

# Shiny for Python: : CHEAT SHEET



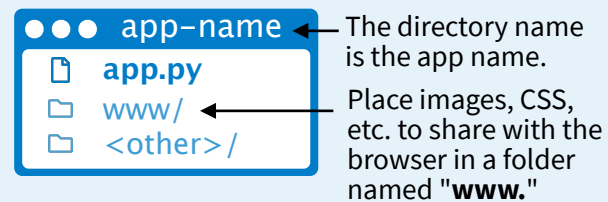
## Build an App

A **Shiny** app is an interactive web page (**ui**) powered by a live Python session run by a **server** (or by a browser with Shinylive).



Users can manipulate the UI, which will cause the server to update the UI's displays (by running Python code).

Save your app as **app.py** in a directory with the files it uses.



Nest Python functions to build an HTML interface

Add Inputs with **ui.input\_\***() functions

Add Outputs with **ui.output\_\***() functions

For each output, define a function that generates the output

Call the values of UI inputs with **input.<id>()**

Run **shiny create .** in the terminal to generate a template **app.py** file

Launch apps with **shiny run app.py --reload**

```
from shiny import App, render, ui
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np

app_ui = ui.page_fluid(
    ui.input_slider(
        "n", "Sample Size", 0, 1000, 20
    ),
    ui.output_plot("dist")
)

def server(input, output, session):
    @render.plot
    def dist():
        x = np.random.randn(input.n())
        plt.hist(x, range=[-3, 3])

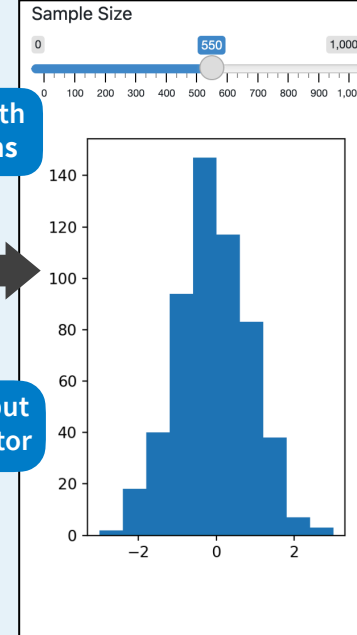
    return app_ui

app = App(app_ui, server)
```

Layout the UI with Layout Functions

Specify the type of output with a **@render.** decorator

Call **App()** to combine **app\_ui** and **server** into an interactive app



## Share

Share your app in three ways:

1. **Host it on shinyapps.io**, a cloud based service from Posit. To deploy Shiny apps:

- Create a free or professional account at [shinyapps.io](https://shinyapps.io)
- Use the `reconnect-python` package to publish with **rsconnect deploy shiny <path to directory>**

2. **Purchase Posit Connect**, a publishing platform for R and Python.

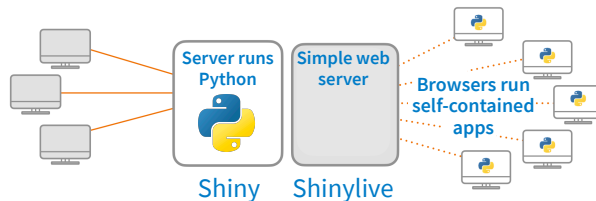
[posit.co/connect](https://posit.co/connect)

3. **Use open source deployment options**

[shiny.posit.co/py/docs/deploy.html](https://shiny.posit.co/py/docs/deploy.html)

## Shinylive

Shinylive apps use WebAssembly to run entirely in a browser—no need for a special server to run Python.



- Edit and/or host Shinylive apps at [shinylive.io](https://shinylive.io)
- Create a Shinylive version of an app to deploy with `shinylive export myapp site`. Then deploy to a hosting site like Github or Netlify
- Embed Shinylive apps in Quarto sites, blogs, etc.

filters:

- shinylive

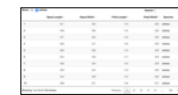
An embedded Shinylive app:

```
```{shinylive-python}
#| standalone: true
# [App.py code here...]
```
```

To embed a Shinylive app in a Quarto doc, include the bold syntax.

## Outputs

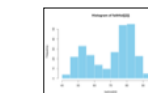
Match **ui.output\_\*** functions to **@render.\*** decorators to link Python output to the UI.



**ui.output\_data\_frame(id)**  
**@render.data\_frame**



**ui.output\_image(id, width, height, click, dblclick, hover, brush, inline)**  
**@render.image**



**ui.output\_plot(id, width, height, click, dblclick, hover, brush, inline)**  
**@render.plot**

| Height | Weight | Age | Gender |
|--------|--------|-----|--------|
| 1.60   | 65.0   | 25  | Female |
| 1.70   | 75.0   | 30  | Male   |
| 1.80   | 85.0   | 35  | Female |
| 1.90   | 95.0   | 40  | Male   |
| 2.00   | 105.0  | 45  | Female |

**ui.output\_table(id)**  
**@render.table**

foo

**ui.output\_text\_verbatim(id, ...)**  
**ui.output\_text(id, container, inline)**  
**@render.text**

**ui.output\_ui(id, inline, container, ...)**  
**ui.output\_html(id, inline, container, ...)**  
**@render.ui**

Download

**ui.download\_button(id, label, icon, ...)**  
**@session.download**

## Inputs

Use a **ui.** function to make an input widget that saves a value as **<id>**. Input values are *reactive* and need to be called as **<id>()**.

