Exercise 1.6: Connecting to Databases in Python

Learning Goals

Create a MySQL database for your Recipe app

Reflection Questions

1. **What are databases and what are the advantages of using them?**

Databases are organised collections of information/data. The advantage of using databases are they keep data in a uniform format, making it easier to access and maintain. They can be made secure with passwords and other application can be used to access the data, not just Python.

2. **List 3 data types that can be used in MySQL and describe them briefly:**

| Data type | Definition |
| --- | --- |
| Floats | Floats are decimals |
| Int | Int are integers |
| Varchart(n) | Varchart is the string of variable length. The n represents the maximum amount of characters |

3. **In what situations would SQLite be a better choice than MySQL?**

SQLite would be a better choice that MySQL when you are testing a database as it is portable and does not require a set up/installation or when you are working with a simple database.

4. **Think back to what you learned in the Immersion course. What do you think about the differences between JavaScript and Python as programming languages?**

   Python is an easier language to read and maintain compared to JavaScript. Javascript is not as easy to maintain, however it is flexible. JavaScript is built into most web browsers, whereas an interpreter is generally needed to run Python.

5. **Now that you're nearly at the end of Achievement 1, consider what you know about Python so far. What would you say are the limitations of Python as a programming language?**

A limitation of Python as a programming language would be that the execution is slow. As python programs are executed line by line the run time can be slow when compared to other programming languages.