Lists Basics



SoftUni Team Technical Trainers







Software University

https://softuni.bg

Have a Question?



sli.do

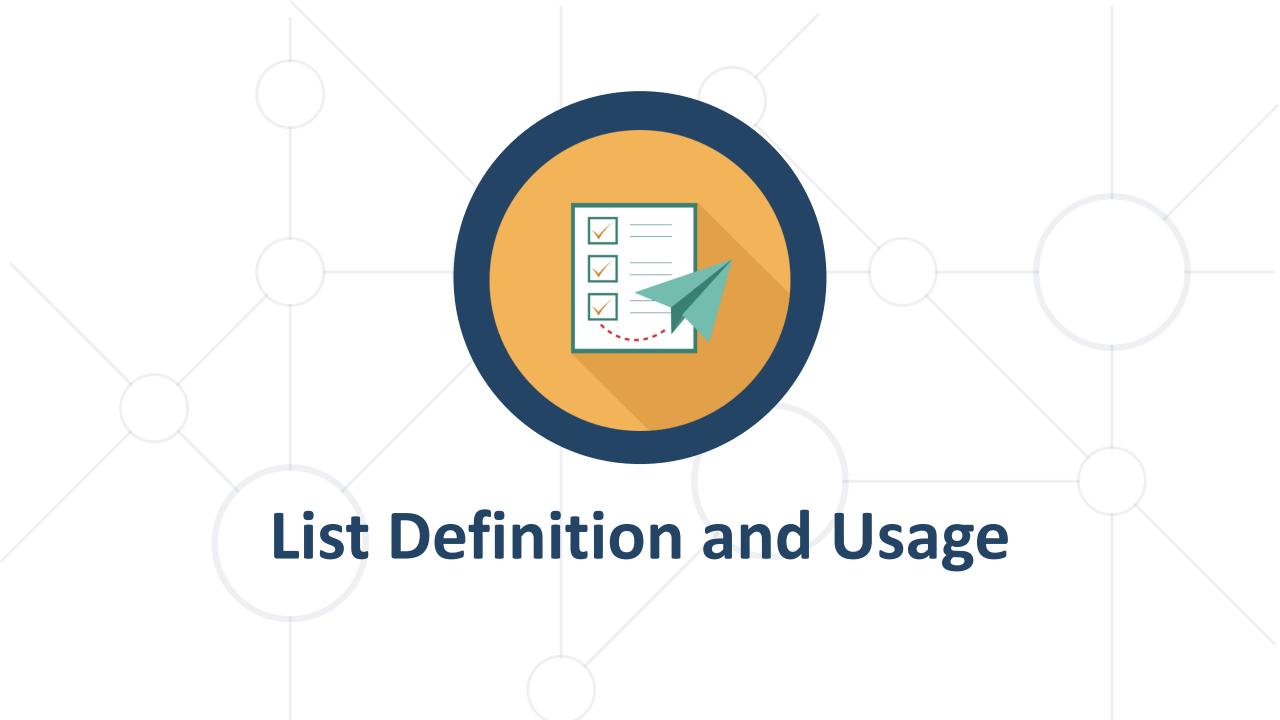
#fund-python

Table of Contents



- 1. List Definition and Usage
- 2. Storing Data
- 3. Creating Lists
- 4. Accessing Elements
- 5. List Manipulations
- 6. Looping through Lists
- 7. Searching in Lists





Definition



- A list is a collection that is index supported and changeable (mutable)
- It allows duplicate members
- In Python lists are written with square brackets

```
list_example = ["apple", "banana", "cherry"]
```

List Element



Usage in Programming



- Lists are very useful for storing multiple elements
- They can expand and shrink
- In Python a single list can store elements with different data types
- Lists are the basis for the other abstract data types like queues, stacks, and their variations





Data in Python Lists





- integers
- floats
- strings
- objects
- other lists
- mixed data

Examples



todo_list = ["Do the dishes", "Clean my room"]

