

Applause from Conor Dewey and 1,068 others



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Python Tricks 101 🐍

Python tips which are relatively uncommon and are very useful.

Talk is cheap show me the code

Swapping values

```
"""pythonic way of value swapping"""  
a, b = 5, 10  
print(a, b)  
a, b = b, a  
print(a, b)
```

Create a single string from all the elements in list

```
a = ["Python", "is", "awesome"]  
print(" ".join(a))
```

Find The Most Frequent Value In A List.

```
""" most frequent element in a list """  
  
a = [1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3, 2, 2, 4, 5, 1]  
  
print(max(set(a), key = a.count))  
  
""" using Counter from collections """  
  
from collections import Counter  
  
cnt = Counter(a)  
print(cnt.most_common(3))
```

Checking if two words are anagrams

```
from collections import Counter  
  
Counter(str1) == Counter(str2)
```

Reverse a String

```
"""reversing string with special case of slice step param"""  
  
a = 'abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz'  
print(a[::-1])  
  
"""iterating over string contents in reverse efficiently."""  
  
for char in reversed(a):  
    print(char)  
  
"""reversing an integer through type conversion and slicing."""  
  
num = 123456789  
print(int(str(num)[::-1]))
```

Reverse a list

```
"""reversing list with special case of slice step param"""
a = [5, 4, 3, 2, 1]
print(a[::-1])

"""iterating over list contents in reverse efficiently."""
for ele in reversed(a):
    print(ele)
```

Transpose 2d array

```
"""transpose 2d array [[a,b], [c,d], [e,f]] -> [[a,c,e], [b,d,f]]"""
original = [['a', 'b'], ['c', 'd'], ['e', 'f']]
transposed = zip(*original)
print(list(transposed))
```

Chained Comparison

```
"""chained comparison with all kind of operators"""
b = 6
print(4 < b < 7)
print(1 == b < 20)
```

Chained function call

```
"""calling different functions with same arguments based on condition"""
def product(a, b):
    return a * b

def add(a, b):
    return a + b

b = True
print((product if b else add)(5, 7))
```

Copying List

```
"""a fast way to make a shallow copy of a list"""

b = a
b[0] = 10
""" both a and b will be [10, 2, 3, 4, 5] """

b = a[:]
b[0] = 10
""" only b will change to [10, 2, 3, 4, 5] """

"""copy list by typecasting method"""

a = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
print(list(a))

"""using the list.copy() method (python3 only)"""

a = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
print(a.copy())

"""copy nested lists using copy.deepcopy"""

from copy import deepcopy

l = [[1, 2], [3, 4]]

l2 = deepcopy(l)
print(l2)
```

Dictionary Get

```
"""returning None or default value, when key is not in dict"""  
d = {'a': 1, 'b': 2}  
  
print(d.get('c', 3))
```

Sort Dictionary by Value

```
""" Sort a dictionary by its values with the built-in sorted() function and a 'key' argument. """  
d = {'apple': 10, 'orange': 20, 'banana': 5, 'rotten tomato': 1}  
print(sorted(d.items(), key=lambda x: x[1]))  
  
""" Sort using operator.itemgetter as the sort key instead of a lambda """  
  
from operator import itemgetter  
  
print(sorted(d.items(), key=itemgetter(1)))  
  
"""Sort dict keys by value"""  
  
print(sorted(d, key=d.get))
```

For Else

```
"""else gets called when for loop does not reach break statement"""  
a = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]  
for el in a:  
    if el == 0:  
        break  
else:  
    print('did not break out of for loop')
```

Convert list to comma separated

```
"""converts list to comma separated string"""

items = ['foo', 'bar', 'xyz']

print (''.join(items))

"""list of numbers to comma separated"""
numbers = [2, 3, 5, 10]

print (''.join(map(str, numbers)))

"""list of mix data"""
data = [2, 'hello', 3, 3.4]

print (''.join(map(str, data)))
```

Merge dict's

```
"""merge dict's"""

d1 = {'a': 1}
d2 = {'b': 2}

# python 3.5
print(**d1, **d2)

print(dict(d1.items() | d2.items()))

d1.update(d2)
print(d1)
```

Min and Max index in List

```
"""
Find Index of Min/Max Element.
"""

lst = [40, 10, 20, 30]

def minIndex(lst):
    return min(range(len(lst)), key=lst.__getitem__)

def maxIndex(lst):
    return max(range(len(lst)), key=lst.__getitem__)

print(minIndex(lst))
print(maxIndex(lst))
```

Remove duplicates from a list

```
"""remove duplicate items from list. note: does not preserve the original list order"""
items = [2, 2, 3, 3, 1]
newitems2 = list(set(items))
print(newitems2)

"""remove dups and keep order"""
from collections import OrderedDict
items = ["foo", "bar", "bar", "foo"]
print(list(OrderedDict.fromkeys(items).keys()))
```

If you think i should i add anymore or have suggestions please do comment. i'll keep on updating this blog.

Most of the tricks and tips are taken from [PyTricks](#) and a few blogs .

Thank you for reading 🙏. If you like the Article give it a clap 👏.

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