

List Statement

Lists are used to store multiple items in a single variable.

Lists are one of 4 built-in data types in Python used to store collections of data, the other 3 are [Tuple](#), [Set](#), and [Dictionary](#), all with different qualities and usage.

Lists are created using square brackets:

Example

Create a List:

```
thislist = ["apple", "banana", "cherry"]  
print(thislist)
```

Output

```
['apple', 'banana', 'cherry']
```

List Items

List items are ordered, changeable, and allow duplicate values.

List items are indexed, the first item has index `[0]`, the second item has index `[1]` etc.

Ordered

When we say that lists are ordered, it means that the items have a defined order, and that order will not change.

If you add new items to a list, the new items will be placed at the end of the list.

Changeable

The list is changeable, meaning that we can change, add, and remove items in a list after it has been created.

Allow Duplicates

Since lists are indexed, lists can have items with the same value:

List Length

To determine how many items a list has, use the len() function:

Example

Print the number of items in the list:

```
thislist = ["apple", "banana", "cherry"]  
print(len(thislist))
```

Output

3

List Items - Data Types

List items can be of any data type:

Example

String, int and boolean data types:

```
list1 = ["apple", "banana", "cherry"]  
list2 = [1, 5, 7, 9, 3]  
list3 = [True, False, False]
```



type()

From Python's perspective, lists are defined as objects with the data type 'list':

```
<class 'list'>
```

Example

What is the data type of a list?

```
mylist = ["apple", "banana", "cherry"]  
print(type(mylist))
```

Output

```
<class 'list'>
```

List Comprehension

List comprehension offers a shorter syntax when you want to create a new list based on the values of an existing list.

Example:

Based on a list of fruits, you want a new list, containing only the fruits with the letter "a" in the name.

Without list comprehension you will have to write a **for** statement with a conditional test inside:

```
fruits = ["apple", "banana", "cherry", "kiwi", "mango"]  
newlist = []  
for x in fruits:  
    if "a" in x:  
        newlist.append(x)  
print(newlist)
```

Output

```
['apple', 'banana', 'mango']
```



With list comprehension you can do all that with only one line of code:

```
fruits = ["apple", "banana", "cherry", "kiwi", "mango"]  
newlist = [x for x in fruits if "a" in x]  
print(newlist)
```

Output

```
['apple', 'banana', 'mango']
```

The Syntax

```
newlist =  
[expression for item in iterable if condition == True]
```

The return value is a new list, leaving the old list unchanged.

Condition

The *condition* is like a filter that only accepts the items that evaluate to **True**.

Example

Only accept items that are not "apple":

```
newlist = [x for x in fruits if x != "apple"]
```

Output

```
['banana', 'cherry', 'kiwi', 'mango']
```

The condition `if x != "apple"` will return **True** for all elements other than "apple", making the new list contain all fruits except "apple".

The *condition* is optional and can be omitted:



Example

With no **if** statement:

```
newlist = [x for x in fruits]
```

```
['apple', 'banana', 'cherry', 'kiwi', 'mango']
```

Iterable

The *iterable* can be any iterable object, like a list, tuple, set etc.

Example

You can use the **range()** function to create an iterable:

```
newlist = [x for x in range(10)]
```

Output:

```
[0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]
```

Same example, but with a condition:

Example

Accept only numbers lower than 5:

```
newlist = [x for x in range(10) if x < 5]
```

Output

```
[0, 1, 2, 3, 4]
```

Expression

The *expression* is the current item in the iteration, but it is also the outcome, which you can manipulate before it ends up like a list item in the new list:



Example

Set the values in the new list to upper case:

```
newlist = [x.upper() for x in fruits]
```

Output

```
['APPLE', 'BANANA', 'CHERRY', 'KIWI', 'MANGO']
```

You can set the outcome to whatever you like:

Example

Set all values in the new list to 'hello':

```
newlist = ['hello' for x in fruits]
```

Output

```
['hello', 'hello', 'hello', 'hello', 'hello']
```

The *expression* can also contain conditions, not like a filter, but as a way to manipulate the outcome:

Example

Return "orange" instead of "banana":

```
newlist = [x if x != "banana" else "orange" for x in fruits]
```

Output

```
['apple', 'orange', 'cherry', 'kiwi', 'mango']
```

The *expression* in the example above says:

"Return the item if it is not banana, if it is banana return orange".

Access List Items

Access Items

List items are indexed and you can access them by referring to the index number:

Example

Print the second item of the list:

```
thislist = ["apple", "banana", "cherry"]  
print(thislist[1])
```

Output

banana

Negative Indexing

Negative indexing means start from the end

-1 refers to the last item, -2 refers to the second last item etc.

Example

Print the last item of the list:

```
thislist = ["apple", "banana", "cherry"]  
print(thislist[-1])
```

Output

cherry

Range of Indexes

You can specify a range of indexes by specifying where to start and where to end the range.

When specifying a range, the return value will be a new list with the specified items.