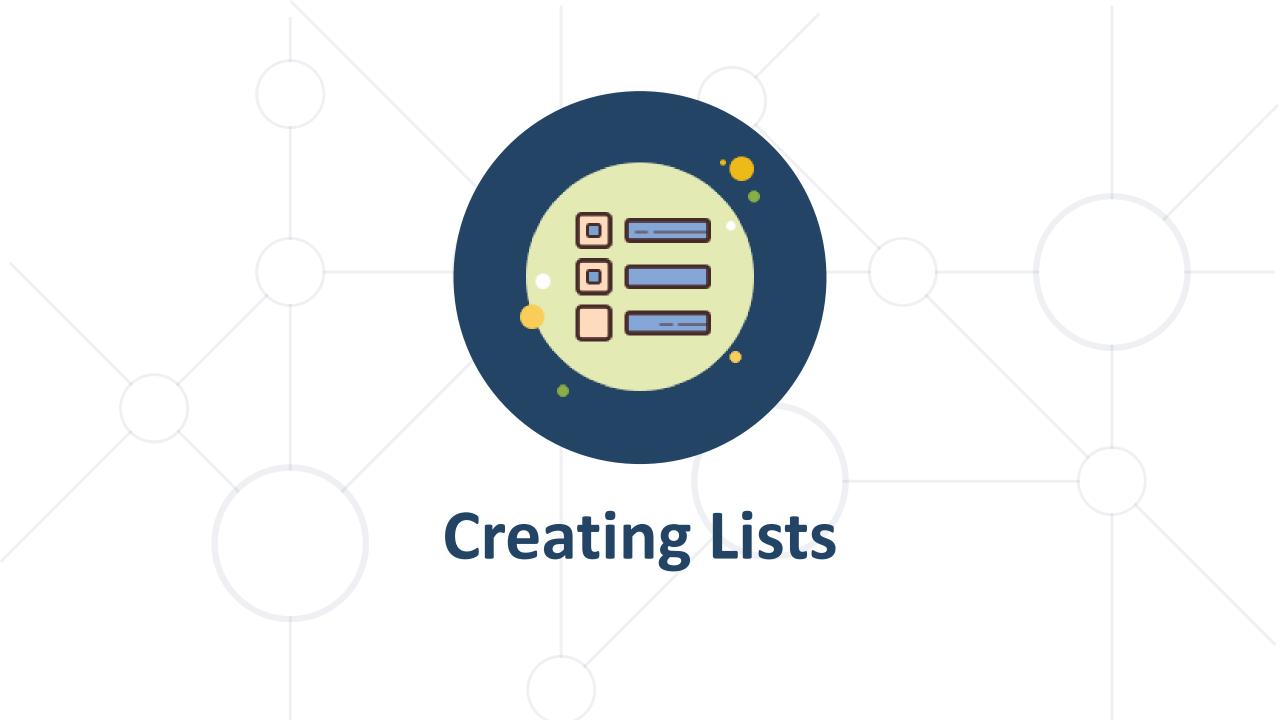
List of strings

favourite_numbers = [7, 21, 65]

List of integers

random_list = [7, "Peter", 9.99]

List of mixed data



Creating Lists



 Lists in Python can be created by just placing the sequence inside the square brackets

```
my_list = [1, 2, 3]
```

Or using the list function

```
empty_list = list()
```

A list may contain duplicate values

Splitting Strings to List



 You can use the split function to split a string and create a list

```
some_text = "a b c d"
my_list = some_text.split(" ")
print(my_list) # ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd']
```

You can split by different separators

```
some_text = "a, b, c, d"

my_list = some_text.split(", ")

print(my_list) # ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd']
```

Joining Lists into a String



You can create a string from a list using string.join()

```
my_list = ["a", "b", "c"]
print("-".join(my_list)) # a-b-c

String separator
```

- The result of the join function is always a string
- Note: In Python, you can only join a list of strings

```
print(" ".join([1, 2, 3])) # error
This will not work
```



Using Indices



- Use square brackets to get an element by an index
- Indices describe the position of an element
- We always start counting indices from 0

```
list_of_numbers = [1, 5, 7]
print(list_of_numbers[0]) # 1
print(list_of_numbers[1]) # 5
print(list_of_numbers[2]) # 7
```

Using the "-" Sign



- In Python you can use the negative sign to access an element
- The negative sign will start counting from the end of the list

```
my_pets = ["cat", "dog", "parrot"]
print(my_pets[-1]) # parrot
print(my_pets[-2]) # dog
print(my_pets[-3]) # cat
```

Problem: Strange Zoo



- You are at the zoo and the meerkats look strange:
 - You will receive 3 strings: (tail, body, head)
 - Re-arrange the elements in an array, so that the animal looks normal again: (head, body, tail)

```
my tail
my body seems on place
my head is on the wrong end!
```



```
['my head is on the wrong end!',
  'my body seems on place',
  'my tail']
```

Solution: Strange Zoo



First variant

```
tail = input()
body = input()
head = input()
meerkat = [head, body, tail]
print(meerkat)
```

