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## Caesar / Rot13

Shifting cipher, which was used by Julius Caesar

- [Cipher](#)
- [Description](#)

Hello this is a test.  
Please enter your text  
here.

Input (plaintext) length: 50

Encrypt

☐ Decrypt

Key:

Ifmmp uijt jt b uftu.  
Qmfbtf foufs zpvf ufyu  
ifsf.

Output (ciphertext) length: 50

- [Options](#)
- [Alphabet](#)

☐ Blocks of five

☒ Keep non-alphabet characters

Plaintext alphabet `ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQR` Ciphertext alphabet `BCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRS`

☒ Upper case

☒ Lower case

☐ Digits

☐ Punctuation marks

☐ Umlauts

☐ Blanks

☒ Use constructed alphabet

☐ Define own alphabet

This application is also available implemented in Python. Running it as Python downloads a local runtime environment (8MB compressed) into your browser. You can edit the Python code and it will use the values from the upper GUI components. Feel free to try it:

[^ Hide local Python implementation](#)

**If the Python code below is visible, it is used to calculate the upper output.** To use the default (JavaScript) implementation again, just click the hide button. The code below can be edited, so you can experiment with it. You can also download the code and run it in a local terminal on your computer.

Terminal commands to use cookies for Google Analytics: `hexxage 'Hello this is a test. Please enter your text here.' --`

☒ Accept ☐ Reject `IJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz' --keep-non-alp`

Run again

Reset code

Download code

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```
1 import argparse
2 import sys
3
4
5 def caesar(text, key, alphabet, b_encrypt, b_keep_chars, b_block_of_five):
6     ciphertext = ""
7
8     # iterate through text
9     for old_character in text:
10         new_character = ""
11
12         # if character is in alphabet append to ciphertext
13         if old_character in alphabet:
14             index = alphabet.index(old_character)
15
16             if b_encrypt: # if text is to be encrypted
17                 new_index = (index + key) % len(alphabet)
18
19             else: # if text is to be decrypted
20                 new_index = (index - key) % len(alphabet)
21
22             new_character = alphabet[new_index]
23
24         else:
25
26             # if the symbol is not in alphabet then regard block_of_five and b_encrypt
27             if not b_keep_chars:
28                 continue
29             else:
30                 if b_block_of_five and b_encrypt:
31                     if old_character != " ":
32                         new_character = old_character
33                     else:
34                         continue
35                 else:
36                     new_character = old_character
37
38             ciphertext = ciphertext + new_character
39
40             # if blocks_of_five is true, append a space after every 5 characters
41             if b_block_of_five and b_encrypt:
42                 if len(ciphertext.replace(" ", "")) % 5 == 0:
43                     ciphertext = ciphertext + " "
44
45         # Output
46         print(ciphertext)
47
48
49 if __name__ == "__main__":
50
51     # add command line arguments
52     parser = argparse.ArgumentParser()
53     parser.add_argument("-k", "--key", help="key for encrypt / decrypt", type=int)
54     parser.add_argument("-e", "--encrypt", dest="crypt_modus", action="store_true")
55     parser.add_argument("-d", "--decrypt", dest="crypt_modus", action="store_false")
56     parser.add_argument("-f", "--blocks-of-five", dest="blocks_of_five", action="store_true")
57     parser.add_argument("-m", "--message", help="message for encrypt / decrypt", type=str, required=True)
58     parser.add_argument("-ka", "--keep-non-alp", help="keep non-alphabet characters", dest="keep_chars", action="store_true")
59     parser.add_argument("-a", "--alphabet", help="defined alphabet", type=str)
60
61     if len(sys.argv) == 1:
62         sys.exit(1)
63
64     args = parser.parse_args()
```

## Background

The Caesar cipher is named after the Roman military and political leader Gaius Julius Caesar (100 BC – 44 BC). It is a form of ciphering to encipher military messages.

## Description

The classic version uses the capital letters A-Z, but, in principle, an arbitrary alphabet can be used. The first step is to choose an alphabet.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

Now, the bottom alphabet is shifted by an arbitrary number of positions. The number of positions is the value of the key. Shifting the alphabet 3 positions to the right yields the following result:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C

The letter A becomes the letter D, B is replaced by E, and C replaced by F, etc. The word example would be encrypted as HFDLPEH. The upper alphabet is called 'plaintext alphabet' and the lower alphabet is called 'ciphertext alphabet'.

## Security

The number of possible keys is identical to the size of the given alphabet. Using the capital letters A-Z as alphabet, there are 26 possible keys. The 26th key rendered meaningless because it would map each letter to itself. With only 25 meaningful keys, it is possible to try all possible keys until the correct one is found (brute-force analysis). The Caesar cipher can also easily be cracked by frequency analysis.

## Internal working of the local Python version

### About the code

¶ In this plugin you can control the encryption process in two ways: