

Templating



WEB 1.1

- Learning Outcomes
- Why Templating?
- Variables in Templates
- Named Parameters
- **BREAK**
- If Statements
- Loops
- Template Inheritance
- Wrap-Up

By the end of today, you should be able to...

1. **Explain** why templating is important for making our code more elegant & readable.
2. **Use** Jinja2 templates to display variables, conditionals, & list items.
3. **Use** template inheritance to re-use code on multiple pages.

Check-In

In a group of 3, answer:

What is one thing that is keeping you grounded?

Review: Why Templating?

Let's take a look at some of the code we've written so far.

The route for `/pizza/submit` combines both HTML and Python code.

This has worked well so far, because it keeps everything in one place, but once our projects start to get larger and larger, it's a really bad practice.

What are some **downsides** to having our code in one file?

```
@app.route('/pizza/submit', methods=['GET', 'POST'])
def submit_pizza():
    users_email = request.args.get('email')
    users_phone = request.args.get('phone')
    crust_type = request.args.get('crust')
    pizza_size = request.args.get('size')
    list_of_toppings = request.args.getlist('toppings')
    accepted_terms = request.args.get('terms_conditions')

    if accepted_terms != 'accepted':
        return 'Please accept the terms and conditions and try again!'

    return f"""
    Your order summary: <br>
    Email: {users_email} <br>
    Phone number: {users_phone} <br><br>

    You ordered a {crust_type} crust pizza of size {pizza_size}-inch
    with the following toppings: {' '.join(list_of_toppings)}
    """
```

Here are some **downsides** to having **Python** and **HTML** code in the same file:

- There's no syntax highlighting! So it's really hard to see what's going on.
- The code editor can't make autocomplete suggestions, like telling us when an end-bracket is missing.
- It just looks messy!

So... what can we do instead??

```
@app.route('/pizza/submit', methods=['GET', 'POST'])
def submit_pizza():
    users_email = request.args.get('email')
    users_phone = request.args.get('phone')
    crust_type = request.args.get('crust')
    pizza_size = request.args.get('size')
    list_of_toppings = request.args.getlist('toppings')
    accepted_terms = request.args.get('terms_conditions')

    if accepted_terms != 'accepted':
        return 'Please accept the terms and conditions and try again!'

    return f"""
    Your order summary: <br>
    Email: {users_email} <br>
    Phone number: {users_phone} <br><br>

    You ordered a {crust_type} crust pizza of size {pizza_size}-inch
    with the following toppings: {' '.join(list_of_toppings)}
    """
```


We want to place all of our HTML code for each page into a **separate HTML file**.

This will enforce the convention of **only having one programming language** in a single file, which will make our code cleaner and more elegant!

We'll be using the **render_template** function (built into Flask) to accomplish this.

app.py

```
@app.route('/pizza/submit', methods=['GET', 'POST'])
def submit_pizza():
    accepted_terms = request.args.get('terms_conditions')
    if accepted_terms != 'accepted':
        return render_template('toc_not_accepted.html')

    list_of_toppings = request.args.getlist('toppings')
    context = {
        users_email: request.args.get('email'),
        users_phone: request.args.get('phone'),
        crust_type: request.args.get('crust'),
        pizza_size: request.args.get('size'),
        toppings: ', '.join(list_of_toppings)
    }

    return render_template('submission_page.html', **context)
```

← Python code

templates/toc_not_accepted.html

```
<p>
    Please accept the terms and conditions and try
again!
<p>
```

templates/submission_page.html

```
Your order summary: <br>
Email: {{ users_email }} <br>
Phone number: {{ users_phone }} <br><br>

You ordered a {{ crust_type }} crust pizza
of size {{ pizza_size }}-inch
with the following toppings: {{ toppings }}
```

HTML code →
(Jinja2)

What are Templates?

A template is kind of like a game of MadLibs - we pass variables in from the *route* to be used in the *template*.



