# Python

**Pip**

While working as a developer, you’ll find yourself wanting to use some functionality that is not included in your language’s standard library. For example, in a standard .py file or document you will only be able to work with the standard library tools packaged with the language.

However, as a language grows and is used for more purposes, developers build their own tools and package them for use by others. These are known as third party modules. Pip is the package manager we use in Python to install these modules. Installing third party modules is pretty simple, because pip does a great job at knowing which version of that package we need to match our Python version.

**Comments**

Comments are useful because they allow you to explain what your code is doing. Every language has a way of ensuring that some lines will not be executed at run time.

As a developer, one of the most important jobs is writing re-usable code. By explaining what our code does in comments, we make it easier for ourselves and others to edit our code later on. In addition, comments can be helpful for writing pseudo-code when you’re trying to work out a tough problem.

# commenting a single line

# we can even comment out code

# print "this will not print!"

print "read below for more on multi-line comments in python!"

copy

#this would execute

# This line and below would not execute

'''

Triple quotations allow us to comment across multiple lines as long as

the triple quoted comment is not the first thing in your file.

You can use double or single quotes!

'''

**Data Types**

Data type refers to how the computer knows to classify information. To determine data type, ask what category a value belongs to. Here’s a list of the data types that you will surely be using in building web applications.

There are several general classifications for data we’re interested in. **Primitive data types** are the basic building blocks of a language. Most languages have these in common. Here are the most common:

* **Boolean-** Assesses the truth value of something. It has only two values: True & False
* **Numbers-** Integers (whole numbers), floating point numbers (commonly known as decimal numbers), and complex numbers.
* **strings-** A text literal. Most pages in the web work with strings quite often.

**Composite types** are collections composted of the above primitive types**.**

* **Tuples-** A type of data that is immutable (can’t be modified after its creation) and can hold a group of values. **Tuples** can contain mixed data types.
* **Lists-** A type of data that is mutable and can hold a group of values. Usually meant to store a collection of related data.
* **Dictionaries-** A group of key-value pairs. Dictionary elements are indexed by unique keys which are used to access values.

## In Python, (almost) everything is an object. We will touch on this later when we get into Object Oriented Programming(OOP).

**Indentation & Line-Endings**

One of the most important aspects of Python is indentation. Python has no brackets, braces, or keywords to indicate the start and code itself. You’ll see that indenting starts a new code block and un-indenting ends that block. Don’t worry if these codes don’t make sense right now; we’ll go over function and if- statements later. Just take not of how the indentation looks.

Conditional Expression

age = 16

if age >= 18:

print "legal age"

elif age == 17 or age < 17:

print "you are so young!"

my\_list = [4, "dog", ['german', 'shepherd'], 'bitme']

for element in my\_list:

print element

for count in range(0,100):

print "looping -", count

count = 0

while count < 5:

print "looping -", count

count += 1

