

Introduction to python

Python is a widely used general-purpose, high level programming language. It was initially designed by Guido van Rossum in 1991 and developed by Python Software Foundation. It was mainly developed for emphasis on code readability, and its syntax allows programmers to express concepts in fewer lines of code.

Python is a programming language that lets you work quickly and integrate systems more efficiently.

There are two major Python versions- **Python 2 and Python 3**. Both are quite different.

Beginning with Python programming:

1) Finding an Interpreter:

Before we start Python programming, we need to have an interpreter to interpret and run our programs. There are certain online interpreters .

Windows: There are many interpreters available freely to run Python scripts like IDLE (Integrated Development Environment) which is installed when you install the python software from <http://python.org/>

Linux: For Linux, Python comes bundled with the linux.

Keywords

print

print to console

while

controlling the flow of the program

for

iterate over items of a collection in order that they appear

break

interrupt the (loop) cycle, if needed

continue

used to interrupt the current cycle, without jumping out of the whole cycle. New cycle will begin.

if

used to determine, which statements are going to be executed.

elif

stands for else if. If the first test evaluates to False, then it continues with the next one

else

is optional. The statement after the else keyword is executed, unless the condition is True

is

tests for object identity

not

negates a boolean value

and

all conditions in a boolean expression must be met

or

at least one condition must be met.

import

import other modules into a Python script

as

if we want to give a module a different alias

from

for importing a specific variable, class or a function from a module

def

used to create a new user defined function

return

exits the function and returns a value

lambda

creates a new anonymous function

global

access variables defined outside functions

try

specifies exception handlers

except

catches the exception and executes codes

finally

is always executed in the end. Used to clean up resources.

raise

create a user defined exception

del

deletes objects

pass

does nothing

assert

used for debugging purposes

class

used to create new user defined objects

exec

executes Python code dynamically

yield

is used with generators