Finally, it's worth noting, raw_input doesn't natively exist in Python 3, but there are some tricky ways to force the interpreter to evaluate raw_input in backwards compatible ways. This can be useful for modernizing legacy Python code without rewriting large portions of it. Research on this topic is better left to the reader, as there are lots of fun (and sometimes scary) ways of doing this.

Summary

Python 2 and Python 3 handle input and raw input differently.

In Python 2

- input(x) is roughly the same as eval(raw_input(x))
- raw_input() is preferred, unless the author wants to support evaluating string expressions.
- eval() is used to evaluate string expressions.

Standard Library Docs:

- https://docs.python.org/2/library/functions.html#input
- https://docs.python.org/2/library/functions.html#raw_input
- https://docs.python.org/2/library/functions.html#eval

In Python 3

- Input handles string as a generic string. It does not evaluate the string as a string expression.
- raw_input doesn't exist, but with some tricky techniques, it can be supported.
- eval() can be used the same as Python 2.

Standard Library Docs:

- https://docs.python.org/3/library/functions.html#input
- https://docs.python.org/3/library/functions.html#eval