



# Write Excel Add-Ins in Python

PyXLL is the best way to use Python with Microsoft Excel. Whatever you're looking to do with Python and Excel, PyXLL makes it possible.

For the latest and complete documentation, please visit our [online documentation](#).

Inside the downloaded PyXLL zip file you will find the following files:

- pyxll.cfg
- pyxll.xll
- examples.xlsx

## pyxll.cfg

This is the PyXLL config file. You will need to edit this in order to use PyXLL.

Open it with a text editor and have a look at the available settings. To begin with change the “executable” setting in the “PYTHON” section to the path of your python.exe executable.

```
[PYTHON]
executable = C:\Path\To\Your\python.exe
```

**Note:** Comments in the pyxll.cfg file start with a semi-colon “;”. Make sure you remove this when editing the config!

If you're not sure where your Python executable is then open a Python command prompt and type “where python” to find it.

## pyxll.xll

This is the Excel add-in file that will run your Python code inside Excel.

To install it open Excel and go to **Options** → **Add-Ins** → **Manage Excel Addins**. Press the “Go” button and browse to the pyxll.xll file.

If Excel asks you if you want to copy the add-in to your add-ins folder, select “No”.

If you get an error telling you that the add-in file is the wrong file format you have downloaded the wrong version of PyXLL for your version of Excel. Check if you have the 32 bit or 64 bit version of Excel and download the corresponding version of PyXLL.

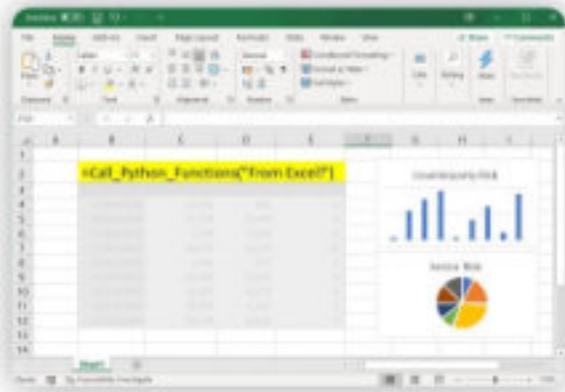
## examples.xlsx

Once you've got the PyXLL add-in installed a good place to start is with this examples workbook. You can find examples of how to use virtually all of PyXLL features in this workbook. All of the code for this workbook is in the examples folder.

If you need any help at all getting started, or if you have any questions please [contact us](#) and we'll be happy to help!



## Write Excel Add-Ins in Python



To start with, try writing an [Excel worksheet function](#).

Write a Python module (".py" file) with a Python function and add the `@xl_func` decorator. Update "pythonpath" and "modules" in your "pyxll.cfg" file with your new module and try calling your function from Excel!

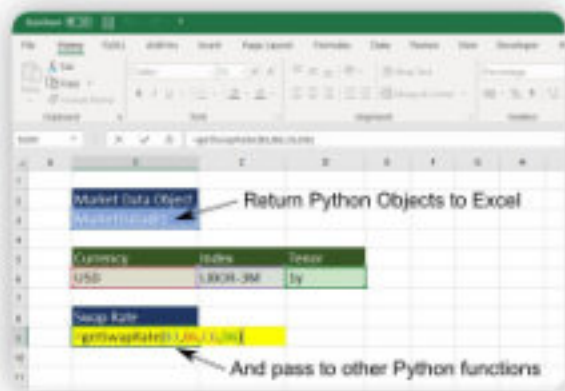
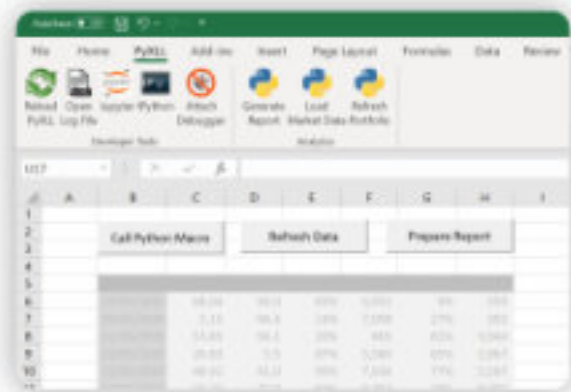
```
from pyxll import xl_func

@xl_func
def xl_function(a, b):
    return a + b
```

You can add your own [ribbon tool bar](#), [menus](#) and [macro functions](#).

Configure the "ribbon.xml" file set in your pyxll.cfg with your own buttons and controls to call your Python functions directly from Excel.

Use the `@xl_macro` decorator to write Excel macros in Python [without the need for any VBA](#).



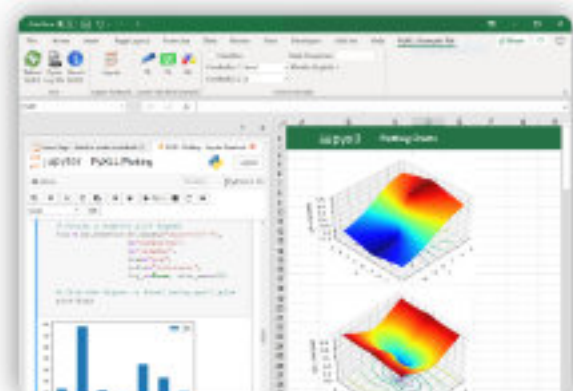
Work with [Pandas DataFrames](#) and other complex array types. Return whole arrays back to Excel, or take arrays as function arguments.

Try [returning any Python object](#) from your functions, not just simple types! Passing objects between functions rather than arrays is a great way to simplify your workbook.

In the included "examples.xlsx" workbook you'll find examples of [plotting charts](#) in Excel from Python functions, [custom task pane](#) user interfaces, [real time data](#) and much more.

Be sure to have a look at the example ribbon toolbar and the corresponding "ribbon.xml" file too.

If you have any questions or need anything at all, please [contact us](#) and we'll be happy to help!





## Write Excel Add-Ins in Python

### OPEN SOURCE NOTICES

The following open source components are included in the PyXLL Excel add-in:

**<https://github.com/Excel-DNA/RegistrationInfoGuid>**

The MIT License (MIT)

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**<https://www.packetizer.com/security/sha1>**

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Paul E. Jones <paulej@packetizer.com>

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**<https://github.com/TsudaKageyu/minhook>**

MinHook - The Minimalistic API Hooking Library for x64/x86

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Hacker Disassembler Engine 32 C

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