

006: Functions

Learning Outcome:

Functions: in-built, custom.

| Definitions/Concepts | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Functions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Function is a <i>block of code</i>, which <i>runs</i> when it is <i>called</i>, we can <i>pass values</i> into it, and it can <i>return values or do something</i>. While writing many lines of code, there is always a chance that we need to code something which we have already coded. To reuse that part of code, we can convert it into a function and use it again just by writing the name of the function instead of all those lines of code. |
| Calling a function | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calling a function means writing the function name to run it. |
| Parameters | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The values which can be passed in a function are called parameters or arguments of that function. |
| Types of functions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Functions can be of two major types: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-built functions: The functions like <code>print()</code>, <code>int()</code>, <code>len()</code>, <code>range()</code> etc are all inbuilt functions. Custom functions: The functions that user can create are called custom functions. |

| Creating a function |
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| <p>Syntax:</p> <pre>def functionName(parameters): statement1 statement2 return variable</pre> |

- **def** is the keyword used in defining a function.
- The function name follows similar rules as of naming a variable:
 - Numbers and letters are allowed.
 - We can't use spaces or special characters in it.
 - Keywords can't be used as function names.
- Parameters/Arguments are the values which we pass to a function. It is optional, depending upon the nature of function.
- **return** is a keyword which gives the output of the function, if any.

Example of creating and calling a function

To create a function to take a number and display its multiplication table.

```
def multiplicationTable(num):  
    for i in range(1,11):  
        print(num, "X", i, "=", (num*i))
```

Now to use the function, we can simply call it, as follows.

```
>>> multiplicationTable(6)  
6 X 1 = 6  
6 X 2 = 12  
6 X 3 = 18  
6 X 4 = 24  
6 X 5 = 30  
6 X 6 = 36  
6 X 7 = 42  
6 X 8 = 48  
6 X 9 = 54  
6 X 10 = 60
```

Activity links and Solutions

[Student Activity 1: function](#)

#Activity 1: Define a function to return the number of factors of a given



number(including the number itself), for eg, factors of 6 are 1,2,3 and 6 itself, so no. of factors of 6 is 4

```
def countFactors(num):  
    f=1  
    c=0  
    while(f<=num):  
        if(num%f==0):  
            c+=1  
            f+=1  
    return c
```

- The variable **c** here acts as a counter, its value will increase by 1, when we get a factor.
- So, the no. of factors of **num** is stored in variable **c**
- The statement: **return c** will return the no. of factors

#Activity 2: Input a number from the user and using the above function check if the number is prime or not.

```
number=int(input("Enter number: "))  
  
p=countFactors(number)  
  
if(p==2):  
    print(number,"is prime")  
else:  
    print(number,"is not prime")
```

Function, **countFactors()** is called to find the no. of factors of **number**.

- Remember it contain **return** keyword, so on calling it, we get a value, so to store the value we are using another variable **p**
- We pass the variable **number** in the function.
- Now, **p** contains the no. of factors of **number**
- If the value of **p** is 2, then it is prime otherwise it is not prime, to check this we use the if conditional.



Student Activity 2: Letters in a Word

#Activity: Define a function to take a string as input and display all the distinct letters in the string in Upper case.

```
text=input("Enter text: ")

def lettersOfText(text):
    text=text.upper()
    letters=set()
    for i in text:
        letters.add(i)
    return letters

print(lettersOfText(text))
```

- The function **lettersOfText()** is taking parameter **text** of data type String and returning the variable **letters** of datatype set.
- .upper() functions turns text in upper case
- set() function creates an empty set in the variable letters
- .add() function adds one character from text in the set letters

Fun-fact

One can return multiple values in a function in Python.