Example

Return the third, fourth, and fifth item:

```
thislist =  
["apple", "banana", "cherry", "orange", "kiwi", "melon", "mango"]  
print(thislist[2:5])
```

Output

```
['cherry', 'orange', 'kiwi']
```

By leaving out the start value, the range will start at the first item:

Example

This example returns the items from the beginning to, but NOT including, "kiwi":

```
thislist =  
["apple", "banana", "cherry", "orange", "kiwi", "melon", "mango"]  
print(thislist[:4])
```

Output

```
['apple', 'banana', 'cherry', 'orange']
```

By leaving out the end value, the range will go on to the end of the list:

Example

This example returns the items from "cherry" to the end:



```
thislist =  
["apple", "banana", "cherry", "orange", "kiwi", "melon", "mango"]  
print(thislist[2:])
```

Output

```
['cherry', 'orange', 'kiwi', 'melon', 'mango']
```

Range of Negative Indexes

Specify negative indexes if you want to start the search from the end of the list:

Example

This example returns the items from "orange" (-4) to, but NOT including "mango" (-1):

```
thislist = ["apple", "banana", "cherry", "orange", "kiwi", "melon", "mango"]  
print(thislist[-4:-1])
```

Output

```
['orange', 'kiwi', 'melon']
```

Check if Item Exists

To determine if a specified item is present in a list use the **in** keyword:

Example

Check if "apple" is present in the list:

```
thislist = ["apple", "banana", "cherry"]  
if "apple" in thislist:  
    print("Yes, 'apple' is in the fruits list")
```

Output

```
Yes, 'apple' is in the fruits list
```

List Methods

List Methods

Python has a set of built-in methods that you can use on lists.

Method	Description
<u>append()</u>	Adds an element at the end of the list
<u>clear()</u>	Removes all the elements from the list
<u>copy()</u>	Returns a copy of the list
<u>count()</u>	Returns the number of elements with the specified value
<u>index()</u>	Returns the index of the first element with the specified value
<u>insert()</u>	Adds an element at the specified position
<u>pop()</u>	Removes the element at the specified position
<u>remove()</u>	Removes the item with the specified value
<u>reverse()</u>	Reverses the order of the list
<u>sort()</u>	Sorts the list

Join Lists

Join Two Lists

There are several ways to join, or concatenate, two or more lists in Python.

One of the easiest ways are by using the + operator.



Example

Join two list:

```
list1 = ["a", "b", "c"]  
list2 = [1, 2, 3]  
list3 = list1 + list2  
print(list3)
```

Output

```
['a', 'b', 'c', 1, 2, 3]
```

Example

Append list2 into list1:

```
list1 = ["a", "b" , "c"]  
list2 = [1, 2, 3]
```

```
for x in list2:  
    list1.append(x)
```

```
print(list1)
```

Output

```
['a', 'b', 'c', 1, 2, 3]
```

Python List append() Method

Definition and Usage

The `append()` method appends an element to the end of the list.



Syntax

```
List.append(elmnt)
```

Parameter Values

Parameter	Description
<i>elmnt</i>	Required. An element of any type (string, number, object etc.)

Example

Add an element to the **fruits** list:

```
fruits = ['apple', 'banana', 'cherry']  
fruits.append("orange")
```

Output

```
['apple', 'banana', 'cherry', 'orange']
```

Example

Add a list to a list:

```
a = ["apple", "banana", "cherry"]  
b = ["Ford", "BMW", "Volvo"]  
a.append(b)
```

Output

```
['apple', 'banana', 'cherry', ["Ford", "BMW", "Volvo"]]
```



Python List clear() Method

Example

Remove all elements from the `fruits` list:

```
fruits = ['apple', 'banana', 'cherry', 'orange']
```

```
fruits.clear()
```

Output

```
[]
```

Python List insert() Method

Definition and Usage

The `insert()` method inserts the specified value at the specified position.

Syntax

```
list.insert(pos, elmnt)
```

Parameter Values

Parameter	Description
<i>pos</i>	Required. A number specifying in which position to insert the value
<i>elmnt</i>	Required. An element of any type (string, number, object etc.)



Example

Insert the value "orange" as the second element of the **fruit** list:

```
fruits = ['apple', 'banana', 'cherry']
```

```
fruits.insert(1, "orange")
```

Output

```
['apple', 'orange', 'banana', 'cherry']
```

Python List remove() Method

Definition and Usage

The **remove()** method removes the first occurrence of the element with the specified value.

Syntax

```
List.remove(element)
```

Parameter Values

Parameter	Description
<i>element</i>	Required. Any type (string, number, list etc.) The element you want to remove

Example

Remove the "banana" element of the **fruit** list:

```
fruits = ['apple', 'banana', 'cherry']  
fruits.remove("banana")
```

Output

```
['apple', 'cherry']
```



Python List reverse() Method

Definition and Usage

The **reverse()** method reverses the sorting order of the elements.

Syntax

```
List.reverse()
```

Parameter Values

No parameters

Example

Reverse the order of the **fruit** list:

```
fruits = ['apple', 'banana', 'cherry']
```

```
fruits.reverse()
```

Output

```
['cherry', 'banana', 'apple']
```