Python Beginner Cheat Sheet - Just the Basics

Basic Types of Data

boolean = True / False

integer = 5

float = 5.23 (or even 5.0)

string = "abcd1234"

list = [val1, val2, val3,...]

dictionary = {key1:val1, key2:val2,...}

tuple = (val1, val2, val3,...)

Math

addition

** exponent

division

// integer division

modulus (remainder)

subtraction

multiplication

Math Assignment

+= addition

subtraction

multiplication

exponent

division /=

//= integer division

%= modulus (remainder)

Comparisons

< less than

<= less than or equal to

> greater than

>= greater than or equal to

== equal to

!= not equal to

Boolean Logic

not logical NOT

and logical AND

or logical OR

Make Decisions

if <something is True>:

execute this

indented code

elif <something else is True>:

execute this

indented code

else:

execute this code if the

if's and elif's were

all False

if <value> in <list>:

execute this

indented code

if <value> not in <list>:

execute this

indented code

Loops

while <something is True>:

execute this

indented code

for <variable> in <list>:

execute this

indented code

for <variable> in range(stop):

execute this indented code, with

<variable> ranging from 0 up to stop

for <variable> in range(start.stop.step):

execute this indented code, with

<variable> ranging from start up to

stop, skipping step amount each time

for <key>, <value> in dict.items():

execute this

indented code

stops the current loop break

continue iumps to the next loop iteration

does nothing, but can be used as placeholder code pass

Functions

def function_name(param1, param2, ...):

execute this

indented code

return <value>

File Access

f = open("file.txt", "r") open file for reading

f = open("file.txt", "w") open file for writing

f = open("file.txt", "a") open file for appending

data = f.read()

data = f.readline()

f.write(data)

f.close()

write a string to the file close the file

read the file as a string

read one line as a string

with open("file.txt", "r") as f:

execute this indented code

with **f** holding the handle to the

opened file, then automatically

close the file when this indented

code is finished

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Lists

l = []	Create an empty list
l[i] = x	Store x at position i
l.append(x)	Add value $\mathbf x$ to the end of the list
l.extend(k)	Add list k to the end of the list
<pre>l.insert(i, x)</pre>	Insert x at position i
l.remove(x))	Delete the first instance of x
l.pop()	Delete the first item, returning its value
l.pop(i)	Delete the item at i, returning its value
l.clear()	Delete all items in the list
l.index(x)	Return the first position of x
l.count(x)	Return the number of occurrences of ${\bf x}$
l.copy()	Return a copy of the list
l.sort()	Sort the list in ascending order
l.reverse()	Reverse the order of the list

Common String Functions

s.upper()	Return uppercase version of s
s.lower()	Return lowercase version of s
<pre>s.capitalize()</pre>	Return capitalized version of s
s.title()	Return title case version of s
s.count(x)	Count how many times x appears in s
s.find(x)	Return index position of x in s (or -1)
<pre>s.replace(x,y)</pre>	Return version of s with x replaced by y
s.join(l)	Return 1 as a single string joined by s
s.isalpha()	Return whether s is all letters
<pre>s.isnumeric()</pre>	Return whether s is a number
s.strip()	Return version of s with whitespace
	stripped away from the beginning and end
s.split(x)	Splits s using x as a delimiter, or uses
	spaces if ${f x}$ isn't specified, and returns the
	resulting list of substrings
<pre>s.splitlines()</pre>	Splits s at every new line, and returns
	a list with each line as one item in the list

Common Functions

<pre>print(x)</pre>	Print x to the console
input(s)	Print s , then return user input after ENTER
int(x)	Return the integer version of x
str(x)	Return the string version of x
float(x)	Return the float version of \mathbf{x}
range(i)	Return numbers from 0 up to i (but not i)
<pre>range(i,j,k)</pre>	Return numbers from i up to j, every k value
len(l)	Return the number of items in 1
sorted(l)	Return a sorted version of 1
min(a,b,)	Return the minimum value of a,b,
min(l)	Return the smallest value from 1
max(a,b,…)	Return the maximum value of a , b ,
max(l)	Return the smallest value from 1
sum(l)	Return the sum of all values in 1
abs(x)	Return the absolute value of ${f x}$
round(x,n)	Return x rounded to n digits
pow(b,e)	Return b raised to the power e

List/String Access and Slicing

l[i]	Get item/character at position i
1[-1]	Get the last item/character

l[beginning:end:step]

l[i:j]	Get items/characters from i up to j (not j)
l[i:]	Get items/characters from i to the end
l[:i]	Get items/characters from position 0 up to \mathbf{i} (not \mathbf{i})
l[::3]	Get every third item/character from beginning to end
l[::-2]	Get every other item/character, but in reverse order

Dictionaries

dict = {}	Create an empty dictionary
dict[k]	Get the value stored with key k
dict[k] = x	Store the value x using key k
<pre>dict.update(d)</pre>	Add the key/values of dictionary d
dict.keys()	Return a list of keys
<pre>dict.values()</pre>	Return a list of values
<pre>dict.items()</pre>	Return a list of (key, value) tuples
<pre>dict.get(k)</pre>	Return the value stored with key k
dict.copy()	Return a copy of the dictionary
dict.pop(k)	Return the value of key k , and delete k
<pre>dict.clear()</pre>	Delete all items in the dictionary

Modules

import module_name
module_name.function_name()
import module_name as other_name
other_name.function_name()
from module_name import *
function_name()
from module_name import function_name
function_name()