

# VARIABLES AND DATATYPES

"You must unlearn what you have learned" -Yoda

# VARIABLES

A variable is a useful way to store data with a label that you as the developer can understand.



Technically, a variable is a reserved memory location to store values / data.

However, functionally for our purposes it's a labeled way to store and access data.

# ASSIGNING A VARIABLE

```
name = "yoda"  
  
short = True  
  
age = 900  
  
years_training_jedi = "800 years"
```

To assign a variable, you type the variable name then put an "=" sign then the value you want the variable to be.



The = is called the assignment operator. The left side of the assignment must be a variable and the right side can be almost any value or type or even an expression. (Remember expression from previous lesson?)

# VARIABLE NAMES

You can use almost anything to be a variable name (with a few exceptions below), but it is best practices to use short words or phrases.

The rules for python are :  
The first character must be a letter or the underscore character ( \_ ).

The remaining characters can be a letter, number, or underscore.

There are reserved words that cannot be used as variables. Make sure to not attempt to use those.



Python variables typically use `snake_case_variable_names` - all lowercase letters with words separated by underscores. It's not a requirement, but it is the convention adopted by the community of Python programmers.

# DATA TYPES

All programming languages have data types. A data type is a specific kind of value.

Programmers often simply call these "types".

Python has several types that we will cover, but for this lesson we are going to go over 3 types.

Each data type has different things it can do, things that can be done to it, and different uses.

# STRING

```
han_solo_quote = "I know."

yoda_quote = 'you will be...you will be'

darth_vader_quote = """
No,

I am your Father!
"""
```

A string is a collection of one or more characters.

A string is created by putting the collection of characters in between single quote ('), double quote (") or 3 of either single quote or double quote.

A string is often used to give readable information to the user.



Only the triple quotes can span multiple lines. If you attempt it with the single quote or the double quote you will get an error.

# INTEGER

```
episodes = 9  
  
luke_hand_count = 1  
  
jar_jar_binks_popularity = -5000
```

An integer is a whole number.

It cannot have a decimal point.

It can be negative or positive.

Integers are often used for counting.

# BOOLEAN

```
is_yoda_short = True  
  
is_chewy_short = False  
  
greedo_shot_first = False
```

A Boolean is simple a true or false.  
In python you must use capitalized True or False.

Booleans are often used to check the status of something.



It is also possible to use the 0 for false and the 1 for true, but it can sometimes cause confusion if you are trying to show an Integer or a Boolean.



# USING VARIABLES AS THEIR DATA TYPE

```
yoda_color = "green"  
print(yoda_color)  
  
yoda_age = 900  
yoda_years_teaching_jedi = 800  
yoda_age_when_started_teaching = yoda_age - yoda_years_teachin  
print(yoda_age_when_started_teaching)
```

Variables can be use to in the same way as it's assigned value data type is used. If the value of the variable is a string, then anything you can do to a string can be done to that variable. Same with Integer, and Boolean.