There are many _____ ways to choose a/an _____ to
ADJECTIVE NOUN
read. First, you could ask for recommendations from your friends and
_____. Just don't ask Aunt _____—she only
PLURAL NOUN PERSON IN ROOM (FEMALE)
reads _____ books with _____-ripping goddesses
ADJECTIVE ARTICLE OF CLOTHING
on the cover. If your friends and family are no help, try checking out the
_____ Review in *The* _____ *Times*. If the _____
NOUN A CITY PLURAL NOUN
featured there are too _____ for your taste, try something a little
ADJECTIVE
more low-_____, like _____: *The* _____
PART OF THE BODY LETTER OF THE ALPHABET CELEBRITY

Let's break it down...

The templating language we'll be using is called **Jinja2**. When **render_template** is called, the Jinja2 template tags get **transformed into regular HTML** before being sent to the client.

The **context** variable here is like a suitcase that **packages up variables** to be used in the template.

Jinja2 uses `{{ }}` syntax to denote using a variable.

`app.py`

```
def submit_pizza():
    ...
    context = {
        'users_email': request.args.get('email'),
        'users_phone': request.args.get('phone'),
        'crust_type': request.args.get('crust'),
        'pizza_size': request.args.get('size'),
        'toppings': ', '.join(list_of_toppings)
    }

    return render_template('submission_page.html', **context)
```



`templates/submission_page.html`

```
Your order summary: <br>
Email: {{ users_email }} <br>
Phone number: {{ users_phone }} <br><br>

You ordered a {{ crust_type }} crust pizza
of size {{ pizza_size }}-inch
with the following toppings: {{ toppings }}
```

Every **key-value pair** in the context gets transformed into a **variable** to be used in the template.

(Yes, variables are just key-value pairs!)

app.py

```
def submit_pizza():
    ...
    context = {
        users_email: request.args.get('email'),
        users_phone: request.args.get('phone'),
        crust_type: request.args.get('crust'),
        pizza_size: request.args.get('size'),
        toppings: ', '.join(list_of_toppings)
    }

    return render_template('submission_page.html', **context)
```

templates/submission_page.html

```
Your order summary: <br>
Email: {{ users_email }} <br>
Phone number: {{ users_phone }} <br><br>
You ordered a {{ crust_type }} crust pizza
of size {{ pizza_size }}-inch
with the following toppings: {{ toppings }}
```

We can also pass data using **named parameters**:

app.py

```
def submit_pizza():  
    ...  
  
    return render_template('submission_page.html',  
        users_email=request.args.get('email'),  
        users_phone=request.args.get('phone'),  
        crust_type=request.args.get('crust'),  
        pizza_size=request.args.get('size'),  
        toppings=', '.join(list_of_toppings))
```

templates/submission_page.html

```
Your order summary: <br>  
Email: {{ users_email }} <br>  
Phone number: {{ users_phone }} <br><br>  
  
You ordered a {{ crust_type }} crust pizza  
of size {{ pizza_size }}-inch  
with the following toppings: {{ toppings }}
```

Or like this:

app.py

```
def submit_pizza():  
    ...  
    users_email = request.args.get('email')  
    users_phone = request.args.get('phone')  
    crust_type = request.args.get('crust')  
    pizza_size = request.args.get('size')  
    toppings = ', '.join(list_of_toppings)  
  
    return render_template('submission_page.html',  
        users_email=users_email,  
        users_phone=users_phone,  
        crust_type=crust_type,  
        pizza_size=pizza_size,  
        toppings=toppings)
```

templates/submission_page.html

```
Your order summary: <br>  
Email: {{ users_email }} <br>  
Phone number: {{ users_phone }} <br><br>  
  
You ordered a {{ crust_type }} crust pizza  
of size {{ pizza_size }}-inch  
with the following toppings: {{ toppings }}
```


Let's try one more simple example together.

Let's refactor 1 route in the [Jinja Refactor Repl.It.](#)

Jinja2 Templating Activity (10 minutes)

Refactor the rest of the routes in the [Jinja Refactor Repl.It.](#)

In breakout groups of 2, practice **Pair Programming** as you work through the routes:

- The **Driver** shares their screen & types in the code.
- The **Navigator** tells the driver what to type.
- Switch roles after each route.

What are Named Parameters?

