

# TOPIC :Unit Testing & Test Suite Development



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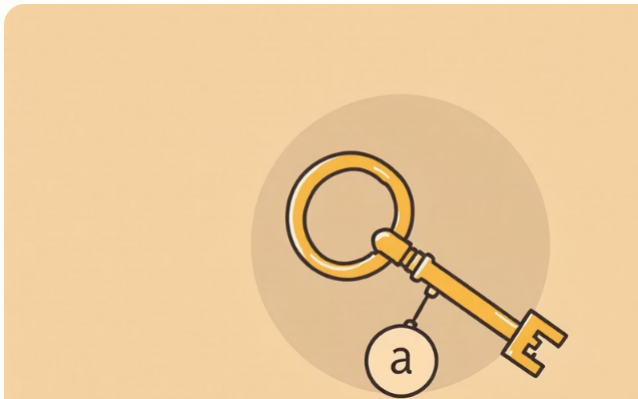
# Defining the "Unit" in Unit Testing

The smallest testable part of a program, designed to function independently. Its definition can vary based on programming language and architecture:



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`totalPrice()`



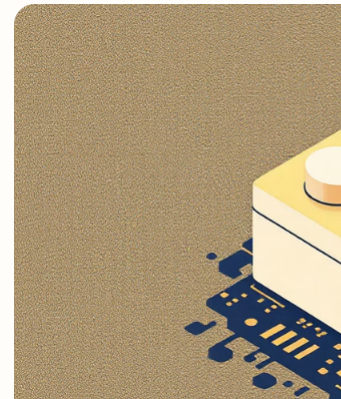
A Method

E.g., `user.login()`



A Class

Such as a `BankAccount` class



A Module

Like a Python module or package

A unit should have a clear purpose, defined input, predictable output, and minimal dependencies, making it easier to test.

# Cornerstone of Software Quality: Unit Testing

## What is Unit Testing?

Unit testing is a fundamental software testing technique for verifying individual components in isolation. Each unit of code—be it a function, method, or module—behaves precisely as expected.

## The Purpose

- Catch bugs early in the development cycle.
- Enhance software reliability and maintainability.
- Promote cleaner, modular code design.
- Validate individual component behavior.

In software testing, a well-structured test suite is crucial for comprehensive validation, acting as the backbone for quality assurance.

# Unit Testing is Indispensable

Unit testing serves as the first line of defense against software defects, offering numerous critical benefits throughout the development lifecycle.

## Defect Detection

Identifies bugs at the earliest stages, significantly reducing fix costs and preventing escalation.



## Improved Code Quality

Encourages developers to write cleaner, more modular, and well-structured code.

## Code Refactoring

Facilitates the reorganization and optimization of code, ensuring existing functionality remains intact.



## Reduces Debugging Time

Pinpoints issues rapidly by localizing failures to the unit level, not the entire application or integrated systems.

## CI/CD Integration

Automated tests run on every commit, ensuring code consistency and stability in production.



## Living Documentation

Well-written tests clarify how code components are designed to behave, serving as executable documentation.

# High-Quality Unit Tests

Tests are not just about finding bugs; they are about building a robust and reliable codebase. They possess key characteristics that make them effective.

## Isolation

Tests should run in milliseconds to support frequent execution without hindering developer workflow.

## Deterministic Results

Given the same input, tests must consistently produce the same outcome, free from environmental or timing inconsistencies.

## Self-Contained Environment

Tests should not depend on external systems (databases, APIs, network). Mocks and stubs are vital for maintaining isolation.

## Readable & Maintainable

Tests should be clear, well-structured, and adequately commented to explain what is being tested and why.

## Portable Across Environments

Tests should execute reliably on any machine or operating system without complex setup requirements.

## Comprehensive Coverage

Tests should validate both typical use cases and critical edge cases, including error conditions and boundary values.

