

Python - Add Set Items

Add Items

Once a set is created, you cannot change its items, but you can add new items.

To add one item to a set use the `add()` method.

Example

Add an item to a set, using the `add()` method:

```
thisset = {"apple", "banana", "cherry"}
```

```
thisset.add("orange")
```

```
print(thisset)
```

Add Sets

To add items from another set into the current set, use the `update()` method.

Example

Add elements from `tropical` into `thisset`:

```
thisset = {"apple", "banana", "cherry"}
```

```
tropical = {"pineapple", "mango", "papaya"}
```

```
thisset.update(tropical)
```

```
print(thisset)
```

Add Any Iterable

The object in the `update()` method does not have to be a set, it can be any iterable object (tuples, lists, dictionaries etc.).

Example

Add elements of a list to a set:

```
thisset = {"apple", "banana", "cherry"}  
mylist = ["kiwi", "orange"]
```

```
thisset.update(mylist)
```

```
print(thisset)
```

Python - Remove Set Items

Remove Item

To remove an item in a set, use the `remove()`, or the `discard()` method.

Example

Remove "banana" by using the `remove()` method:

```
thisset = {"apple", "banana", "cherry"}
```

```
thisset.remove("banana")
```

```
print(thisset)
```

Note: If the item to remove does not exist, `remove()` will raise an error.

Example

Remove "banana" by using the `discard()` method:

```
thisset = {"apple", "banana", "cherry"}
```

```
thisset.discard("banana")
```

```
print(thisset)
```

Note: If the item to remove does not exist, `discard()` will **NOT** raise an error.

You can also use the `pop()` method to remove an item, but this method will remove a random item, so you cannot be sure what item that gets removed.

The return value of the pop() method is the removed item.

Example

Remove a random item by using the pop() method:

```
thisset = {"apple", "banana", "cherry"}
```

```
x = thisset.pop()
```

```
print(x)
```

```
print(thisset)
```

Note: Sets are *unordered*, so when using the pop() method, you do not know which item that gets removed.

Example

The clear() method empties the set:

```
thisset = {"apple", "banana", "cherry"}
```

```
thisset.clear()
```

```
print(thisset)
```

Example

The del keyword will delete the set completely:

```
thisset = {"apple", "banana", "cherry"}
```

```
del thisset
```

```
print(thisset)
```

Python - Join Sets

Join Sets

There are several ways to join two or more sets in Python.

The union() and update() methods joins all items from both sets.

The intersection() method keeps ONLY the duplicates.

The difference() method keeps the items from the first set that are not in the other set(s).

The symmetric_difference() method keeps all items EXCEPT the duplicates.

Union

The union() method returns a new set with all items from both sets.

Example

Join set1 and set2 into a new set:

```
set1 = {"a", "b", "c"}
```

```
set2 = {1, 2, 3}
```

```
set3 = set1.union(set2)
```

```
print(set3)
```

You can use the | operator instead of the union() method, and you will get the same result.

Example

Use | to join two sets:

```
set1 = {"a", "b", "c"}
```

```
set2 = {1, 2, 3}
```

```
set3 = set1 | set2
```

```
print(set3)
```

Join Multiple Sets

All the joining methods and operators can be used to join multiple sets.

When using a method, just add more sets in the parentheses, separated by commas:

Example

Join multiple sets with the union() method:

```
set1 = {"a", "b", "c"}
set2 = {1, 2, 3}
set3 = {"John", "Elena"}
set4 = {"apple", "bananas", "cherry"}
```

```
myset = set1.union(set2, set3, set4)
print(myset)
```

When using the | operator, separate the sets with more | operators:

Example

Use | to join two sets:

```
set1 = {"a", "b", "c"}
set2 = {1, 2, 3}
set3 = {"John", "Elena"}
set4 = {"apple", "bananas", "cherry"}
```

```
myset = set1 | set2 | set3 | set4
print(myset)
```

Join a Set and a Tuple

The union() method allows you to join a set with other data types, like lists or tuples.

The result will be a set.

Example

Join a set with a tuple:

```
x = {"a", "b", "c"}
y = (1, 2, 3)
```

```
z = x.union(y)
print(z)
```

Note: The | operator only allows you to join sets with sets, and not with other data types like you can with the union() method.

Update

The update() method inserts all items from one set into another.

The update() changes the original set, and does not return a new set.

Example

The update() method inserts the items in set2 into set1:

```
set1 = {"a", "b", "c"}
```

```
set2 = {1, 2, 3}
```

```
set1.update(set2)
```

```
print(set1)
```

Note: Both union() and update() will exclude any duplicate items.