

Functions

Functions

Function is a sub program which consists of set of instructions used to perform a specific task. A large program is divided into basic building blocks called function.

- A function is a block of code which only runs when it is called.
- You can pass data, known as **parameters**, into a function.
- A function can return data as a result.

► Functions can be classified into two categories:

- i) user defined function
- ii) Built in function

i) Built in functions

Built in functions are the functions that are already created and stored in python.

These built in functions are always available for usage and accessed by a programmer. It cannot be modified.

Example:

`max(10,30,9,20)`

`min(10,30,9,20)`

ii) User Defined Functions:

- User defined functions are the functions that programmers create for their requirement and use.

Syntax:

```
def fun_name(Parameter1,Parameter2...Parameter n):  
    statement1  
    statement2...  
    statement n  
    return[expression]
```

Creating a Function

In Python a function is defined using the def keyword:

Example

```
def my_function():
    print("Hello from a function")
```

Calling a Function

To call a function, use the function name followed by parenthesis:

```
def my_function():
    print("Hello from a function")  
  
my_function()
```

Functions

- ▶ A *function* is like a mini-program within a program.

Example:

```
def hello():

    print('Howdy!')
    print('Howdy!!!')
    print('Hello there.')

hello()
hello()
hello()
```

Function with Arguments

Arguments

- ▶ Information can be passed into functions as arguments

Example :

```
def hello(name):  
    print('Hello ' + name)
```

```
hello('Alice')
```

```
hello('Bob')
```

Function Argument with Default Values

```
def add_numbers( a = 7, b = 8):  
    sum = a + b  
    print('Sum:', sum)
```

```
add_numbers(2, 3)
```

```
add_numbers(a = 2)
```

```
add_numbers()
```

Return Values and return Statements

- We return a value from the function using the return statement.

```
# function definition
```

```
def find_square(num):  
    result = num * num  
    return result
```

```
# function call
```

```
square = find_square(3)  
print('Square:', square)
```

Number of Arguments

```
def my_function(fname, lname):  
    print(fname + " " + lname)
```

```
my_function("Alice", "Refsnes")
```

Keyword Arguments

- ▶ You can also send arguments with the *key = value* syntax.
- ▶ This way the order of the arguments does not matter.

```
def my_function(child3, child2, child1):  
    print("The youngest child is " + child3)  
  
my_function(child1 = "Emil", child2 = "Tobias", child3 = "Linus")
```

Default Parameter Value

- ▶ The following example shows how to use a default parameter value.
- ▶ If we call the function without argument, it uses the default value:

Example

```
def my_function(country = "Norway"):  
    print("I am from " + country)
```

```
my_function("Sweden")  
my_function("India")  
my_function()  
my_function("Brazil")
```

Passing a List as an Argument

- ▶ You can send any data types of argument to a function (string, number, list, dictionary etc.), and it will be treated as the same data type inside the function.
- ▶ E.g. if you send a List as an argument, it will still be a List when it reaches the function:

Example:

```
def my_function(food):
    for x in food:
        print(x)

fruits = ["apple", "banana", "cherry"]

my_function(fruits)
```

Practise Programs:

- ▶ Develop a Python program where a student scores marks in two subjects:
 - i) 85 marks in Math
 - ii) 78 marks in Science

Find which subject the student scored higher using comparison operators.

- ▶ A shop offers two discounts on a product worth \$500:
 - i) 10% off
 - ii) \$40 off

Write a Python program to find which discount gives a better deal using comparison operators