Action

**ui.input\_action\_button(id, label, icon, width, ...)**

Link

**ui.input\_action\_link(id, label, icon, ...)**

☒ Check me

**ui.input\_checkbox(id, label, value, width)**

☒ Choice 1

**ui.input\_checkbox\_group(id, label, choices, selected, inline, width)**

☒ Choice 2

☐ Choice 3

**ui.input\_date(id, label, value, min, max, format, startview, weekstart, language, width, autoclose, datesdisabled, daysofweekdisabled)**

**ui.input\_date\_range(id, label, start, end, min, max, format, startview, weekstart, language, separator, width, autoclose)**

Choose File

**ui.input\_file(id, label, multiple, accept, width, buttonLabel, placeholder, capture)**

**ui.input\_numeric(id, label, value, min, max, step, width)**

**ui.input\_password(id, label, value, width, placeholder)**

☒ Choice A

**ui.input\_radio\_buttons(id, label, choices, selected, inline, width)**

☐ Choice B

**ui.input\_select(id, label, choices, selected, multiple, selectize, width, size)**  
Also **ui.input\_selectize()**

☐ Choice C

Choice 1

Choice 2

**ui.input\_slider(id, label, min, max, value, step, ticks, animate, width, sep, pre, post, timeFormat, timezone, dragRange)**

Choice 1

Choice 2

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

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0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

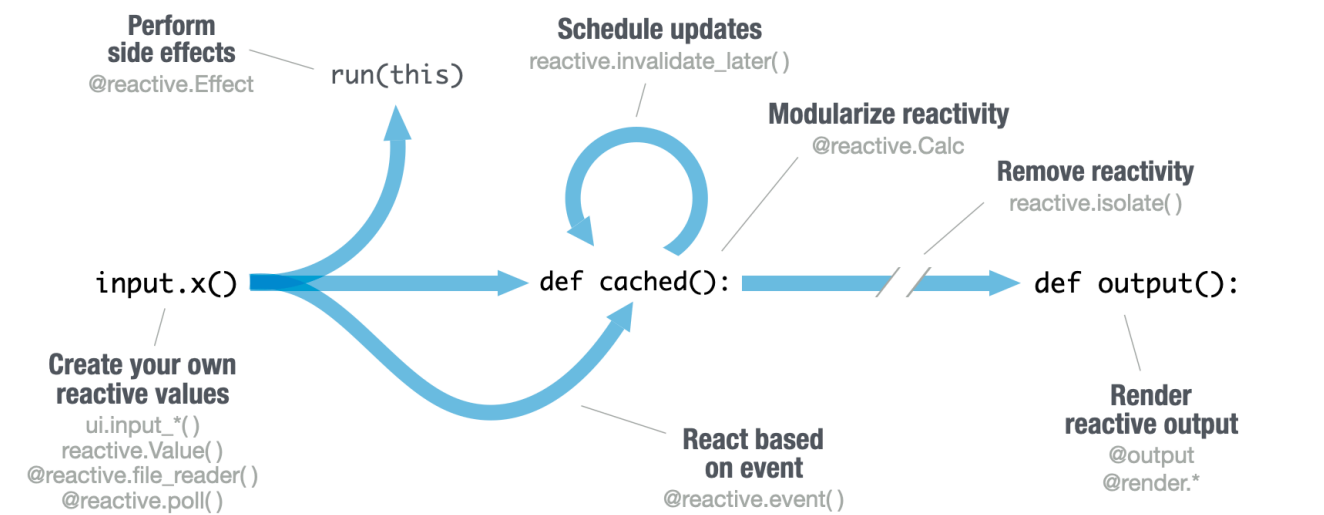
**ui.input\_switch(id, label, value, width)**

Enter text

**ui.input\_text(id, label, value, width, placeholder, autocomplete, spellcheck)**  
Also **ui.input\_text\_area()**

# Reactivity

Reactive values work together with reactive functions. Call a reactive value from within the arguments of one of these functions to avoid the error **No current reactive context**.