A Python function with "normal" parameters is defined and called like this:

```
def add(num1, num2):  
    """Adds two numbers."""  
    return num1 + num2  
  
answer = add(6, 7)  
print(answer) # prints 13
```

But, we can also "name" the parameters when we call the function, like this:

```
def add(num1, num2):  
    """Adds two numbers."""  
    return num1 + num2  
  
answer = add(num2=6, num1=7)  
print(answer) # prints 13
```

In this case, the parameters don't need to be passed in the same order.

What if we want to add together any number of values? We could pass the values as a list:

```
def add(numbers):  
    """Adds together a list of numbers."""  
    result = 0  
    for num in numbers:  
        result += num  
    return result  
  
answer = add([2, 3, 4])  
print(answer) # prints 9
```

But what if, instead of passing a list, we want to pass each number as a separate parameter? We can do that by using ***args**:

```
def add(*args):  
    """Adds together any amount of numbers."""  
    result = 0  
    for num in args:  
        result += num  
    return result
```

We can use "args" as a regular parameter - it contains a tuple of all values passed

```
answer = add(2, 3, 4)  
print(answer) # prints 9
```

How about if we want to pass in key-value pairs, instead of individual values?

We can use **keyword args** (or "**kwargs**") to pass these!

```
def print_values(**kwargs):  
    for key, value in kwargs.items():  
        print(f"{key} = {value}")
```

← "**kwargs**" is a dictionary
containing the key-value pairs
passed in

```
print_values(animal='koala', vegetable='eggplant',  
            fruit='persimmon')
```

[Try it out!](#)

Keyword Args in render_template

We can also call `render_template` and pass in variables as keyword args:

```
@app.route('/profile')
def my_profile():
    return render_template('profile.html',
                           first_name='Meredith',
                           hobbies=['cooking', 'knitting', 'hacking'])
```

Then use them in the template like:

```
<!-- profile.html -->
<p> My Name: {{ first_name }} </p>

<p> My Hobbies: {{ hobbies }} </p>
```

Keyword Args in render_template

You can also pre-define the variables and pass them in like this - keep in mind that the left side is the "new" name (what you'll call it in the template), and the right side is the value.

```
@app.route('/profile')
def my_profile():
    first_name = 'Meredith'
    hobbies = ['cooking', 'knitting', 'hacking']

    return render_template('profile.html',
                           first_name=first_name, hobbies=hobbies)
```

Break - 10 min

Jinja2 If Statements

Sometimes, we want to show something different in a template depending on the value of a variable.

Let's say we have an **Animal Facts** web page and we want to show a different fact for each animal.

We could have an **if/elif/else** statement in the Python code to determine which animal fact to show... **or** we could do it in the template!

Here's what the code might look like.

app.py

```
@app.route('/fact/<animal>')
def animal_fact(animal):
    """Shows one fact about the given animal."""
    context = {
        'animal': animal
    }
    return render_template('fact.html', **context)
```

templates/fact.html

```
{% if animal == 'aardvark' %}
    Aardvarks can eat up to 50,000 insects each night! They
    swallow their food whole, without chewing it.
{% elif animal == 'penguin' %}
    A penguin's black and white plumage serves as camouflage while
    swimming.
{% elif animal == 'zebra' %}
    A zebra's stripes serve to dazzle and confuse predators and
    biting insects.
{% else %}
    I don't have any facts about that animal. Please try again!
{% endif %}
```

If the user goes to /fact/koala, what will they see?

An if statement in Jinja2 looks like this:

```
{% if boolean expression %}
```

If the first statement is true, this HTML will be displayed!

```
{% elif other boolean expression %}
```

If the first statement is true, this HTML will be displayed!

```
{% else %}
```


If neither is true, this HTML will be displayed!

```
{% endif %}
```

Just like in Python, the *elif* and *else* clauses are optional.

With a partner (Pair Programming style), complete the [If Statements Repl.it](#) by filling in the missing code in `templates/coin_flip.html`.

Some Flask Repl.it tips:

- If you see “Hmm.... We Couldn’t Reach Your Repl”, click “Stop” followed by “Run”.
- You can also click the  icon to open in a new tab.
- Collect more tips to help out your classmates!

Jinja2 Loops

Sometimes we want to show an HTML element, or several elements, *multiple times* in one web page.

