V
Copy document path	Ctrl + Shift + C
Paste from clipboard history	Ctrl + Shift + V
Duplicate current line or selection	Ctrl + D
Move line up / down	Ctrl + Shift + Up / Down
Delete line at caret	Ctrl + Y
Join / split line	Ctrl + Shift + J / Ctrl + Enter
Start new line	Shift + Enter
Toggle case	Ctrl + Shift + U
Expand / collapse code block	Ctrl + NumPad + / -
Expand / collapse all	Ctrl + Shift + NumPad + / -
Save all	Ctrl + S

VERSION CONTROL

VCS operations popup...	Alt + .
Commit	Ctrl + K
Update project	Ctrl + T
Recent changes	Alt + Shift + C
Revert	Ctrl + Alt + Z
Push...	Ctrl + Shift + K
Next / previous change	Ctrl + Alt + Shift + Down / Up

MASTER YOUR IDE

Find action...	Ctrl + Shift + A
Open a tool window	Alt + [0-9]
Synchronize	Ctrl + Alt + Y
Quick switch scheme...	Ctrl + `
Settings...	Ctrl + Alt + S
Jump to source / navigation bar	F4 / Alt + Home
Jump to last tool window	F12
Hide active / all tool windows	Shift + Esc / Ctrl + Shift + F12
Go to next / previous editor tab	Alt + Right / Alt + Left
Go to editor (from a tool window)	Esc
Close active tab / window	Ctrl + Shift + F4 / Ctrl + F4

FIND EVERYTHING

Search everywhere	Double Shift
Find / replace	Ctrl + F / R
Find in path / Replace in path	Ctrl + Shift + F / R
Next / previous occurrence	F3 / Shift + F3
Find word at caret	Ctrl + F3
Go to class / file	Ctrl + N / Ctrl + Shift + N
Go to file member	Ctrl + F12
Go to symbol	Ctrl + Alt + Shift + N

Navigate from symbols

Declaration	Ctrl + B
Type declaration (JavaScript only)	Ctrl + Shift + B
Super method	Ctrl + U
Implementation(s)	Ctrl + Alt + B
Find usages / Find usages in file	Alt + F7 / Ctrl + F7
Highlight usages in file	Ctrl + Shift + F7
Show usages	Ctrl + Alt + F7

REFACTOR AND CLEAN UP

Refactor this...	Ctrl + Alt + Shift + T
Copy... / Move...	F5 / F6
Safe delete...	Alt + Delete
Rename...	Shift + F6
Change signature...	Ctrl + F6
Inline...	Ctrl + Alt + N
Extract method	Ctrl + Alt + M
Introduce variable/ parameter	Ctrl + Alt + V / P
Introduce field / constant	Ctrl + Alt + F / C
Reformat code	Ctrl + Alt + L

6597

ANALYZE AND EXPLORE

Show error description	Ctrl + F1
Next / previous highlighted error	F2 / Shift + F2
Run inspection by name...	Ctrl + Alt + Shift + I
Type / call hierarchy	Ctrl + H / Ctrl + Alt + H

NAVIGATE IN CONTEXT

Select in...	Alt + F1
Recently viewed / Recent locations	Ctrl + E / Ctrl + Shift + E
Last edit location	Ctrl + Shift + Back
Navigate back / forward	Ctrl + Alt + Left / Right
Go to previous / next method	Alt + Up / Down
Go to line / column...	Ctrl + G
Go to code block end / start	Ctrl +] / [
Add to favorites	Alt + Shift + F
Toggle bookmark	F11
Toggle bookmark with mnemonic	Ctrl + F11
Go to numbered bookmark	Ctrl + [0-9]
Show bookmarks	Shift + F11

BUILD, RUN, AND DEBUG

Run context configuration	Ctrl + Shift + F10
Run / debug selected configuration	Alt + Shift + F10 / F9
Run / debug current configuration	Shift + F10 / F9
Step over / into	F8 / F7
Smart step into	Shift + F7
Step out	Shift + F8
Run to cursor / Force run to cursor	Alt + F9 / Ctrl + Alt + F9
Show execution point	Alt + F10
Evaluate expression...	Alt + F8
Stop	Ctrl + F2
Stop background processes...	Ctrl + Shift + F2
Resume program	F9
Toggle line breakpoint	Ctrl + F8
Toggle temporary line breakpoint	Ctrl + Alt + Shift + F8
Edit / view breakpoint	Ctrl + Shift + F8

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THANK YOU!



Please contact for questions:

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