

File Handling :

The key function for working with files in Python is the `open()` function.

The `open()` function takes two parameters; filename, and mode.

There are four different methods (modes) for opening a file:

Variable name = `open ("file name" , "options")`

"r" - Read - Default value. Opens a file for reading, error if the file does not exist

"a" - Append - Opens a file for appending, creates the file if it does not exist

"w" - Write - Opens a file for writing, creates the file if it does not exist

"x" - Create - Creates the specified file, returns an error if the file exists

Read files :

Variable name = `open("filename","r")`

shuhari@debian: ~

```
>>> demo = open ('demo.txt','r')
>>> print(demo.read())
Hi demo file1
second line

>>> 
```

To read by character :

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```
>>> demo = open ('demo.txt','r')
>>> print(demo.read())
Hi demo file1
second line

>>> demo.close()
>>> demo = open ('demo.txt','r')
>>> print(demo.read(2))
Hi
>>> print(demo.read(1))
e
>>> print(demo.read(3))
dem
>>> print(demo.read(4))
ond fi
```

To read by line :

```
>>> demo.close()
>>> demo = open ('demo.txt','r')
>>> print(demo.readline())
Hi demo file1

>>> print(demo.readline(2))
se
>>> print(demo.readline())
cond line

>>> 
```

By looping through the lines of the file, you can read the whole file, line by line:

```
>>> demo = open('demo.txt','r')
>>> for elem in demo
  File "<stdin>", line 1
    for elem in demo
        ^
SyntaxError: invalid syntax
>>> for elem in demo:
...     print(elem)
...
Hi demo file1

second line
```

To avoid space in between :

```
>>> demo.close()
>>> demo = open('demo.txt','r')
>>> for elem in demo:
...     print(elem,end='')
...
Hi demo file1
second line
```

Write to an existing content :

To write to an existing file, you must add a parameter to the open() function:

"a" - Append - will append to the end of the file

"w" - Write - will overwrite any existing content

Variable name = open("filename", 'a')

Append : it will append the content at end of the file :

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```
>>> demo = open('demo.txt','a')
>>> demo.write('appending the content')
21
>>> demo.close()
>>> demo = open('demo.txt','r')
>>> print(demo.read())
Hi demo file1
second line
appending the contentappending the content
>>>
```

After appending we need to close the file and then again pass the option 'r' and print it .

To overwrite :

For loop and print doesn't work here

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```
>>> demo = open('demo.txt','w')
>>> demo.write('all content shall erased and its been overwritten')
49
>>> demo.close()
>>> demo = open('demo.txt','r')
>>> print(demo.read())
all content shall erased and its been overwritten
>>>
```

Create a New File

To create a new file in Python, use the open() method, with one of the following parameters:

Variable name = open ('filename', 'options')

"x" - Create - will create a file, returns an error if the file exist

"a" - Append - will create a file if the specified file does not exist

"w" - Write - will create a file if the specified file does not exist

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```
>>> demo = open ('demo.txt','x')
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
FileExistsError: [Errno 17] File exists: 'demo.txt'
>>> demo = open ('demo.txt','a')
>>> demo = open ('demo.txt','w')
>>>
```

```
>>> demo.close()
>>> demo = open ('newfile.txt','w')
>>> demo.write("hey buddy hi hwo are you")
24
>>> demo = open ('newfile.txt','r')
>>> print(demo.read())
hey buddy hi hwo are you
>>>
```

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```
>>> demo = open ('demo.txt','x')
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
FileExistsError: [Errno 17] File exists: 'demo.txt'
>>> demo = open ('demo.txt','a')
>>> demo = open ('demo.txt','w')
>>> demo.close()
>>> demo = open ('newfile.txt','a')
>>> demo = open ('newfile.txt','r')
>>> demo = open ('newfile.txt','w')
>>> demo.write("hey buddy")
9
>>> print(demo.read())
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
io.UnsupportedOperation: not readable
>>> demo.close()
>>> demo = open ('newfile.txt','r')
>>> print(demo.read())
hey buddy
>>>
```

Readline:

It reads the current line .

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```
GNU nano 3.2 p2.py
#!/usr/bin/python3
import sys #sys module imported
def print_file(filename):      #defining a function
    f=open(filename)           #opening a file
    while True:                #while loop i.e while file exist folow to written block
        line=f.readline()      #passinf f.readline into a variable
        if not line:
            break
        print(line,end="")
    f.close()
def main():
    print_file(sys.argv[1])
if __name__ == '__main__':
    main()
```

Output :

shuhari@debian: ~

```
shuhari@debian: ~$ sudo nano p2.py
shuhari@debian: ~$ sudo ./p2.py one.txt
A
B
C
D
E
F
shuhari@debian: ~$
```

Each line is an element inside the list .

Readlines : it will print whole file and it takes whole content put it in list and then print hence every line is in list (readline convert into list)

```
shuhari@debian: ~  
GNU nano 3.2 p3.py  
#!/usr/bin/python3  
import sys #sys module imported  
def print_file(filename): #defining a function  
    f=open(filename) #opening a file  
    var1 = f.readlines()  
    print(var1)  
    print('*' * 20)  
    for elem in var1:  
        print(elem, end='')  
    f.close()  
def main():  
    print_file(sys.argv[1])  
if __name__ == '__main__':  
    main()
```

Output :

```
shuhari@debian: ~  
shuhari@debian:~$ sudo nano p3.py  
shuhari@debian:~$ sudo ./p3.py one.txt  
['A\n', 'B\n', 'C\n', 'D\n', 'E\n', 'F\n']  
*****  
A  
B  
C  
D  
E
```

Read :


