Python Variables

‹ Previous Next ›

Creating Variables

Unlike other programming languages, Python has no command for declaring a variable.

A variable is created the moment you first assign a value to it.

Example

```
x = 5
y = "John"
print(x)
print(y)
```

Run example »

Variables do not need to be declared with any particular type and can even change type after they have been set.

Example

```
x = 4 # x is of type int
x = "Sally" # x is now of type str
print(x)
```

Run example »

Variable Names

A variable can have a short name (like x and y) or a more descriptive name (age, carname, total_volume). Rules for Python variables:

- A variable name must start with a letter or the underscore character
- A variable name cannot start with a number
- A variable name can only contain alpha-numeric characters and underscores (A-z, 0-9, and _)
- Variable names are case-sensitive (age, Age and AGE are three different variables)

> Remember that variables are case-sensitive

Output Variables

The Python `print` statement is often used to output variables.

To combine both text and a variable, Python uses the `+` character:

Example

```
x = "awesome"
print("Python is " + x)
```

Run example »

You can also use the + character to add a variable to another variable:

Example

```
x = "Python is "
y = "awesome"
z =  x + y
print(z)
```

Run example »

For numbers, the + character works as a mathematical operator:

Example

```
x = 5
y = 10
print(x + y)
```

Run example »

If you try to combine a string and a number, Python will give you an error:

Example

```
x = 5
y = "John"
print(x + y)
```

Run example »

‹ Previous Next ›

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