

Python

Full stack Skills Bootcamp

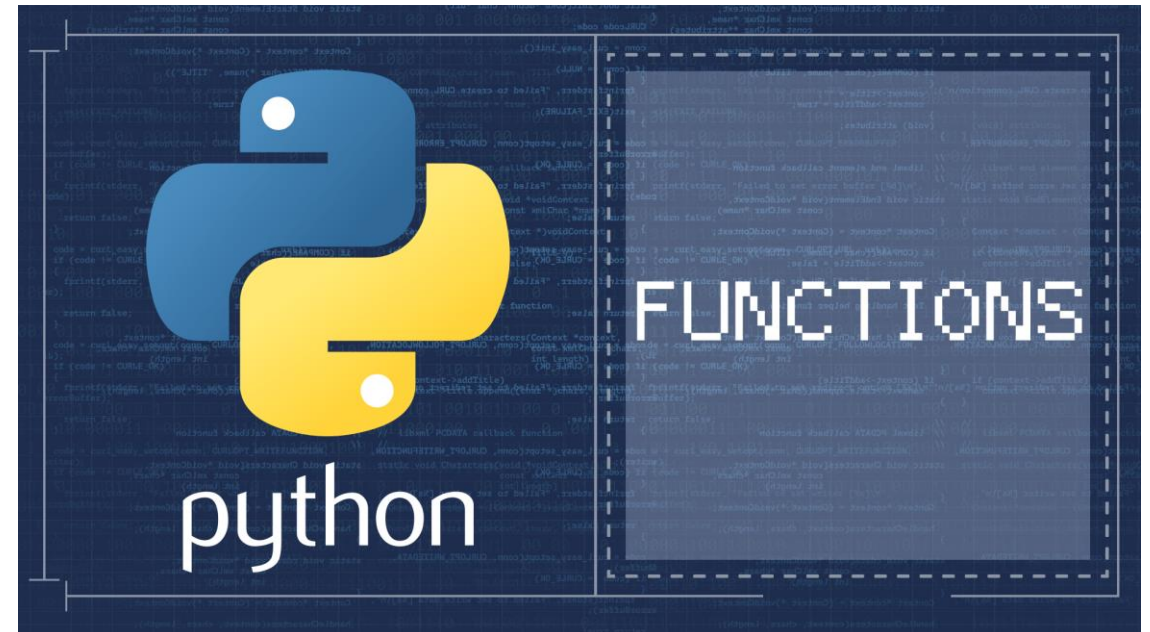
Introducing Python Functions

■ What are Functions?

- A block of reusable code that performs a specific task.
- Helps in organizing and structuring your code.

■ Key Benefits:

- Code Reusability.
- Modularity.
- Improved Readability.



Defining a Basic Function

■ Creating a Function:

```
python

def greet():
    """
    A simple function that returns a greeting message.
    """
    return "Hello, World!"
```

- “def greet()”, this defines a function called ‘greet’ with no parameters.
- `return "Hello, World!"`, this function returns a greeting message when called.

KEY POINTS:

- No Parameters: The function takes no input arguments.
- Return Statements: The function returns a value, in this case, a string.
- Function Call: The function is executed when called using greet().

Functions with Parameters

python

```
def add(a, b):  
    """  
    Adds two numbers and returns the result.  
    :param a: First number  
    :param b: Second number  
    :return: Sum of a and b  
    """  
    return a + b
```

- “def add(a, b)”, the function add accepts two parameters, a and b.
- Parameters: These are inputs to the function. In this case, both, a and b are numbers that will be added together.
- Return: The sum of the two parameters is returned.

KEY POINTS:

- Flexible Input: By passing different values as parameters, the function can compute the sum of any two numbers.
- Reusability: This function can now be used to add any two numbers without rewriting the logic.

Functions with Default Arguments

python

```
def greet(name="Guest"):  
    """  
    Returns a personalized greeting message.  
    :param name: Name of the person to greet (default is 'Guest')  
    :return: Greeting message  
    """  
    return f"Hello, {name}!"
```

- “def greet(name="Guest")”, The function takes an optional parameter `name` with a default value of “Guest”.
- Default Argument: If no value is provided for `name`, the function will use the default value.

