
Python Library Reference

THE following tables provide a convenient reference for the most common Python functions and methods used in this book. You can find a complete reference for the Python standard library at <https://docs.python.org/3/library/>.

A.1 MATH MODULE

This table lists commonly used functions and constants in the `math` module. The variable name `x` represents a generic numerical argument. Arguments in square brackets are optional.

<code>acos(x)</code>	returns the arccosine of x ($\cos^{-1} x$)
<code>asin(x)</code>	returns the arcsine of x ($\sin^{-1} x$)
<code>atan(x)</code>	returns the arctangent of x ($\tan^{-1} x$)
<code>atan2(y, x)</code>	returns the arctangent of y/x ($\tan^{-1}(y/x)$)
<code>cos(x)</code>	returns the cosine of x radians ($\cos x$)
<code>degrees(x)</code>	returns the number of degrees in x radians
<code>exp(x)</code>	returns e^x
<code>log(x, [b])</code>	returns the logarithm base b of x ($\log_b x$); if b is omitted, returns the natural logarithm of x ($\ln x$)
<code>radians(x)</code>	returns the number of radians in x degrees
<code>sin(x)</code>	returns the sine of x radians ($\sin x$)
<code>sqrt(x)</code>	returns the square root of x (\sqrt{x})
<code>tan(x)</code>	returns the tangent of x radians ($\tan x$)
<code>e</code>	the value of e (Euler's number), the base of the natural logarithm
<code>inf</code>	a value representing ∞
<code>pi</code>	the value of π

A.2 TURTLE METHODS

This table lists commonly used methods of the `Turtle` class (in the `turtle` module). The following descriptions assume default settings: angles are in degrees and right turns are clockwise. Arguments in square brackets are optional.

<code>backward(distance)</code>	moves turtle <code>distance</code> opposite to its current direction
<code>begin_fill()</code>	marks the beginning of a shape to be filled
<code>circle(radius, [extent, steps])</code>	draws a circle with given <code>radius</code> ; if <code>extent</code> is given, draws an arc of <code>extent</code> degrees; if <code>steps</code> is given, draw a regular polygon with <code>steps</code> sides
<code>dot([size, color])</code>	draws a dot with diameter <code>size</code> in given <code>color</code> (defaults 1, 'black')
<code>down()</code>	puts the turtle's tail down, enabling drawing
<code>end_fill()</code>	fills the shape drawn since the last call to <code>begin_fill()</code>
<code>fillcolor(color)</code>	sets the turtle's fill color to <code>color</code> (see Tangent 2.1)
<code>forward(distance)</code>	moves turtle <code>distance</code> forward in its current direction
<code>getscreen()</code>	returns the <code>Screen</code> object in which the turtle is drawing
<code>goto(x, y)</code>	moves turtle to position (x, y) without changing heading
<code>heading()</code>	returns the turtle's heading
<code>hideturtle()</code>	hides the turtle while drawing
<code>home()</code>	moves turtle to the origin and resets to original heading
<code>left(angle)</code>	turns turtle <code>angle</code> degrees counterclockwise
<code>pencolor(color)</code>	sets the turtle's pen color to <code>color</code> (see Tangent 2.1)
<code>pensize(width)</code>	sets the pen to the given width
<code>position()</code>	returns the turtle's current position as a tuple
<code>right(angle)</code>	turns turtle <code>angle</code> degrees clockwise
<code>setheading(angle)</code>	sets turtle's heading to <code>angle</code> degrees
<code>speed(s)</code>	sets turtle's speed to <code>s</code> , a number 0 to 10; 1 is slowest, 10 is fast, 0 is fastest
<code>up()</code>	puts the turtle's tail up, disabling drawing
<code>write(message)</code>	writes <code>message</code> at the current turtle position
<code>xcor()</code>	returns the turtle's <i>x</i> coordinate
<code>ycor()</code>	returns the turtle's <i>y</i> coordinate

A.3 SCREEN METHODS

This table lists commonly used methods of the `Screen` class (in the `turtle` module). Arguments in square brackets are optional.

