

# User Guide for the Personal Finance Tracker

## Before Getting Started

Ensure you have the **Python module 'ttkbootstrap'** installed. If not, follow these steps:

1. Open your terminal or command prompt.
2. Type `pip install ttkbootstrap` and press Enter.
3. Wait for the installation to complete.

## Loading Transactions

1. The program automatically loads transactions from a **JSON file named 'transactions.json'** upon startup. Ensure the file is named correctly. (A 'transactions.json' file is provided with this program and you may replace this file with your own file)
2. Place the 'transactions.json' file in the same directory as the main program file ('Personal\_fin\_tracker.py').
3. Ensure the JSON file follows one of the two specified formats provided in the documentation.
4. Incorrect JSON file formats will result in errors and may prevent the program from functioning properly.

### Format one:

```
{
  "Groceries":
  {
    "type": "expense", "transactions":
    [
      {"amount": 10450.89, "date": "2015-04-21"},
      {"amount": 23450.89, "date": "2014-09-28"},
      {"amount": 450.89, "date": "2005-11-09"}
    ]
  },
  "Salary":
  {
    "type": "Income", "transactions":
    [
      {"amount": 1220450.89, "date": "2023-04-21"},
      {"amount": 2343450.89, "date": "2022-10-08"},
      {"amount": 2234450.89, "date": "2021-11-09"}
    ]
  }
}
```

## Format Two:

```
{
  "Groceries": [
    {"amount": 150, "date": "2024-02-03"},
    {"amount": 75, "date": "2024-02-15"}
  ],
  "Salary": [
    {"amount": 1000, "date": "2024-02-01"}
  ]
}
```

If the file is not in either one of these formats the program will indicate an error, and will not function as intended.

## Searching for Transactions

1. To search for a transaction, click the 'Search By' button and select your desired search method from the dropdown menu.
2. Depending on the selected method, enter your search term into the entry box.
3. Click the search button to initiate the search.
4. To return to viewing all transactions, click the 'Back to all transactions' button before initiating a new search.

**Note:** If you wish to search for a new transaction from the filtered transactions, you may skip the step to return to all transactions.

Following these steps will enable you to effectively use the Personal Finance Tracker program.