

# Style and Readability Guidelines

## Code Organization

Your .py file should be organized in the following way:

- A commented header stating your name, the date, and a brief overview of the code
- Import any modules you will need
- Create any constant, global variables
- Define all functions used by your program
- Your actual program code, inside a function called `main()`
- The last line in your file is a simple call to `main()`

## Readability

When possible, pick variable and function names whose meaning is obvious. Organize code into functions when possible. Don't use them for *everything*.

### When to use a function

- If you find yourself copying and pasting code, definitely use a function!
- If you think you might reuse that code in the future, even if your current program doesn't, you should use a function
- If a calculation takes several lines, depends on just a few variables, and results in a single value, that's a good sign that you should use a function

## Comments and Doc strings

As a general rule, write comments as if someone else (who knows Python, but has never met you) needs to understand your program. This includes:

- Commenting when introducing a new variable (unless the variable name makes it obvious, like `PI=3.14`)
- Commenting to explain the harder-to-understand parts of your code (what is this if statement doing? Why are we looping here?)

## Example

See an example file that follows these guidelines [here](#)