

Python is an [interpreted](#), [high-level](#) and [general-purpose programming language](#). Python's design philosophy emphasizes [code readability](#) with its notable use of [significant whitespace](#). Its [language constructs](#) and [object-oriented](#) approach aim to help [programmers](#) write clear, logical code for small and large-scale projects.[28]

Python is [dynamically typed](#) and [garbage-collected](#). It supports multiple [programming paradigms](#), including [structured](#) (particularly, [procedural](#)), [object-oriented](#), and [functional programming](#). Python is often described as a "batteries included" language due to its comprehensive [standard library](#).[29]

Python was created in the late 1980s, and first released in 1991, by [Guido van Rossum](#) as a successor to the [ABC programming language](#). Python 2.0, released in 2000, introduced new features, such as [list comprehensions](#), and a garbage collection system with [reference counting](#), and was discontinued with version 2.7 in 2020.[30] Python 3.0, released in 2008, was a major revision of the language that is not completely [backward-compatible](#) and much Python 2 code does not run unmodified on Python 3.

Python [interpreters](#) are available for many [operating systems](#). A global community of programmers develops and maintains [CPython](#), a [free and open-source](#)[31] [reference implementation](#). A non-profit organization, the [Python Software Foundation](#), manages and directs resources for Python and CPython development. It currently ties with [Java](#) as the second most popular programming language in the world.