

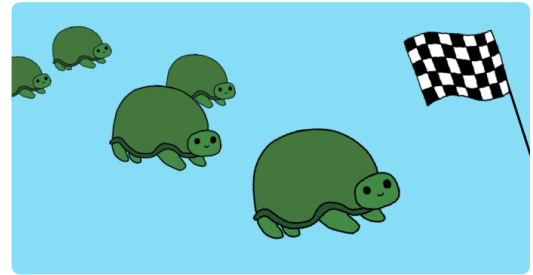


Projects

Turtle Race!

Race turtles against each other!

Python

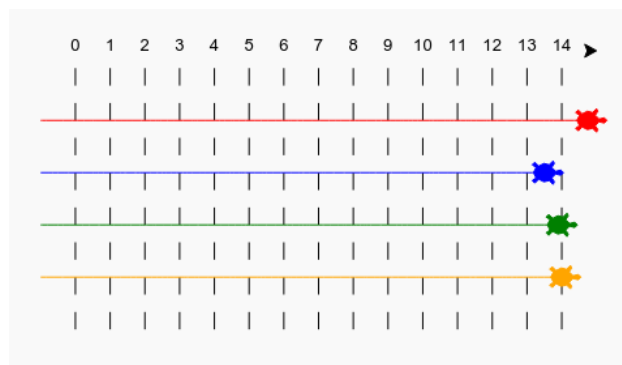


Step 1 Introduction

Use loops to draw a race track and create a racing turtle game.

What you will make

This project introduces for loops through a fun turtle race game. Loops are used to draw the race track and to make the turtles move a random number of steps each turn. If you have a group of people to play the game, each person pick a turtle and the one that gets the furthest is the winner.



What you will learn

By making your turtle race game, you will learn how to:

- Write `for` loops in Python
- Use random numbers in Python
- Draw lines in different colours with Python Turtle

This project covers elements from the following strands of the **Raspberry Pi Digital Making Curriculum** (<http://rpf.io/curriculum>):

- Use basic programming constructs to create simple programs.
(<https://www.raspberrypi.org/curriculum/programming/creator/>)



Completion of this project will earn you points towards your bronze "Digital Maker" iDEA badge. For more information, visit idea.org.uk (<https://idea.org.uk>).

Additional information for educators

If you need to print this project, please use the **printer-friendly version** (<https://projects.raspberrypi.org/en/projects/turtle-race/print>).

Use the link in the footer to access the GitHub repository for this project, which contains all resources (including an example finished project) in the 'en/resources' folder.

Additional information for club leaders

If you need to print this project, please use the **Printer friendly version** (<https://projects.raspberrypi.org/en/projects/turtle-race/print>).

Step 2 What you will need

Hardware

- An internet-connected computer

Software

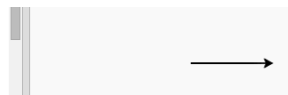
This project uses Python 3. We recommend using **Trinket** (<https://trinket.io/>), which allows you to write Python code online.

Step 3 Race track

You're going to create a game with racing turtles. First they'll need a race track.

- Open the blank Python template Trinket: jump.to.cc/python-new (<https://jump.to.cc/python-new>).
- Add the following code to draw a line using the 'turtle':

```
from turtle import *  
forward(100)
```

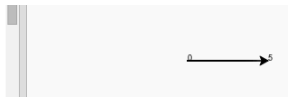


- Now let's use the turtle to draw some track markings for the race.

The turtle `write` function writes text to the screen.

Try it:

```
from turtle import *  
write(0)  
forward(100)  
write(5)
```



- Now you need to fill in the numbers in between to create markings:

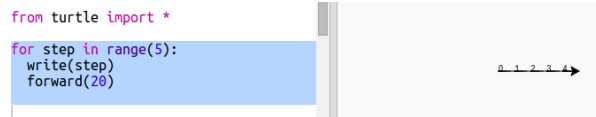
```
write(0)  
forward(20)  
write(1)  
forward(20)  
write(2)  
forward(20)  
write(3)  
forward(20)  
write(4)  
forward(20)  
write(5)  
forward(20)
```



- Did you notice that your code is very repetitive? The only thing that changes is the number to write.

There's a better way of doing this in Python. You can use a `for` loop.

Update your code to use a `for` loop:



- Hmm, that only prints numbers up to 4. In Python `range(5)` returns five numbers, from 0 up to 4. To get it to also return 5 you'll need to use `range(6)`:

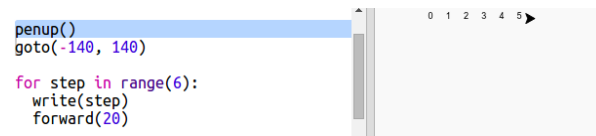


- Now we can draw some track markings. The turtle starts at coordinates (0,0) in the middle of the screen.

Move the turtle to the top left instead:



- Ah, you'll want to lift the pen up first!

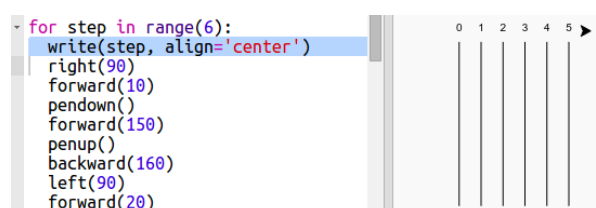


- Instead of drawing a line horizontally, let's draw vertical lines to create a track:



`right(90)` makes the turtle turn right 90 degrees (a right angle.) Moving `forward(10)` before putting the pen down leaves a small gap between the number and the start of the line. After drawing the line you lift up the pen and go `backward(160)` the length of the line plus the gap.

