

Iteration Vs Recursion

BASIS FOR COMPARISON	RECURSION	ITERATION
Basic	The statement in a body of function calls the function itself.	Allows the set of instructions to be repeatedly executed.
Format	In recursive function, only termination condition (base case) is specified.	Iteration includes initialization, condition, execution of statement within loop and update (increments and decrements) the control variable.
Termination	A conditional statement is included in the body of the function to force the function to return without recursion call being executed.	The iteration statement is repeatedly executed until a certain condition is reached.
Condition	If the function does not converge to some condition called (base case), it leads to infinite recursion.	If the control condition in the iteration statement never become false, it leads to infinite iteration.
Infinite Repetition	Infinite recursion can crash the system.	Infinite loop uses CPU cycles repeatedly.
Applied	Recursion is always applied to functions.	Iteration is applied to iteration statements or "loops".
Stack	The stack is used to store the set of new local variables and parameters each time the function is called.	Does not uses stack.
Overhead	Recursion possesses the overhead of repeated function calls.	No overhead of repeated function call.
Speed	Slow in execution.	Fast in execution.
Size of Code	Recursion reduces the size of the code.Iteration makes the code longer.	