

• what is python PEP 8?

→ PEP 8, sometimes spelled PEP8 or PEP-8, is a document that provides guidelines and practices on how to write python code.... A PEP is a document that describes new features proposed for python and documents aspects of python, like design and style, for the community.

## • Introduction

This document gives coding conventions for the python code comprising the standard library in the main python distribution. Please see the companion informational PEP describing style guideline for the C code in the C implementation of python. This style guide evolves over time as additional conventions are identified and past conventions are rendered obsolete by changes in the language itself. Many projects have their own coding style guidelines. In the event of any conflicts, these project specific guides take precedence than project

- Code lay-out
- Indentation
- Use 4 spaces per indentation level
- Continuation should align wrapped elements either vertically using python's implicit line joining - inside parentheses, brackets and braces, or using a hanging indent. When using a hanging indent the following should be considered; there should be no arguments of the first line and further indentation should be used to clearly distinguish itself as a continuation line:

# correct :

# Aligned with opening delimiter

```
foo = long_function_name(var_one,
var_two, var_three, var_four)
```

# Add 4 spaces (an extra level of indentation) to distinguish arguments from the rest.

```
def long_function_name(
    var_one, var_two, var_three,
    var_four):
    print(var_one)
```

The closing brace/ bracket/ parenthesis on multiple constructs may either line up under the first no-whitespace character of the last line of list, as in

```
my_list = [  
    1, 2, 3,  
    4, 5, 6,  
]
```

```
result = some_function_that_takes_  
arguments(  
    'a', 'b', 'c',  
    'd', 'e', 'f'  
)
```

Tabs and spaces?  
spaces are the preferred indentation method.

Tabs should be used solely to remain consistent with code that is already indented with tabs.

python disallows mixing tabs and spaces for indentation.

Maximum line length  
limit all lines to a maximum of 78 character.

for flowing long blocks of text with fewer structural restrictions (nesting or comments), the line

should be limited to 72 characters. Limiting the required editor window width makes it possible to have several files open side by side, and works well when using code review tools that present the two versions in adjacent columns.

- Blank lines

Surround top-level function and class definitions with two blank lines.

Method definitions inside a class are surrounded by a single blank line.

Extra blank lines may be used (sparingly) to separate groups of related functions. Blank lines may be omitted between a bunch of related one-liners (e.g. a set of dummy implementations).

- source file Encoding

Code in the core Python distribution always use UTF-8, and should never have an encoding declaration.

In the standard library, non-UTF-8 encodings should be used only for test purposes. Use of -non-

ASCII characters as data, avoid noisy  
unicode characters like 'zalgo' and  
order marks.

All identifiers in python standard  
library Must use ASCII - only  
identifiers, and SHOULD use English  
words wherever feasible. (in many  
cases, abbreviations and technical  
terms are used which aren't English.)

## Imports

- \* Imports should usually be on separate lines :

## # Correct

```
import os  
import sys
```

- \* Imports are always put at the top of the file, just after any module comment and docstrings, and before module globals and constants.

Imports should be grouped in the following groups

- i. Standard library imports
- ii. Related third party imports
- iii. local applications / library specific imports.

#

- Module level decorator Names  
Module level "decorators" such as  
- all, author, version, etc.  
should be placed after the module  
docstring but before any import  
statements except from  
- future\_imports. python mandates  
that future\_imports must appear  
in the module before any other  
code except docstrings:

""" This is the example module.

This module does stuffs.

" """  
from future import barry as FLU  
— all = ['a', 'b', 'c']

— Version = '0.1'

— author = 'Cardinal Biggles'

import os

import sys

## • String Quotes

In python, single-quoted strings and double-quoted strings are the same. This PEP does not make a recommendation for this. Pick a rule and stick to it. When a string contains single or double quote characters, however, use the other one to avoid backslashes in the string. It improves readability.

## • When to use trailing commas.

Trailing commas are usually optional, except they are mandatory when making a tuple of one element for clarity. It is recommended to surround the later in parentheses:

Correct:

```
FILES = ('setup.cfg',)
```

## Comments

Comments that contradict the code are worse than no comments. Always make a priority of keeping the comments up-to-date to code changes!

Comments should be complete sentences. The first word should be capitalized unless it is an identifier that

begins with a lower case letter (never alter the case of identifiers)  
Block comments generally consist of one or more paragraphs build out of complete sentences, with each sentences ending in a period.  
You should use two spaces fat after a sentence - ending period in multi-sentence comments, except after the final sentence.

python coders from non-English speaking countries; please write your comments in English, unless you are 120% sure that the code will never be read by people who don't speak your language.

### Block Comments.

It generally apply to some( or all ) code that follows them, and are indented to the same level as that code. Each line of a block comment starts with a # and a single space

### Naming Conventions

The naming conventions of Python's library are a bit of mess, so we'll never get the completely consistent - nevertheless, there are currently recommended naming

standards. New modules and packages should be written to these standards, but where an existing library has a different style, internal consistency is preferred.

