

Python - Functions

A function is a block of organized, reusable code that is used to perform a single, related action. Functions provide better modularity for your application and a high degree of code reusing.

As you already know, Python gives you many built-in functions like `print()`, etc. but you can also create your own functions. These functions are called *user-defined functions*.

Rules to define a function in Python:

- Function blocks begin with the keyword `def` followed by the function name and parentheses `()`.
- Any input parameters or arguments should be placed within these parentheses. You can also define parameters inside these parentheses.
- The first statement of a function can be an optional statement - the documentation string of the function or *docstring*.
- The code block within every function starts with a colon `:` and is indented.
- The statement `return [expression]` exits a function, optionally passing back an expression to the caller. A return statement with no arguments is the same as `return None`.

Syntax

```
def functionname( parameters ):
    "function_docstring"
    function_suite
    return [expression]
```

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`eval()` in Python is a built-in function or method, to which we pass an expression. It parses this expression and runs it as we execute the program. Let's take a look at the syntax first.

`eval(expression, globals=None, locals=None)`