



Topic: Loops & Control Flow in Python

1. **for** Loop – Looping through sequences

Used when you know **how many times** to loop (e.g., lists, strings, ranges)

```
for i in range(5):  
    print(i)
```

Output:

```
0  
1  
2  
3  
4
```

Also works with lists:

```
fruits = ["apple", "banana", "mango"]  
for fruit in fruits:  
    print(fruit)
```

2. **while** Loop – Repeat while condition is True

Used when the **ending condition depends on logic**

```
i = 1  
while i <= 5:
```

```
print(i)
i += 1
```

💻 Output:

```
1
2
3
4
5
```

3. **break** – Stop the loop immediately

```
for i in range(10):
    if i == 5:
        break
    print(i)
```

- Loop stops when `i == 5`
-

4. **continue** – Skip the current iteration

```
for i in range(5):
    if i == 2:
        continue
    print(i)
```

- 🚫 Skips printing 2
-

5. **pass** – Do nothing (placeholder)

```
for i in range(3):  
    pass # reserved for future code
```

 Used when Python **requires a statement**, but you don't want to do anything (like in unfinished functions or loops)

Mini Real-Life Example:

Login Attempt System

```
attempts = 0  
while attempts < 3:  
    password = input("Enter password: ")  
    if password == "admin123":  
        print("Login successful")  
        break  
    else:  
        print("Wrong password")  
        attempts += 1
```

Recap Table:

Keyword	Purpose
for	Loop over known items/range
while	Loop while condition is True

`break` Exit the loop

`continue` Skip current iteration and
continue

`pass` Placeholder that does nothing

✓ Difference Between `for` and `while` Loops

Feature	<code>for</code> Loop	<code>while</code> Loop
Usage	Used when number of iterations is known	Used when condition-based repetition is needed
Syntax	Loops over a sequence (like <code>range</code> , list)	Loops while a condition is True
Control Flow	Automatically stops after sequence ends	Needs a condition that eventually becomes False
Example Use Case	Looping over a list, range, or string	Waiting for a user to enter correct input

✓ Use Case of `continue`: Skip unwanted data

Real-life Scenario:

You're processing a list of numbers, but you want to **skip the negative values**.

💻 Python Example:

```
numbers = [10, -5, 20, -3, 15]

for num in numbers:
    if num < 0:
        continue # skip the negative numbers
    print(f"Processing: {num}")
```

🖨️ Output:

```
Processing: 10
Processing: 20
Processing: 15
```

⌚ When to Use `continue`:

Scenario	Why use <code>continue</code> ?
Skip processing invalid inputs	Don't exit loop, just skip that data
Skip weekends while looping over days	Only process weekdays
Filter values during iteration	Example: Skip even numbers, skip blanks

Here's how you can take a list of names and convert each one to **uppercase** using a `for` loop.

💻 Python Code:

```
names = ["saravana", "gowtham", "nandini", "nila", "rahul"]

for name in names:
    print(name.upper())
```

▣ Output:

SARAVANA
GOWTHAM
NANDINI
NILA
RAHUL

⌚ Explanation:

- `for name in names:` → Loops through each name in the list
- `name.upper()` → Converts the name to uppercase
- `print()` → Displays the result

⌚ Real-Time `while` Loop Examples

◊ 1. ATM PIN Authentication System

■ Logic:

Keep asking the user for a PIN until they enter the correct one.

```
correct_pin = "1234"  
entered_pin = ""  
  
while entered_pin != correct_pin:  
    entered_pin = input("Enter your PIN: ")  
  
print("Access Granted ✅")
```

- ✓ Keeps looping until user enters the correct PIN.

◊ 2. Countdown Timer

■ Logic:

Countdown from 5 to 1 using a `while` loop.

```
count = 5  
  
while count > 0:  
    print(f"Countdown: {count}")  
    count -= 1  
  
print("Time's up! 🕒")
```

- ✓ Runs until count reaches 0.

◊ 3. Shopping Cart – Add Items Until 'done'

■ Logic:

Keep asking for items until user types "`done`".

```
items = []  
  
while True:  
    item = input("Add item (type 'done' to finish): ")  
    if item.lower() == "done":  
        break  
    items.append(item)  
  
print("Items in cart:", items)
```

- Realistic use of infinite loop with a `break`.

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About the Author

Gowtham SB is a **Data Engineering expert, educator, and content creator** with a passion for **big data technologies, as well as cloud and Gen AI**. With years of experience in the field, he has worked extensively with **cloud platforms, distributed systems, and data pipelines**, helping professionals and aspiring engineers master the art of data engineering.

Beyond his technical expertise, Gowtham is a **renowned mentor and speaker**, sharing his insights through engaging content on **YouTube and LinkedIn**. He has built one of the **largest Tamil Data Engineering communities**, guiding thousands of learners to excel in their careers.

Through his deep industry knowledge and hands-on approach, Gowtham continues to **bridge the gap between learning and real-world implementation**, empowering individuals to build **scalable, high-performance data solutions**.

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