## CREATE YOUR OWN REACTIVE VALUES

```
# ...
app_ui = ui.page_fluid(
  ui.input_text("a", "A")
)

def server(
  input, output, session
):
  rv = reactive.Value()
  rv.set(5)
# ...
```

**ui.input\_\***() makes an input widget that saves a reactive value as **input.<id>()**.

**reactive.value()** Creates an object whose value you can set.

## DISPLAY REACTIVE OUTPUT

```
app_ui = ui.page_fluid(
  ui.input_text("a", "A"),
  ui.output_text("b"),
)

def server(
  input, output, session
):
  @render.text
  def b():
    return input.a()
```

**ui.output\_\***() adds an output element to the UI.

**@render.\*** Decorator to identify and render outputs

**def <id>():** Code to generate the output

## CREATE REACTIVE EXPRESSIONS

```
# ...
def server(
  input, output, session
):
  @reactive.calc
  def re():
    return input.a() + input.b()
# ...
```

**@reactive.calc** Makes a function a reactive expression. Shiny notifies functions that use the expression when it becomes invalidated, triggering recomputation. Shiny caches the value of the expression while it is valid to avoid unnecessary computation.

## PERFORM SIDE EFFECTS

```
# ...
def server(
  input, output, session
):
  @reactive.effect
  @reactive.event(input.a)
  def print():
    print("Hi")
# ...
```

**@reactive.effect** Reactively trigger a function with a side effect. Call a reactive value or use **@reactive.event** to specify when the function will rerun.

## REACT BASED ON EVENT

```
# ...
def server(
  input, output, session
):
  @reactive.Calc
  @reactive.event(input.a)
  def re():
    return input.b()
# ...
```

**@reactive.event()** Makes a function react *only when* a specified value is invalidated, here input.a.

## REMOVE REACTIVITY

```
# ...def server(
  input, output, session
):
  @render.text
  def a():
    with reactive.isolate():
      return input.a()
# ...
```

**reactive.isolate()** Create non-reactive context within a reactive function. Calling a reactive value within this context will *not* cause the calling function to re-execute should the value become invalid.

# Layouts

Combine multiple elements into a "single element" that has its own properties with a panel function:

```
ui.panel_absolute()
ui.panel_conditional()
ui.panel_fixed()
ui.panel_main()

ui.panel_sidebar()
ui.panel_title()
ui.panel_well()
ui.row() / ui.column()
```

```
ui.panel_well(
  ui.input_date(...),
  ui.input_action_button(...)
)
```

Layout panels with a layout function. Add elements as arguments of the layout functions.

**ui.layout\_sidebar()**

```
app_ui = ui.page_fluid(
  ui.panel_title(),
  ui.layout_sidebar(
    ui.panel_sidebar(),
    ui.panel_main(),
  )
)
```

**ui.row()**

```
app_ui = ui.page_fluid(
  ui.row(
    ui.column(width = 4),
    ui.column(width = 2, offset = 3),
  ),
  ui.row(ui.column(width = 12)))
```

Layer **ui.nav()** s on top of each other, and navigate between them, with:

```
ui.page_fluid(ui.navset_tab(
  ui.nav("tab 1", "contents"),
  ui.nav("tab 2", "contents"),
  ui.nav("tab 3", "contents")))

ui.page_fluid(ui.navset_pill_list(
  ui.nav("tab 1", "contents"),
  ui.nav("tab 2", "contents"),
  ui.nav("tab 3", "contents")))

ui.page_navbar(
  ui.nav("tab 1", "contents"),
  ui.nav("tab 2", "contents"),
  ui.nav("tab 3", "contents"),
  title = "Page")
```

# Themes

Use the **shinywatch** package to add existing bootstrap themes to your Shiny app ui.

```
import shinywatch

app_ui = ui.page_fluid(
  shinywatch.theme.darkly(),
  ...
)
```

# Shiny for R Comparison



Shiny for Python is quite similar to Shiny for R with a few important differences:

1. Call inputs as **input.<id>()**
2. Define outputs as decorated functions **def <id>():**
3. To create a reactive expression, use **@reactive.calc**
4. To create an observer, use **@reactive.effect**
5. Combine these with **@reactive.event**
6. Use **reactive.value()** instead of **reactiveVal()**
7. Use **nav\_\***() instead of **\*Tab()**
8. Functions are intuitively organized into submodules



|   |   |
|---|---|
| input\$x  | input.x()   |
| output\$y <- renderText(z())                                | @renderText<br>def y():<br>return z()   |
| z <- reactive({<br>input\$x + 1<br>})                       | @reactive.calc<br>def z():<br>return input.x()+1  |
| a <- observe({<br>print(input\$x)<br>})                     | @reactive.effect<br>def a():<br>print(input.x())  |
| b <- eventReactive(<br>input\$goCue,<br>{input\$x + 1}<br>) | @reactive.calc<br>@reactive.event(<br>input.go_cue<br>)<br>def b():<br>return input.x()+1 |
| reactiveVal(1)  | reactive.value(1)   |
| insertTab()<br>appendTab()<br>etc.                          | nav_insert()<br>nav_append()<br>etc.  |
| dateInput()<br>textInput()<br>etc.                          | ui.input_date()<br>ui.input_text()<br>etc.  |