#### • Overriding principle

Names that are visible to the user as public parts of the API should follow conventions that reflect usage rather than implementation.

#### • Descriptive : Naming Styles

There are a lot of different naming styles. It helps to be able to recognise what naming style is being used, independently from what they are used for:-

The following naming styles are commonly distinguished:

• b (single lowercase letter)

• B (single uppercase letter)

• lowercase

• lower\_case\_with\_underscores

- UPPERCASE
- UPPER\_CASE\_WITH\_UNDERCASE
- Capitalized Words
- mixedCase
- Capitalized\_words\_with\_underscores

- Class Names

Class names should normally use the Cap.Words convention.

The naming conventions for func may be used in cases where the interface is documented and prima as a callable.

- function and Variable name

function names should be lowercase, with words separated by underscores as necessary to improve readability.

functions and Method Arguments.  
Always use self for the first argument  
to instance method.

Always use ch for the first argument  
to class methods.

### Constants

Constants are usually defined on a  
module level and written in all  
capital letters with underscore separation  
words. Examples include MAX\_OVERFLOW  
and TOTAL.

### Designing for Inheritance

Always decide whether a class's method  
and instance variables (collectively;  
"attributes") should be public or non-  
public. If in doubt, choose non-public.  
It's easier to make it public later  
than to make a public attribute  
non-public.

### Public and Internal Interface

Any backwards compatibility  
guarantees apply only to public  
interfaces. Accordingly, it is im-  
portant that users be able to clearly distin-  
guish between public and internal interfaces.

Documented interfaces are considered public, unless the documentation explicitly declares them to be provisional or internal interfaces exempt from the usual backwards compatibility guarantees. All undocumented interfaces should be assumed to be internal.

#### • Programming Recommendations:-

Code should be written in a way that does not disadvantage other implementations of Python (PyPy, Jython, IronPython, Cython, Pysco, and such).

• Always use a `def` statement instead of an assignment statement that binds a lambda expression directly to an identifier:-

= Correct

```
def f(x): return 2*x
```

= Wrong

```
f = lambda x: 2*x
```

A good rule of thumb is to limit use of bare `except` clauses to two cases:-

i) if the exception handler will be printing out or logging the traceback; at least the user will be aware that an error has occurred.

ii) if the code needs to do some clean up work, but then lets the exception propagate upwards with raise.... Finally can be a better way to handle this case.

- when catching operating system errors, prefer the explicit exception propagate upwards hierarchy introduced in Python 3.3 over introspection of error values.
- Additionally, for all try| except clauses, limit the try clauses to the absolute minimum amount of code necessary. Again, this avoids masking bugs.

= Correct :

try :

    value = collection[key]

except KeyError :

    return key\_not\_found(key)

else :

return handle\_value (value)

- Don't write string literals that rely on significant whitespace. Such trailing whitespace is visually indistinguishable and some editors (or more recently, reindent.py) will trim them.
- Don't compare boolean values to True or False using == :

# Correct :

```
if greeting :
```

# Wrong :

```
if greeting == True:
```

Worse

# Wrong :

```
if greeting is True:
```

- function Annotations

With the acceptance of PEP 484, the style rules for function annotations have changed.

- function annotations should use PEP 484 syntax
- The experimentation with annotation styles that was recommended previously in this PEP is no longer encouraged
- However, outside the stdlib, experiments within the rules of PEP 484 are now encouraged. for example, marking up a large third party library or application with PEP 484 style type annotations, reviewing how easily it was to add those annotations, and observing their presence in increases code understandability.

The Python standard library should be conservative in adopting such annotations, but their use is allowed for new code and for big refactors.

- for code that wants to make a different use of function annotation it is recommended to put a comment of the form:

# type: ignore

near the top of the files; this tells type checkers to ignore all annotations.

- like linters, type checkers are optional, separate tools. Python interpreters by default should not issue any messages due to type checking and should not alter their behaviour based on annotation

- users who don't want to use type checkers are free to ignore them. However, it is expected that users of third party library packages may want to run type checker over those packages. For this purpose PEP 484 recommends the use of std files :- pyi files that are read by the type checker in preference of the corresponding .py files.

## Variable Annotations

PEP 526 introduced variable annotations.

The style recommendations for them are similar for those on function annotation described above:-

- Annotations for module level variables, class and variables and local variables should have a single space after the colon.
- There should be no space before the colon.
- If an assignment has a right hand side, then the equality sign should have exactly one space on both sides.

# Correct:

code: int

Class point :

coords: Tuple[int, int]

lab : str = "C\* unknown"

# Wrong :

Code: int # No space after colon.

Code : int # space before colon.

class Test :

result : int.=0 # No spaces around equality sign.

- Although the PEP 526 is accepted for python 3.6, the variable annotation syntax is the preferred syntax for stub files on all versions of python