

# Python Coding Style

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- ▶ The officially recommended coding conventions for Python are provided by a document known as PEP8 (<http://www.python.org/dev/peps/pep-0008/>)
- ▶ Use *four spaces* per indentation level (and never tabs)
- ▶ In assignments, put spaces around the = sign
  - ▶ For example, `a = 10`, not `a=10`
- ▶ Separate operators from their operands with single spaces unless operations with different priorities are being combined
  - ▶ For example, write `x = x + 5`, but `r2 = x**2 + y**2`
- ▶ Don't use spaces around the = in keyword arguments
  - ▶ For example, in function calls use `foo(b=4.5)` not `foo(b = 4.5)`
- ▶ Separate top-level function and class definitions by two blank lines; within a class, separate them by one blank line

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- ▶ Use a maximum of 80 characters per line, where you need to split a line of code over more than one line:
  - ▶ Favor implicit line continuation inside parentheses over the explicit use of the character \
  - ▶ In arithmetic expressions, break around binary operators so that the new line is *after* the operator
  - ▶ As far as possible, line up code so that expressions within parentheses line up, e.g.:

```
#poor style
lengthy_calculation = margin * margin_px + (border * border_px\
                                         + padding * padding_px)

# better
lengthy_calculation = (margin * margin_px + (border * border_px +
                                         padding * padding_px))
```

- ▶ Avoid putting more than one statement on the same line separated by semicolons
  - ▶ For example, instead of `a = 1; b = 2`, write `a, b = 1, 2`
- ▶ Avoid wildcard imports (`from foo import *`)

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- ▶ Functions, modules and packages should have short, all-lowercase names
- ▶ Use underscores in function and module names if necessary, but avoid them in package names
- ▶ Class names should be in CamelCase, also known as CapWords
  - ▶ For example, `AminoAcid`, not `amino_acid`
- ▶ Define constants in all-capitals with underscores separating words
  - ▶ For example, `MAX_LINE_LENGTH`

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- ▶ Imports are always put at the top of the file, just after any module comments and docstrings, and before module globals and constants
- ▶ Imports should be grouped in the following order:
  - ▶ Standard library imports
  - ▶ Related third-party imports
  - ▶ Local application/library-specific imports
- ▶ You should put a blank line between each group of imports