It reads the file content as list

```
shuhari@debian: ~  
GNU nano 3.2 p4.py  
#!/usr/bin/python3  
import sys #sys module imported  
def print_file(filename): #defining a function  
    f=open(filename) #opening a file  
    var1 = f.read()  
    print(var1, end='')  
    f.close()  
    print('-'*20)  
    fl=open(filename, 'r')  
    print(fl.read())  
def main():  
    print_file(sys.argv[1])  
if __name__ == '__main__':  
    main()
```


Python dir handling :

Current working dir :

```
$sudo mkdir pylabs
$nano p1.py
#!/usr/bin/python3
import os
def main():
    Print("pwd: ", os.getcwd())
If __name__=='__main__':
    main()
```

 shuhari@debian: ~/pylabs

```
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$ cat 1.py
#!/usr/bin/python3

import os
def main():
    print("Current working dir is : ", os.getcwd())

if __name__=='__main__':
    main()
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$ sudo ./1.py
Current working dir is : /home/shuhari/pylabs
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$
```

List the contents inside dir :

```
#!/usr/bin/python3

import os,sys
def main():
    dir = sys.argv[1]
    content = os.listdir(dir)
    print("Content of dir are : ", content)

if __name__=='__main__':
    main()
Os.listdir returns list
```

```

shuhari@debian: ~/pylabs
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$ sudo cat 2.py
#!/usr/bin/python3

import os,sys
def main():
    dir = sys.argv[1]
    content = os.listdir(dir)
    print("Content of dir are : ", content)

if __name__=='__main__':
    main()
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$ sudo ./2.py /home/shuhari
Content of dir are : ['two.txt', '.profile', 'p3.py', 'one.txt', 'wto.txt', 'three.txt', 'demo.txt', '.local', 'p4.py', 'twoo.txt', 'pylabs', 'four.txt', '.python_history', '.bashrc', 'newfile.txt', '.bash_logout', '.ssh', 'p5.py', 'p2.py', '.bash_history']
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$ sudo ./2.py /home/
Content of dir are : ['shuhari']
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$ sudo ./2.py /home/shuhari/pylabs
Content of dir are : ['1.py', '2.py']
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$

```

For loop :

#!/usr/bin/python3

import os,sys

def main():

dir = sys.argv[1]

content = os.listdir(dir)

for elem in content:

print(elem)

if __name__=='__main__':

main()

```

shuhari@debian: ~/pylabs
import os,sys
def main():
    dir = sys.argv[1]
    content = os.listdir(dir)
    for elem in content:
        print(elem)
if __name__=='__main__':
    main()
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$ sudo ./3.py /home/shuhari/
two.txt
.profile
p3.py
one.txt
wto.txt
three.txt
demo.txt
.local
p4.py
twoo.txt
pylabs
four.txt
.python_history
.bashrc
newfile.txt
.bash_logout
.ssh
p5.py
p2.py
.bash_history
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$ sudo ./3.py /home/shuhari/

```

Relative path :

shuhari@debian: ~/pylabs

GNU nano 3.2

4.py

```
#!/usr/bin/python3

import os,sys
def main():
    dir = sys.argv[1]
    content = os.listdir(dir)
    for elem in content:
        relative_path = os.path.join(dir,elem)
        print("The relative path are : ",relative_path)
if __name__=='__main__':
    main()
```

Output :

If input is absolute/relative output is also absolute/relative so this can be drawback or boon

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```
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$ sudo nano 4.py
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$ sudo ./4.py /home/shuhari/pylabs
The relative path are : /home/shuhari/pylabs/1.py
The relative path are : /home/shuhari/pylabs/2.py
The relative path are : /home/shuhari/pylabs/4.py
The relative path are : /home/shuhari/pylabs/3.py
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$
```

shuhari@debian: ~/pylabs

```
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$ sudo ./4.py demo
The relative path are : demo/file2.txt
The relative path are : demo/file4.txt
The relative path are : demo/file1.txt
The relative path are : demo/file3.txt
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$
```


Always a absolute path :

shuhari@debian: ~/pylabs

GNU nano 3.2

5.py

```
#!/usr/bin/python3

import os,sys
def main():
    dir = sys.argv[1]
    content = os.listdir(dir)
    for elem in content:
        f_with_path = os.path.join(dir,elem)
        always_absolute_path = os.path.abspath(f_with_path)
        print("The absolute path are : ",always_absolute_path)
if __name__=='__main__':
    main()
```

shuhari@debian: ~/pylabs

```
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$ sudo nano 5.py
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$ sudo ./5.py demo
The absolute path are : /home/shuhari/pylabs/demo/file2.txt
The absolute path are : /home/shuhari/pylabs/demo/file4.txt
The absolute path are : /home/shuhari/pylabs/demo/file1.txt
The absolute path are : /home/shuhari/pylabs/demo/file3.txt
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$
```

shuhari@debian: ~/pylabs

GNU nano 3.2

5.py

```
#!/usr/bin/python3

import os,sys
def main():
    dir = sys.argv[1]
    content = os.listdir(dir)
    for elem in content:
        #f_with_path = os.path.join(dir,elem)
        always_absolute_path = os.path.abspath(dir)
        print("The absolute path are : ",always_absolute_path)
if __name__=='__main__':
    main()
```

shuhari@debian: ~/pylabs

```
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$ sudo ./5.py demo
The absolute path are : /home/shuhari/pylabs/demo
The absolute path are : /home/shuhari/pylabs/demo
The absolute path are : /home/shuhari/pylabs/demo
The absolute path are : /home/shuhari/pylabs/demo
shuhari@debian:~/pylabs$
```