KEY POINTS:

- Flexibility: The function can be called with or without the `name` parameter. When no argument is passed, it defaults to `Guest`.
- Optional Parameters: Default arguments make it easy to handle cases where input might be optional.

Variable-Length Arguments (*args and **kwargs)

```
python

def print_info(*args, **kwargs):
    """
    Prints variable-length positional and keyword arguments.
    :param args: Positional arguments
    :param kwargs: Keyword arguments
    """
    print("Positional arguments:", args)
    print("Keyword arguments:", kwargs)
```

- *args, allows you to pass a variable number of positional arguments to a function.
- **kwargs, allows you to pass a variable number of keyword arguments.

KEY POINTS:

- Positional Arguments (*args): Collects all unnamed arguments into a tuple.
- Keyword Arguments (**kwargs): Collects all named arguments into a dictionary.

```
python

print_info(1, 2, 3, name="Alice", age=25)
# Output:
# Positional arguments: (1, 2, 3)
# Keyword arguments: {'name': 'Alice', 'age': 25}
```

Concluding Functions

■ Functions in Modular Programming:

- Why Functions Matter: Reusability, Modularity, Readability.
- Modular Design: Functions help in dividing the entire program into logical modules. Each function performs a specific task, making it easier to understand and debug.
- Practical Application: When working on large projects, dividing the tasks into multiple functions makes the code more organized and scalable.



Introducing Python Lambdas

■ What are Functions?

- Lambda functions are small, anonymous functions defined using the `lambda` keyword. They are designed for situations where a simple function is needed for a short duration.

■ Characteristics:

- Number of Arguments: They can take any number of arguments (including none).
- Single Expression: They can only contain a single expression, which makes them concise and easy to use for simple operations.



Defining a Basic Lambda

■ Creating a Lambda Function:

python

```
square = lambda x: x ** 2  
print("Square of 5:", square(5)) # Output: Square of 5: 25
```

```
def a(x, y):  
    return x + y
```

```
b = lambda x, y: x + y
```

- In this example, we define a lambda function that calculates the square of a number x.
- The function is assigned to the variable “square”, which can then be called like a regular function.
- Output: When we call square(5), it computes 5^2 and returns 25.

Lambda with map()

```
numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4]
squares = list(map(lambda x: x ** 2, numbers))
print("Squares of numbers:", squares) # Output: Squares of numbers: [1, 4, 9, 16]
```

- The map() function applies the provided lambda function to each element in the list numbers.
- Here, the lambda function takes each number x and returns its square.
- The result of map() is an iterable, which is converted to a list using the list() function.
- Output: The list of squares, [1, 4, 9, 16], is produced by mapping the square function over the original list.

Lambda with filter()

python

```
evens = list(filter(lambda x: x % 2 == 0, numbers))  
print("Even numbers:", evens) # Output: Even numbers: [2, 4]
```

- The filter() constructs an iterator from elements of the iterable numbers for which the lambda function returns true.
- In this case, the lambda checks if each number x is even (i.e., $x \% 2 == 0$).
- The filtered result is converted to a list.
- Output: The even numbers extracted from the list are [2, 4], demonstrating how filtering works with lambda functions.



Lambda with sorted()

python

```
tuple_list = [(4, 'pineapple'), (2, 'banana'), (3, 'cherry')]  
sorted_list = sorted(tuple_list, key=lambda x: x[1])  
print("Sorted list by second element:", sorted_list) # Output:
```

- The sorted() function sorts the list of tuples based on the second element of each tuple.
- The lambda function is used as the sorting key, taking each tuple x and returning x[1], which is a fruit name.
- Output: The sorted list, [(2, 'banana'), (3, 'cherry'), (4, 'pineapple')], reflects the alphabetical order of the second elements.



Concluding Lambdas

■ Key Points:

- **Conciseness:** Lambda functions allow you to write shorter code for simple functions, reducing boilerplate.
- **Higher-Order Functions:** They are commonly used with functions like `map()`, `filter()`, and `sorted()`, enabling functional programming paradigms.
- **Use with Care:** While lambda functions are powerful, they can reduce code readability if overused or if the expression is too complex. For maintainability, consider using named functions for more complicated logic.

