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More About Input Functions

Now, you may have noticed that most of the Python code samples we've used include the line

#!/usr/bin/env python3

Now, this is important, because it sets the Python version to Python 3.

There are some subtle differences in how data streams are handled in Python 3 and older versions, such as Python 2. Let's just focus on input() and raw_input(), because they work differently in Python 2 and 3, and you would want to use one or the other depending on the Python version.

In Python 2

Taking an input from a user, raw_input should be used:

```
1   >>> my_number = raw_input('Please Enter a Number: \n')
2   Please Enter a Number:
3   1337
4   >>> print(my_number)
5   1337
6   >>>
```

Now, this is important, because, raw_input does *not* evaluate an otherwise valid Python expression. In simple terms, raw_input will just get a string from a user, where input will actually perform basic maths and the like. See below:

```
1    >>> my_raw_input = raw_input('Please Enter a Number: \n')
2    Please Enter a Number:
3    123 + 1  # This is treated like a raw string.
4    >>> my_input = input('Please Enter a Number: \n')
5    Please Enter a Number:
6    123 + 1 # This is treated like an expression.
7    >>> print(my_raw_input)
8    123 + 1
9    >>> print(my_input)
10   124 # See that the expression was evaluated!
```