

Python Cheat Sheet: Functions and Tricks

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		Description	Example	Result
A D V A N C E D F U N C T I O N S	map(func, iter)	Executes the function on all elements of the iterable	list(map(lambda x: x[0], ['red', 'green', 'blue']))	['r', 'g', 'b']
	map(func, i1, ..., ik)	Executes the function on all k elements of the k iterables	list(map(lambda x, y: str(x) + ' ' + y + 's', [0, 2, 2], ['apple', 'orange', 'banana']))	['0 apples', '2 oranges', '2 bananas']
	string.join(iter)	Concatenates iterable elements separated by string	'marries'.join(list(['Alice', 'Bob']))	'Alice marries Bob'
	filter(func, iterable)	Filters out elements in iterable for which function returns False (or 0)	list(filter(lambda x: True if x>17 else False, [1, 15, 17, 18]))	[18]
	string.strip()	Removes leading and trailing whitespaces of string	print("\n\t42\t".strip())	42
	sorted(iter)	Sorts iterable in ascending order	sorted([8, 3, 2, 42, 5])	[2, 3, 5, 8, 42]
	sorted(iter, key=key)	Sorts according to the key function in ascending order	sorted([8, 3, 2, 42, 5], key=lambda x: 0 if x==42 else x)	[42, 2, 3, 5, 8]
	help(func)	Returns documentation of func	help(str.upper())	'... to uppercase.'
	zip(i1, i2, ...)	Groups the i-th elements of iterators i1, i2, ... together	list(zip(['Alice', 'Anna'], ['Bob', 'Jon', 'Frank']))	[('Alice', 'Bob'), ('Anna', 'Jon')]
	Unzip	Equal to: 1) unpack the zipped list, 2) zip the result	list(zip(*(['Alice', 'Bob'], ('Anna', 'Jon'))))	[('Alice', 'Anna'), ('Bob', 'Jon')]
	enumerate(iter)	Assigns a counter value to each element of the iterable	list(enumerate(['Alice', 'Bob', 'Jon']))	[(0, 'Alice'), (1, 'Bob'), (2, 'Jon')]
T R I C K S	python -m http.server <P>	Want to share files between PC and phone? Run this command in PC's shell. <P> is any port number 0–65535. Type <IP address of PC>:<P> in the phone's browser. You can now browse the files in the PC directory.		
	Read comic	import antigravity	Open the comic series xkcd in your web browser	
	Zen of Python	import this	'...Beautiful is better than ugly. Explicit is ...'	
	Swapping numbers	Swapping variables is a breeze in Python. No offense, Java!	a, b = 'Jane', 'Alice' a, b = b, a	a = 'Alice' b = 'Jane'
	Unpacking arguments	Use a sequence as function arguments via asterisk operator *. Use a dictionary (key, value) via double asterisk operator **	def f(x, y, z): return x + y * z f(*[1, 3, 4]) f(**{'z': 4, 'x': 1, 'y': 3})	13 13
	Extended Unpacking	Use unpacking for multiple assignment feature in Python	a, *b = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]	a = 1 b = [2, 3, 4, 5]
	Merge two dictionaries	Use unpacking to merge two dictionaries into a single one	x={'Alice': 18} y={'Bob': 27, 'Ann': 22} z = {**x,**y}	z = {'Alice': 18, 'Bob': 27, 'Ann': 22}