Python is a [high-level](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/High-level_programming_language" \o "High-level programming language), [general-purpose programming language](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General-purpose_programming_language" \o "General-purpose programming language). Its design philosophy emphasizes [code readability](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Code_readability) with the use of [significant indentation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Off-side_rule). Python is [dynamically typed](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Type_system" \l "DYNAMIC" \o "Type system) and [garbage-collected](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Garbage_collection_(computer_science)" \o "Garbage collection (computer science)). It supports multiple [programming paradigms](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Programming_paradigm" \o "Programming paradigm), including [structured](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Structured_programming) (particularly [procedural](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Procedural_programming)), [object-oriented](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Object-oriented_programming) and [functional programming](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Functional_programming). It is often described as a \"batteries included\" language due to its comprehensive [standard library](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Standard_library). [Guido van Rossum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guido_van_Rossum) began working on Python in the late 1980s as a successor to the [ABC programming language](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ABC_(programming_language)) and first released it in 1991 as Python 0.9.0. Python 2.0 was released in 2000. Python 3.0, released in 2008, was a major revision not completely [backward-compatible](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Backward_compatibility" \o "Backward compatibility) with earlier versions. Python 2.7.18, released in 2020, was the last release of Python 2. Python consistently ranks as one of the most popular programming languages, and has gained widespread use in the [machine learning](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Machine_learning) community.