

python - Day - 10 (Beginner)

Big picture of Day 10

Till Day 9:

- you used functions
- you passed inputs
- you printed outputs

Day 10 changes mindset:

function should RETURN values, not just print them

(1) why print() is NOT enough

problem with print()

when you use print() inside a function

- The value is shown on screen
- BUT you cannot reuse it

Example

```
def add(a, b):  
    print(a+b)
```

// This looks fine, but:

```
result = add(2, 3)  
print(result)
```

Output

5

None

why None?

Because `print()` does not give anything back to the caller

(2) what return actually does (VERY IMPORTANT)
what return means

return:

- Sends a value back to where the funⁿ is called
- Ends the function immediately

Example:

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

```
result = add(3, 2)
```

```
print(result)
```

Output

5

return = "Hey, take this value and use it Outside"

(3) Difference Between print and return

print()

- Shows output
- Cannot be reused

for debugging

User sees it

return

- Sends Output back
- Can be stored & reused

for logic

Program uses it

{ use print() for humans
use return for programs }

(4)

Storing Returned values

Returned values can be:

- Stored in variables
- Passed into other functions
- Used in conditions

Example:

```
def Square(n):  
    return n * n
```

```
x = Square(4)  
y = Square(x)  
print(y)
```

Output

256

(5) Multiple return Statements

A function can have more than one return, but only one runs.

Example:

```
def check_number(n):  
    if n > 0:  
        return "positive"  
    elif n < 0:  
        return "Negative"  
    else:  
        return "zero"
```


Once a return runs:

- function stops

- Code below it is ignored

Anything after return is dead code

(*)(*) Mini project - Calculator project (*) (*)

At the end of Day 10 you build a text based calculator that:

- Asks the user for two numbers
- Lets them choose an operation (+, -, *, /)
- Uses function return ~~the~~ values to compute results
- Offers the option to continue calculations with the result or start fresh

Key takeaways from Day 10

- Returning values makes your functions much more useful
- Mapping Symbols to functions shows the power of Python dictionaries.
- you now know how to build a small interactive program that keeps running until the user chooses to quit