Python If ... Else

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Python Conditions and If statements

Python supports the usual logical conditions from mathematics:

- Equals: `a == b`
- Not Equals: `a != b`
- Less than: `a < b`
- Less than or equal to: `a <= b`
- Greater than: `a > b`
- Greater than or equal to: `a >= b`

These conditions can be used in several ways, most commonly in "if statements" and loops.

An "if statement" is written by using the `if` keyword.

Example

If statement:

```
b = 200
if b > a:
  print("b is greater than a")
```

Try it Yourself »

In this example we use two variables, `a` and `b`, which are used as part of the if statement to test whether `b` is greater than `a`. As `a` is `33`, and `b` is `200`, we know that 200 is greater than 33, and so we print to screen that "b is greater than a".

Indentation

Python relies on indentation (whitespace at the beginning of a line) to define scope in the code. Other programming languages often use curly-brackets for this purpose.

Example

If statement, without indentation (will raise an error):

```
a = 33
b = 200
if b > a:
print("b is greater than a") # you will get an error
```

Try it Yourself »

Elif

The `elif` keyword is pythons way of saying "if the previous conditions were not true, then try this condition".

```
a = 33
b = 33
if b > a:
  print("b is greater than a")
elif a == b:
  print("a and b are equal")
```

Try it Yourself »

In this example `a` is equal to `b`, so the first condition is not true, but the `elif` condition is true, so we print to screen that "a and b are equal".

Else

The `else` keyword catches anything which isn't caught by the preceding conditions.

Example

```
a = 200
b = 33
if b > a:
  print("b is greater than a")
elif a == b:
  print("a and b are equal")
else:
  print("a is greater than b")
```

Try it Yourself »

In this example `a` is greater than `b`, so the first condition is not true, also the `elif` condition is not true, so we go to the `else` condition and print to screen that "a is greater than b".

Example

```
a = 200
b = 33
if b > a:
  print("b is greater than a")
else:
  print("b is not greater than a")
```

Try it Yourself »

Short Hand If

If you have only one statement to execute, you can put it on the same line as the if statement.

Example

One line if statement:

```
if a > b: print("a is greater than b")
```

Try it Yourself »

Short Hand If ... Else

If you have only one statement to execute, one for if, and one for else, you can put it all on the same line:

One line if else statement:

```
a = 2
b = 330
print("A") if a > b else print("B")
```

Try it Yourself »

This technique is known as **Ternary Operators**, or **Conditional Expressions**.

You can also have multiple else statements on the same line:

Example

One line if else statement, with 3 conditions:

```
a = 330
b = 330
print("A") if a > b else print("=") if a == b else print("B")
```

Try it Yourself »

And

The `and` keyword is a logical operator, and is used to combine conditional statements:

Example

```
a = 200
b = 33
c = 500
if a > b and c > a:
  print("Both conditions are True")
```

Try it Yourself »

Or

The `or` keyword is a logical operator, and is used to combine conditional statements:

Example

Test if `a` is greater than `b`, OR if `a` is greater than `c`:

```
a = 200
b = 33
c = 500
if a > b or a > c:
  print("At least one of the conditions is True")
```

Try it Yourself »

Nested If

You can have `if` statements inside `if` statements, this is called *nested* `if` statements.

Example