<code>bgcolor(color)</code>	sets the color of the background to <code>color</code>
<code>bgpic(filename)</code>	sets the background to contain the named GIF image
<code>colormode(mode)</code>	if <code>mode</code> is 1.0, RGB colors are specified by numbers between 0 and 1.0; if <code>mode</code> is 255, they are specified by numbers between 0 and 255
<code>exitonclick()</code>	causes the drawing window to close when clicked
<code>mainloop()</code>	must be called at the end of any program handling mouse clicks or other events
<code>onclick(function)</code>	call <code>function</code> when there is a mouse click; <code>function</code> must take <code>x</code> and <code>y</code> , the location of the click, as parameters
<code>setup(width, height, startx, starty)</code>	sets the size and location of the drawing window
<code>setworldcoordinates(x1, y1, x2, y2)</code>	sets the coordinates of the window with <code>(x1, y1)</code> at the lower left and <code>(x2, y2)</code> at the upper right
<code>tracer(n)</code>	only perform every <code>n</code> th screen update
<code>update()</code>	updates the screen to reflect all drawing so far
<code>window_height()</code>	returns the height of the drawing window
<code>window_width()</code>	returns the width of the drawing window

A.4 MATPLOTLIB.PYLOT MODULE

This table lists commonly used functions in the `matplotlib.pyplot` module. The parameters in square brackets are optional. For a complete reference, see http://matplotlib.org/api/plot_summary.html.

<code>bar(x, y)</code>	creates a bar graph with the given <code>x</code> and <code>y</code> values
<code>hist(values, [bins])</code>	creates a histogram of <code>values</code> using the given number of bins (default is 10)
<code>legend()</code>	creates a legend using labels from the plotting calls
<code>plot(x, y, [options])</code>	creates a line graph with the given lists of <code>x</code> and <code>y</code> values; common optional keyword arguments are <code>color = 'blue'</code> or another color string <code>linewidth = 2</code> or another width <code>linestyle = 'dashed'</code> or <code>'solid'</code> or <code>'dotted'</code> <code>label = 'mylabel'</code> (used by <code>legend()</code>)
<code>scatter(x, y, [options])</code>	creates a scatter plot with the given lists of <code>x</code> and <code>y</code> values; common options are <code>color</code> and <code>label</code>
<code>title(titlestring)</code>	sets the title of the graph to be <code>titlestring</code>
<code>xlabel(xstring)</code>	labels the <code>x</code> axis of the current graph with <code>xstring</code>
<code>xticks(range, [labels], [options])</code>	set the locations (and optionally, labels) of the ticks on the <code>x</code> -axis
<code>ylabel(ystring)</code>	labels the <code>y</code> axis of the current graph with <code>ystring</code>
<code>yticks(range, [labels], [options])</code>	set the locations (and optionally, labels) of the ticks on the <code>y</code> -axis

A.5 RANDOM MODULE

The following table lists commonly used functions in the `random` module.

<code>gauss(mean, stdDev)</code>	returns a value according to the Gaussian (i.e., normal) distribution with the given mean and standard deviation
<code>random()</code>	returns a pseudorandom number in <code>[0,1)</code>
<code>randrange(start, stop, step)</code>	returns a randomly selected integer value from <code>range(start, stop, step)</code>
<code>seed(s)</code>	sets the seed for the PRNG; default is the current time
<code>uniform(a, b)</code>	returns a pseudorandom number in <code>[a, b]</code>

A.6 STRING METHODS

The following table lists commonly used methods of the `str` class. Optional parameters are denoted in square brackets.

<code>count(substring)</code>	returns number of times <code>substring</code> appears in the string
<code>endswith(substring)</code>	returns <code>True</code> if the string ends with <code>substring</code> and <code>False</code> otherwise
<code>find(substring)</code>	returns the index of the first instance of <code>substring</code> in the string, or <code>-1</code> if <code>substring</code> is not found
<code>lower()</code>	returns a copy of the string with all letters in lowercase
<code>lstrip([chars])</code>	returns a copy of the string with all instances of the characters in the string <code>chars</code> removed from its beginning; if <code>chars</code> is omitted, whitespace characters are removed
<code>replace(old, new)</code>	returns a copy of the the string with all instances of the string <code>old</code> replaced with the string <code>new</code>
<code>rstrip([chars])</code>	returns a copy of the string with all instances of the characters in the string <code>chars</code> removed from its end; if <code>chars</code> is omitted, whitespace characters are removed
<code>split([sep])</code>	returns a list of “words” in the string that are separated by the delimiter string <code>sep</code> ; if <code>sep</code> is omitted, the string is split at runs of whitespace characters
<code>startswith(substring)</code>	returns <code>True</code> if the string starts with <code>substring</code> and <code>False</code> otherwise
<code>strip([chars])</code>	returns a copy of the string with all leading and trailing instances of the characters in the string <code>chars</code> removed; if <code>chars</code> is omitted, whitespace characters are removed
<code>upper()</code>	returns a copy of the string with all letters in uppercase

A.7 LIST METHODS

The following table lists commonly used methods of the `list` class and three list functions from the `random` module. Optional parameters are in square brackets.

