Extending Python Lists

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In this week's Python snippet post we're looking at the `extend` method for lists.

`extend` is a lot like the `append` method, but instead of adding a single value, `extend` allows us to append several elements to the end of a given list object.

Let's start by defining a couple of lists:

```python
l_1 = [1, 2, 3, 4]
l_2 = [5, 6, 7, 8]
```

We're going to use `extend` to add the values from `l_2` onto the end of `l_1`:

```python
l_1.extend(l2)

print(l_1)  # [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8]
```

As we can see, the `extend` method in an in-place operation, so it modifies the original list. Other than that, it perform very similarly to using the `+` operator with lists, so why should we care about `extend`?

Well, `extend` can accept any iterable, while using something like `+` to perform concatenation only works when both objects are lists. So we can do this:

```
[1, 2, 3] + [4, 5, 6]
```

While the following will give us a `TypeError`:

```
[1, 2, 3] + (4, 5, 6)
```

Using `extend` on the other hand, everything works just fine:

```
l_1 = [1, 2, 3, 4]
t_1 = (5, 6, 7, 8)

l_1.extend(t_1)  # [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8]
```

Wrapping up

That's it for `extend`! I hope you learnt something new, and I hope you can find places to use `extend` in your own code.

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level right up to some pretty advanced Python, so it's a great place to develop your Python skills.
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