

Task Management and Productivity Tracker

Course: Introduction to Problem Solving & Programming

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1. Abstract

This project is a simple menu-based Task Management System using only the basic concepts of Python programming. The aim was to create a clean, working program that encapsulates the essence of problem-solving, modularity, and structured design principles. A user will be able to add tasks, list them, mark them as completed, and delete them within the system. This is a deliberately simplified project; clarity, not unwarranted complexity, is the objective.

2. Introduction

Even the management of everyday personal matters becomes inefficient without a systematic way of keeping track of such tasks. Although there are many suitable digital tools for this, making a small solution of one's own is an excellent opportunity to apply step-wise refinement, modular programming, and algorithmic thinking-all corner stones of this course.

This application only uses core Python features, and the code has been written to remain easy to understand, test, and extend.

3. Problem Statement

Users struggle a lot with keeping track of basic tasks, either missing deadlines or just generally being disorganized. A simple system to keep track of tasks and their status will go a long way toward smoothing personal workflow and increasing productivity. The problem being solved is: How can we make a lightweight, easy-to-use program for users to manage their tasks more effectively?

4. Objectives

The project aspires to:

- Create a simple and functional task manager.

- Demonstrate foundational problem-solving techniques.

- Apply modular program design using functions and classes.

- Keep code readable and simple.

5. Methodology

5.1 Modular Design

The program is divided into two files:

main.py – menu display, user input, program loop.

task_manager.py – core logic for adding, viewing, updating, and deleting tasks

5.2 Data Structure

Tasks are stored in the form of a list of dictionaries, each containing a description and completion status.

5.3 Algorithms (Summary)

Add Task:

Accept user input

Append a new dictionary to the task list

View Tasks:

Iterate over task list

Display index, description, and status

Mark Completed:

Validate task number

Update completion status

Delete Task:

Validate task number

Remove from list

6. System Design Diagram (Flow Overview)

Menu → User Choice → (Add / View / Complete / Delete / Exit)

Each of the options results in a simple function call in the TaskManager class.

The program continues until the user chooses to exit.

7. Implementation

This system was implemented in Python, using basic constructs like loops, lists, conditionals, and simple input/output. No external libraries were used, which keeps the implementation in tune with the course objectives.

Screenshots of the program in action are included in a separate directory /screenshots.

8. Testing

All functions were tested with:

Empty task list

Numerous tasks

Normal user flow

Expected behavior was observed in all the application scenarios.

9. Conclusion

This project shows that even for simple problems, one can adopt a structured approach. The final implementation is readable, functional, and understandable — which is actually the real target for an introductory programming course. It reinforces modular design, algorithmic thinking, and iterative problem-solving without unnecessary complexity.