# Unit Testing Workflow

This approach to unit testing ensures thorough validation and efficient bug resolution. Follow this general workflow:

01 Identify Test Targets	02 Design Test Cases	03 Implement Tests
	Create scenarios covering normal, boundary, invalid, and exception cases.	Write tests using an appropriate framework (e.g., JUnit, pytest).
04 Run Tests	05 Debug & Fix	06 Re-run Tests
	Trace failures, identify root causes, and resolve defects.	Confirm fixes without introducing regressions.

## Test Coverage

Regularly create new tests for new features to ensure high test coverage.

# Test Case Design

Test case design is paramount for comprehensive evaluation, ensuring all possible behaviors are thoroughly assessed.



## Valid Test Cases

Verify expected behavior with valid inputs.



## Boundary Value Tests

Test at the extremes of allowable ranges (min/max).



## Exception Handling Tests

Test exception raising and handling mechanisms.



## Negative Test Cases

Ensure graceful failure with invalid or unexpected inputs.



## Edge Case Tests

Address unusual conditions (e.g., empty lists, null inputs).



## State & Behavior Tests

Validate internal state changes and external system interactions.

# Robust Test Suites

logically grouped collection of test cases that validate specific features or the entire system. A well-structured suite is critical

## Key Components

**Setup:** Prepares and cleans the test environment.

**Tests/Files:** Focuses on specific components.

**Mocking Layer:** Isolates tests from external dependencies.

**Helpers:** Prevents code duplication for common actions.

## Example Structure

```
tests/├── unit/│   ├── test_auth.py│   └── test_payments.py└── test_products.py├── fixtures/│   └── user_data.json└── mock_api.py├── utils/│   └── helpers.py
```

n improves scalability, readability, and maintainability, making it easier to navigate and automate testing pro



# Practices & Essential Tools

Practices and leveraging robust frameworks are crucial for effective unit testing and test suite development.

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**Organization** : Group tests by functionality.

**Naming** : Use clear names like `test_user_login_success()`.

**Automation** : Automate test runs on commits and PRs.

**Autonomy** : Each test should run autonomously.

**Isolation** : Isolate external dependencies.

**Readability** : Tests should be easier to understand than the code itself.

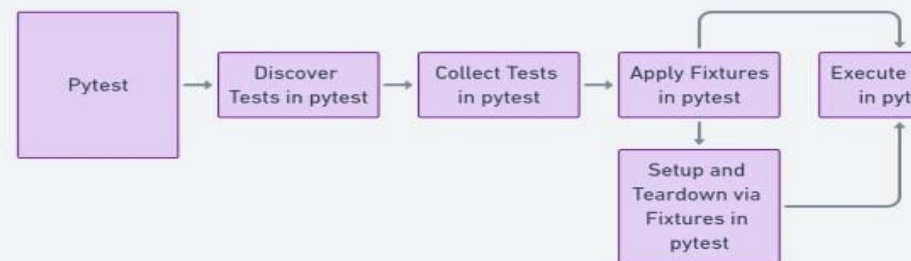
**Maintenance** : Keep tests updated with code changes.

## Popular Frameworks

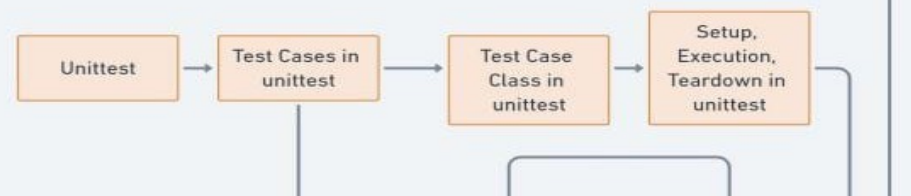
- Java: **JUnit**, TestNG
- Python: **pytest**, unittest
- JavaScript: **Jest**, Mocha, Chai
- C/C++: **GoogleTest** (gtest)

These frameworks provide essential tools like test runner, mocking capabilities, and reporting features.

### Pytest Architecture



### Unittest Architecture



Unit testing and test suite development are indispensable for building high-quality, reliable, and maintainable software. They catch errors early, ensure consistency, and provide confidence during refactoring, protecting the system against regressions. An evolving test suite is a vital asset for