

How to Find the Index of an Element in a List

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Summary: in this tutorial, you'll learn how to find the index of an element in a list.

To find the index of an element in a list, you use the `index()` function.

The following example defines a list of cities and uses the `index()` method to get the index of the element whose value is `'Mumbai'` :

```
cities = ['New York', 'Beijing', 'Cairo', 'Mumbai', 'Mexico']

result = cities.index('Mumbai')
print(result)
```

It returns 3 as expected.

However, if you attempt to find an element that doesn't exist in the list using the `index()` function, you'll get an error.

This example uses the `index()` function to find the `Osaka` city in the cities list:

```
cities = ['New York', 'Beijing', 'Cairo', 'Mumbai', 'Mexico']

result = cities.index('Osaka')
print(result)
```

Error:

```
ValueError: 'Osaka' is not in list
```

To fix this issue, you need to use the `in` operator.

The `in` operator returns True if a value is in the list. Otherwise, it returns False.

Before using the `index()` function, you can use the `in` operator to check if the element that you want to find is in the list. For example:

```
cities = ['New York', 'Beijing', 'Cairo', 'Mumbai', 'Mexico']
city = 'Osaka'

if city in cities:
    result = cities.index(city)
    print(f"The {city} has an index of {result}.")
else:
    print(f"{city} doesn't exist in the list.")
```

Output:

```
Osaka doesn't exist in the list.
```

Summary

- Use the `in` operator with the `index()` function to find if an element is in a list.