- It looks neater if you centre the numbers:

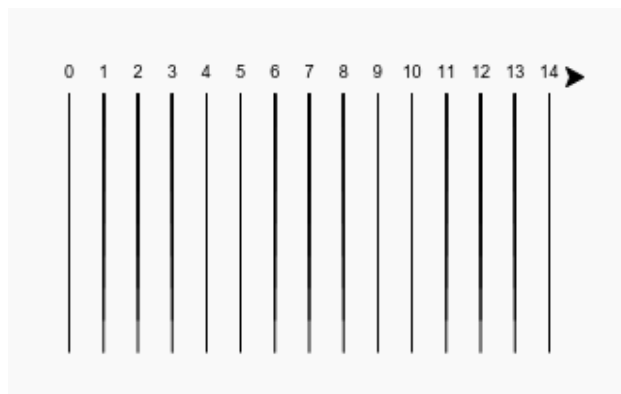


- And you can speed up the turtle so it draws faster:

```
from turtle import *  
speed(10)  
penup()  
goto(-140, 140)
```

Step 4 Challenge: More lines

Can you change your code so that the track lines go right across the screen?



If you want to make the turtle go even faster you can use `speed(0)`.

Step 5 Racing turtles

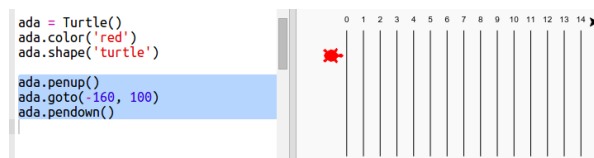
Now for the fun bit. Let's add some racing turtles. It would be really boring if the turtles did the same thing every time so they will move a random number of steps each turn. The winner is the turtle that gets the furthest in 100 turns.

- When you use commands like `forward(20)` you are using a single turtle. But you can create more turtles. Add the following code to the end of your script (but make sure it's not indented):

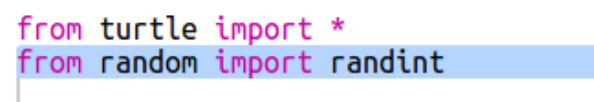


The first line creates a turtle called 'ada'. The next lines set the colour and shape of the turtle. Now it really looks like a turtle!

- Let's send the turtle to the starting line:



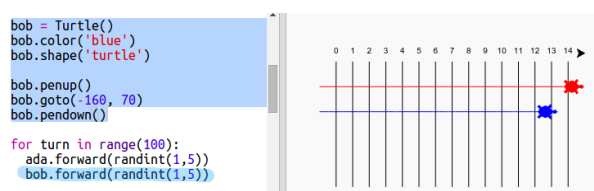
- Now you need to make the turtle race by moving a random number of steps at a time. You'll need the `randint` function from the Python `random` library. Add this `import` line to the top of your script:



- The `randint` function returns a random integer (whole number) between the values chosen. The turtle will move forward 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 steps at each turn.



- One turtle isn't much of a race! Let's add another one:

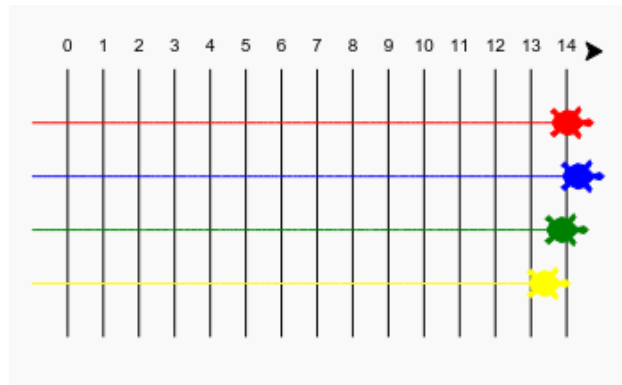


Note that the code for moving the blue turtle needs to be in **the same for** loop as the code for moving the red turtle so that they each make a move every turn.

Step 6 Challenge: Race time!

Now you're ready to race. Pick a turtle and an opponent and see who wins.

Can you add more turtles so you can race with more friends?



Colours include: orange, purple, violet, tomato, turquoise, magenta and brown – or you can go to jumpto.cc/colours (<http://jumpto.cc/colours>) and pick any colour you like!

Step 7 Challenge: Do a twirl

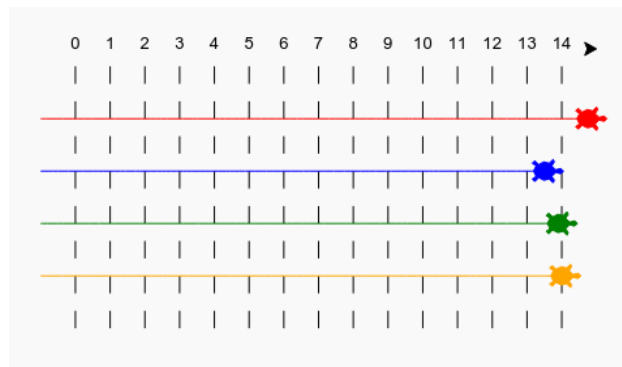
Can you use a `for turn in range():` loop to make each turtle do a 360 degree twirl after they get to the starting line? You'll need to make sure they are facing in the right direction at the start of the race!

`ada.right(36)` will turn the red turtle right by 36 degrees.

Hint: A full turn is 360 degrees. A turtle could turn right 10 degrees 36 times, or left 5 degrees 72 times, or any other numbers make 360!

Step 8 Challenge: Dashed lines

Can you use a loop to make the track lines dashed instead of solid?



Hint: Find the code that draws a straight line. Try using: `for`, `forward()`, `penup()` and `pendown()`

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View project & license on GitHub (<https://github.com/RaspberryPiLearning/turtle-race>)