Instead of writing out the same code many times, we can use a *for loop* to accomplish this!

Here's an example of a Jinja2 for loop in action! *What will we see rendered on the page?*

app.py

```
@app.route('/compliments')
def get_compliments():
    """Gives the user some compliments."""
    compliments = [
        'brave',
        'witty',
        'tenacious'
    ]
    context = {
        'compliments': compliments
    }

    return render_template('compliments.html', **context)
```

templates/compliments.html

Hello there, user! You are so...

```
<ul>
{% for compliment in compliments %}
    <li> {{ compliment }} </li>
{% endfor %}
</ul>
```

Let's break it down!

Recall that the only variables available in the template are the ones added into the context - that is, `compliments_list`.

BUT, the for loop creates a new variable, `compliment`!

app.py

```
def get_compliments():  
    ...  
  
    return render_template(  
        'compliments.html',  
        compliments_list=compliments)
```

templates/compliments.html

Hello there, user! You are so...

```
<ul>  
{% for compliment in compliments_list %}  
    <li> {{ compliment }} </li>  
{% endfor %}  
</ul>
```

A loop in Jinja looks like:


```
{% for new_variable_name in list %}
```

This HTML will be repeatedly displayed for each item in the list. Each time the loop runs, `{{ new_variable_name }}` will refer to a different item in the list.

```
{% endfor %}
```

With a partner (Pair Programming style), complete the [Loops Repl.it](#) by filling in the missing code in `templates/shopping_list.html`.

Some Flask Repl.it tips:

- If you see “Hmm.... We Couldn’t Reach Your Repl”, click “Stop” followed by “Run”.
- You can also click the  icon to open in a new tab.

Template Inheritance

Templating Exploration Activity (10 minutes)

- Click on [this web page](#) and [this one](#).
- List at least **3 things that are the same** and **3 things that are different** between the **layouts** of the two web pages. (Example: Both pages include a search bar.)
- Type your answer in the chat!

Same

- Nav bar
- Footer
- Styles

Different

- Content
- Etc...

