

Naming conventions

Never use l, O, or I single letter names as these can be mistaken for 1 and 0, depending on typeface	O = 2 # This may look like you're trying to reassign 2 to zero
Function	function, my_function
Variable	x, var, my_variable
Class	Model, MyClass
Method	class_method, method
Constant	CONSTANT, MY_CONSTANT, MY_LONG_CONSTANT
Module	module.py, my_module.py
Package	package, mypackage

Maximum Line Length and Line Breaking

PEP 8 suggests lines should be limited to 79 characters. This is because it allows you to have multiple files open next to one another, while also avoiding line wrapping.

Python will assume line continuation if code is contained within parentheses, brackets, or braces:

```
def function( arg_one, arg_two,
              arg_three, arg_four):
    return arg_one
```

If it is impossible to use implied continuation, then you can use backslashes to break lines instead:

```
from mypkg import example1, \
    example2, example3

# Recommended
total = (first_variable
         + second_variable
         - third_variable)
```

Not Recommended

```
total = (first_variable +
         second_variable -
         third_variable)
```

Indentation

Use 4 consecutive spaces to indicate indentation.

Prefer spaces over tabs.

Comments

Limit the line length of comments and docstrings to 72 characters.	Use complete sentences, starting with a capital letter.	Make sure to update comments if you change your code.
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Block Comments

Indent block comments to the same level as the code they describe.	Start each line with a # followed by a single space.	Separate paragraphs by a line containing a single #.
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Inline Comments

Use inline comments sparingly.

Write inline comments on the same line as the statement they refer to.

Separate inline comments by two or more spaces from the statement.

Start inline comments with a # and a single space, like block comments.

Don't use them to explain the obvious.

When to Avoid Adding Whitespace

The most important place to avoid adding whitespace is at the end of a line. This is known as trailing whitespace

Immediately inside parentheses, brackets, or braces:

Before a comma, semicolon, or colon:

Before the open parenthesis that starts the argument list of a function call:

Before the open bracket that starts an index or slice:

Between a trailing comma and a closing parenthesis:

To align assignment operators:

immediately inside brackets, as well as before commas and colons.

Programming Recommendations

Don't compare boolean values to True or False using the equivalence operator.	Use the fact that empty sequences are falsy in if statements.
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Use is not rather than not ... is in if statements.	Don't use if x: when you mean if x is not None:
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Use `.startswith()` and `.endswith()` instead of slicing.



When to Ignore PEP 8

If complying with PEP 8 would break compatibility with existing software

If code surrounding what you're working on is inconsistent with PEP 8

If code needs to remain compatible with older versions of Python



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