<code>append(item)</code>	appends <code>item</code> to the end of the list; returns <code>None</code>
<code>clear()</code>	clears the contents of the list
<code>copy()</code>	returns a shallow copy of the list
<code>count(item)</code>	returns number of times <code>item</code> appears in the list
<code>extend(items)</code>	appends all of the values in the list named <code>items</code> to the end of the list; returns <code>None</code>
<code>index(item)</code>	returns the index of the first occurrence of <code>item</code> in the list; raises a <code>ValueError</code> if <code>item</code> is not found
<code>insert(index, item)</code>	inserts <code>item</code> in the list at <code>index</code> ; returns <code>None</code>
<code>pop([index])</code>	deletes the item in position <code>index</code> from the list and returns it; if <code>index</code> is omitted, deletes and returns the last item in the list
<code>remove(item)</code>	removes the first instance of <code>item</code> from the list; returns <code>None</code> ; raises <code>ValueError</code> if <code>item</code> is not found
<code>reverse()</code>	reverses the items in the list in place; returns <code>None</code>
<code>sort([key, reverse])</code>	sorts the list in place using a stable sort; if provided, <code>key</code> is a function that returns a key to be used for a list item in the sort; if <code>reverse</code> is <code>True</code> , the list is sorted in reverse order; returns <code>None</code>
<code>random.choice(data)</code>	returns a random element from the list <code>data</code>
<code>random.sample(data, k)</code>	returns a list of <code>k</code> unique elements from list <code>data</code>
<code>random.shuffle(data)</code>	shuffles the list <code>data</code> in place; returns <code>None</code>

A.8 IMAGE MODULE

The module `image.py` which contains the `Image` class is available on the book website. The first table lists the functions in the `image` module.

<code>Image(width, height, [title = 'Title'])</code>	returns a new empty <code>Image</code> object with the given <code>width</code> and <code>height</code> ; optionally sets the <code>title</code> of the image window displayed by <code>show</code>
<code>Image(file = 'file.gif', [title = 'Title'])</code>	returns a new <code>Image</code> object containing the image in the given GIF file; optionally sets the <code>title</code> of the image window displayed by <code>show</code>
<code>mainloop()</code>	waits until all image windows have been closed, then quits the program

The second table lists the methods of the `Image` class.

<code>get(x, y)</code>	returns a tuple representing the RGB color of the pixel at coordinates <code>(x,y)</code> of the image
<code>height()</code>	returns the height of the image
<code>save(fileName)</code>	saves the image as a GIF file with the given <code>fileName</code>
<code>set(x, y, color)</code>	sets the color of the pixel at coordinates <code>(x,y)</code> of the image to <code>color</code> (a RGB tuple)
<code>show()</code>	displays the image in its own window
<code>width()</code>	returns the width of the image
<code>update()</code>	updates the image in its existing window

A.9 SPECIAL METHODS

The following table lists commonly used special methods that may be overridden in new classes.

Method	Called by	Comments
<code>__init__(self)</code>		class constructor
<code>__str__(self)</code>	<code>str(self)</code>	string representing <code>self</code>
<code>__lt__(self, other)</code>	<code>self < other</code>	
<code>__le__(self, other)</code>	<code>self <= other</code>	
<code>__gt__(self, other)</code>	<code>self > other</code>	
<code>__ge__(self, other)</code>	<code>self >= other</code>	
<code>__eq__(self, other)</code>	<code>self == other</code>	
<code>__ne__(self, other)</code>	<code>self != other</code>	
<code>__len__(self)</code>	<code>len(self)</code>	length of <code>self</code>
<code>__getitem__(self, index)</code>	<code>self[index]</code>	returns the item in <code>self</code> at <code>index</code>
<code>__setitem__(self, index, value)</code>	<code>self[index] = value</code>	assigns <code>value</code> to the item in <code>self</code> at <code>index</code>
<code>__delitem__(self, index)</code>	<code>del self[index]</code>	deletes the item in <code>self</code> at <code>index</code>
<code>__contains__(self, item)</code>	<code>item in self</code>	returns whether <code>item</code> is in <code>self</code>
<code>__add__(self, other)</code>	<code>self + other</code>	
<code>__sub__(self, other)</code>	<code>self - other</code>	
<code>__mul__(self, other)</code>	<code>self * other</code>	
<code>__truediv__(self, other)</code>	<code>self / other</code>	true division
<code>__floordiv__(self, other)</code>	<code>self // other</code>	floor division