In the programming world, there is a concept called

Don't

Repeat

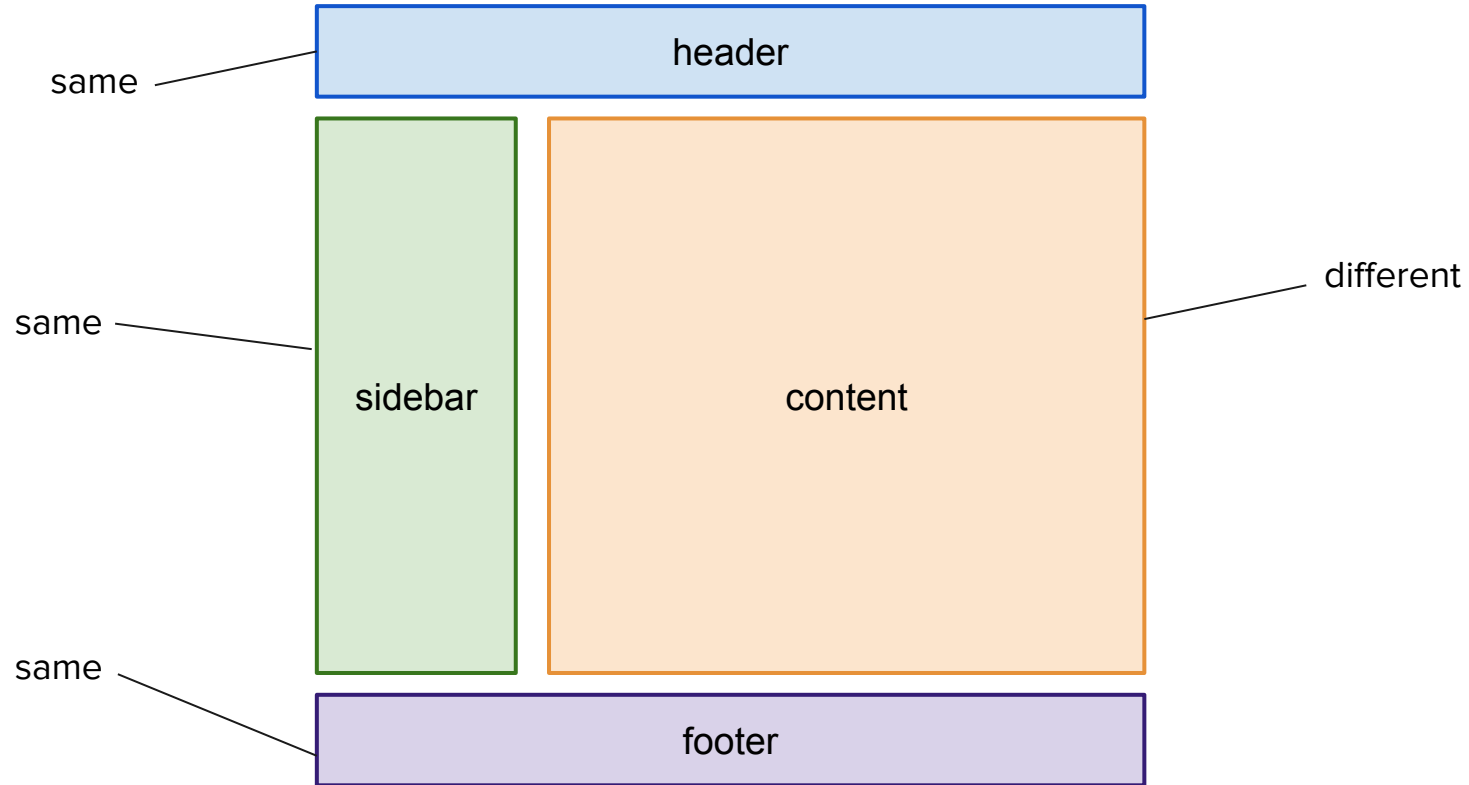
Yourself

which means, don't write the same code twice.

How does that concept relate to the web pages we just explored?

It is very common to have parts of a web page that are re-used for every page on the website: header, sidebar, footer, etc.

We can use **template inheritance** to easily reuse parts of a web page in multiple places.



We can use the `{% block %}` and `{% extends ... %}` tags to inherit from a base template.

templates/base.html

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <title>
      {% block title %}{% endblock %}
    </title>
  </head>
  <body>
    <header>
      ...
    </header>

    <main>
      {% block content %} PLACEHOLDER TEXT {% endblock %}
    </main>

    <footer>
      ...
    </footer>
  </body>
</html>
```

templates/index.html

```
{% extends 'base.html' %}

{% block title %}
  My Pizza Delivery App
{% endblock %}

{% block content %}
  Welcome! Here is the place where you order pizza.
{% endblock %}
```

Fill in the blanks to complete the `index.html` template!

templates/pizza_base.html

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  ...
  <body>
    <main>
      Please fill out the following form to order your
      pizza.
      {% block pizza_form %}{% endblock %}
    </main>
  </body>
</html>
```

templates/index.html

```
{% extends [ ] %}

{% block [ ] %}
  <form action="/pizza_submit">
    Select your pizza crust:
    ...
    <input type="submit" value="Submit">
  </form>
{% endblock %}
```

Fill in the blanks to complete the `index.html` template!

templates/pizza_base.html

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  ...
  <body>
    <main>
      Please fill out the following form to order your
      pizza.
      {% block pizza_form %}{% endblock %}
    </main>
  </body>
</html>
```

templates/index.html

```
{% extends 'pizza_base.html' %}

{% block pizza_form %}
  <form action="/pizza_submit">
    Select your pizza crust:
    ...
    <input type="submit" value="Submit">
  </form>
{% endblock %}
```

With a partner (Pair Programming style), complete the [Template Inheritance Repl.it](#) by filling in the missing code in `templates/home.html`.

Lab Time: Homework 2

Homework:

- [Quiz 1](#) - study guide is posted; take-home quiz will be available by eod Friday
- Finish up [homework 2](#)
- Homework 3 will be posted by ~9pm tonight!

- [Templates - Flask Tutorial](#)
- (Beginner-friendly) [Video Tutorial on Templates](#)