

Exercise 1.6: Connecting to Databases in Python

Learning Goals

- Create a MySQL database for your Recipe app

Reflection Questions

1. What are databases and what are the advantages of using them?

A database keeps data in a standardized format to store and access it easier. They consists of tables which in return consist of rows and columns, just like spreadsheets do.

2. List 3 data types that can be used in MySQL and describe them briefly:

Data type	Definition
VARCHAR(n)	String of variable length, with n representing the maximum number of characters
INT	Standard integers
FLOAT	Floating-point decimal numbers

3. In what situations would SQLite be a better choice than MySQL?

In cases that only need very simple databases or for quick testing purposes.

4. Think back to what you learned in the Immersion course. What do you think about the differences between JavaScript and Python as programming languages?

I like Python's syntax more. The indentations and absence of most round brackets make the code more readable to me. Also it seems to me that Python allows for writing the same functionality with often less and simpler code.

5. Now that you're nearly at the end of Achievement 1, consider what you know about Python so far. What would you say are the limitations of Python as a programming language?

Before a quick internet research, I would have said "there are no limitations" in a half kidding manner, because I know, that I know basically nothing compared to what one can know about programming and programming languages. As I don't want to just copy and paste an answer here, I would say that fact that Python is not natively supported by web browsers limits it's usefulness for client-side web development.