Second variant

```
tail = input()
body = input()
head = input()
meerkat = [tail, body, head]
meerkat[0], meerkat[2] =
meerkat[2], meerkat[0]
print(meerkat)
```

Pythonic way for swapping elements



Adding to a List



Use the append function to add a new element

```
empty_list = []
empty_list.append(2)
empty_list.append(3)
print(empty_list)
# [2, 3]
```

Removing from a List



Use the remove function to remove a particular element

```
list_of_numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
list_of_numbers.remove(3)
list_of_numbers.remove(1)
print(list_of_numbers)
# [2, 4, 5]
```

Problem: Courses



- Create a program that reads a single number n
 - On the next n lines you will receive names of courses. You should create a list of them and print it



Solution: Courses



```
n = int(input())
courses = []
for n in range(n):
    current_course = input()
    courses.append(current_course)
print(courses)
```



Using for Loop



- There are two ways you can loop through a list using for loops
 - Iterating over the elements

```
my_list = ["dog", "cat", "fish"]
for element in my_list:
    print(element, end=" ") # dog cat fish
```

Using generated list with range

```
for index in range(len(my_list)):
    print(my_list[index], end=" ") # dog cat fish
```

Using while Loop



- You can also use while loops to iterate through a list
 - In the first example, we iterate until we reach the end of the list
 - In the second example, we iterate until there are no more elements in the list

```
my_list = ["dog", "cat", "fish"]
i = 0
while i < len(my_list) :
    print(my_list[i], end=" ")
    i += 1</pre>
```

```
my_list = ["dog", "cat", "fish"]
while my_list:
    print(my_list[0], end=" ")
    current_element = my_list[0]
    my_list.remove(current_element)
```

Problem: List Statistics



- You will be given a number n
- On the next n lines you will receive integers
- Create and print two lists:
 - One with all the positives (including 0) numbers
 - One with all the negatives numbers
- Finally print the following:
 "Count of positives: {count_positives}
 Sum of negatives: {sum_of_negatives}"

Solution: List Statistics



```
n = int(input())
positives = []
negatives = []
for n in range(n):
    # Read the number and add it to the corresponding list
# Print the positive numbers list
# Print the negative numbers list
# Print the statistics
```



in Keyword



Use the keyword "in" to check if an element is in a list

```
my_list = [1, 2, 3, 4]
if 3 in my_list:
    print("The number 3 is in the list")
```

Usually the "in" keyword is used with if-else statements

not in Keywords



 The "not in" keywords are used to check if an element is NOT in a list

```
my_list = [1, 2, 3, 4]
if 5 not in my_list:
    print("The number 5 is not in the list")
```

 The "not in" keywords are also mainly used with if-else statements

Problem: Search



- You will receive a number n and a word
- On the next n lines you will be given some strings
- Add them to a list and print them
- Then filter out only the strings that include the given word and print the list again

Solution: Search



```
n = int(input())
word = input()
strings = []
for i in range(n):
    current_string = input()
    strings.append(current_string)
print(strings)
for i in range(len(strings) - 1, -1, -1):
    if word not in strings[i]:
        strings.remove(strings[i])
print(strings)
```

Problem: Numbers Filter



- You will receive a single number n
- On the next n lines you will receive integers
- After that you will be given one of the following commands: even, odd, negative, positive
- Filter all the numbers that fit in the category (0 counts as a positive and even)
- Print the result

Solution: Numbers Filter



```
n = int(input())
numbers = []
filtered = []
for i in range(n):
    current_number = int(input())
    numbers.append(current_number)
command = input()
if command == "even":
    # Add the even numbers to the filtered
# Implement the other cases
```

Summary



- We learned:
 - What lists are in Python
 - How to create lists
 - How to add and remove elements from lists
 - How to loop through lists and access its elements





Questions?



















SoftUni Diamond Partners









България Bulgaria **2025**

FOR A BETTER WORLD OF WORK











THE CROWN IS YOURS





Trainings @ Software University (SoftUni)



- Software University High-Quality Education,
 Profession and Job for Software Developers
 - softuni.bg, softuni.org
- Software University Foundation
 - softuni.foundation
- Software University @ Facebook
 - facebook.com/SoftwareUniversity







License



- This course (slides, examples, demos, exercises, homework, documents, videos, and other assets) is copyrighted content
- Unauthorized copy, reproduction or use is illegal
- © SoftUni https://about.softuni.bg
- © Software University https://softuni.bg

