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How to create function in Python

A function is a block of code which performs some specific task and returns back to the caller. It has a unique name.

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They are helpful when need to perform the same task with different-different values or require to use the same block of code in other places within the program.

If any changes require in the future then only need to update the function code and it will automatically make change where the function it been called.

The main aim of a function is –

1. To make the program more readable, and organized and,
2. Reduce repeated code.

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1. Defining a function

To create function `def` keyword is use in Python. Define a unique name for the function and in parenthesis, you can specify your parameters.

Function block starts with `colon(:)` symbol.

Syntax –

```
def function-name(paramenter):  
    # statement
```

Example

```
def callMe():  
    print("Function is called")
```

In above example, I have created a `callMe()` function which not take any arguments. It print text on the screen when it called.

2. Calling a function

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Specify the function name and specify the parameters in parenthesis () if it takes. After completing the task it return back to the program.

Syntax –

```
def function-name(parameter): # defining function
    # statement

function-name(parameter) # calling function
```

Example

```
def callMe():
    print("Function is called")

callMe()
callMe()
```

Output

```
Function is called
Function is called
```

3. Function with parameter

- 3 Specify the parameter in the function if you want to perform the task with different-different parameters.

Syntax –

```
def function-name(parameter):  
    # statement  
  
function-name(parameter)
```

Example

```
def checkevenOrodd(num):  
    if num%2 == 0:  
        print("Even number")  
    else:  
        print("Odd number")  
  
checkevenOrodd(2)  
checkevenOrodd(5)  
checkevenOrodd(8)
```

Output

```
Even number  
Odd number  
Even number
```

4. Function with return

Use `return` statement to return value from the function to the caller.

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Syntax –

```
def function-name(paramenter):  
    # statement  
    return value
```

Example

```
def maxlist(list1):  
    max = list1[0]  
    for l in list1:  
        if l > max:  
            max = l  
    return max  
  
list1 = [1,55,23,2]  
list2 = [4,24,78,6,21]  
  
print("max value in list1 is ",maxlist(list1))  
print("max value in list2 is ",maxlist(list2))
```

Above I create function `maxlist()` which returns max value from the list.

Output

```
max value in list1 is 55
max value in list2 is 78
```

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5. Default value

Default parameter automatically supplies value even if you don't supply value while calling the function. Default argument declaration starts from right to left.

Syntax –

```
def function-name(variable=value,variable=value,...):
    # statement
```

Example

```
def displayInfo(fname,lname="Singh",age=22):
    print("first name : ",fname,", last name : ",lname,"
    age : ",age)

displayInfo("Yogesh")
displayInfo("Vishal",age=24) # Changing age default value
displayInfo("Mohit","Sharma")
```



Above I specify the default value in `lname` and `age` variable. If this variables values not defined while calling then it will use the default set value.

Output

```
first name : Yogesh , last name = Singh , age : 22
first name : Vishal , last name = Singh , age : 24
first name : Mohit , last name = Sharma , age : 22
```

6. Multiple parameter

For handling an unknown amount of items to function we use a asterisk (*) symbol in function. It holds as many values in a single argument.

Syntax –

```
def function-name(*argument):
    # statement
```

Example

```
def display(name,*friends):
    print("name : ",name)
    print("friends : ",friends)

display("Yogesh singh","Sonarika","Vishal","Vijay")
display("Jiten singh","Mohit","Ajay","Abhilash","Gane:
```


I defined asterisk (*) on the second argument. When the function is called then the first parameter goes to `name` variable and all other parameters goes to `friends` variable.

It converts the `friends` argument into a tuple.

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Output

```
name : Yogesh singh
friends : ('Sonarika','Vishal','Vijay')
name : Jiten singh
friends : ('Mohit','Ajay','Abhilash','Ganesh','Aditya
```



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