

# Quotation marks: A lightning talk

By Tibs / Tony Ibbs, for CamPUG Dec 2017

Sources at <https://github.com/tibs/lightning-talks>

Written using reStructuredText. Originally presented using hovercraft. Converted to PDF slides using pandoc and beamer.

Don't do:

```
print('This isn\'t the answer')
```

when you can do:

```
print("This isn't the answer")
```

Don't do:

```
print("He said, \"Hello\"")
```

when you can do:

```
print('He said "Hello"')
```

Maybe even don't do:

```
print("He said, \"This isn't the answer\"")
```

when you can do:

```
print("""He said, "This isn't the answer""")
```

(But if you do that, be aware that some people will probably look at you a bit oddly.)

Python doesn't distinguish between the quotation marks used:

```
'...'  
"..."
```

or even (except for the ignoring line breaks thing):

```
"""..."""  
'''...'''
```

Which should you use if there's no reason to choose?

- ▶ Does your project have a convention?
- ▶ ' doesn't need a shift key on QWERTY english keyboards
- ▶ Personally, I think
  - ▶ "some message about 'word'" looks better with 'word'
  - ▶ Using "" for single line strings looks odd.
  - ▶ I don't much like ' ' '.

(But basically, don't worry too much about it.)

# Fin

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