

KEY BASICS, PRINTING AND GETTING HELP

This cheat sheet assumes you are familiar with the content of our Python Basics Cheat Sheet

s - A Python string variable
i - A Python integer variable
f - A Python float variable
l - A Python list variable
d - A Python dictionary variable

LISTS

l.pop() - Removes the fourth item from **l** and deletes it from the list
l.remove(x) - Removes the first item in **l** that is equal to **x**
l.reverse() - Reverses the order of the items in **l**
l[1::2] - Returns every second item from **l**, commencing from the 1st item
l[-5:] - Returns the last 5 items from **l** specific axis

STRINGS

s.lower() - Returns a lowercase version of **s**
s.title() - Returns **s** with the first letter of every word capitalized
"23".zfill(4) - Returns **"0023"** by left-filling the string with **0**'s to make it's length **4**.
s.splitlines() - Returns **s** by splitting the string on any newline characters.
Python strings share some common methods with lists
s[:5] - Returns the first **5** characters of **s**
"fr" in s - Returns **True** if the substring **"fr"** is found in **s**
"end" in s - Returns **True** if the substring **"end"** is found in **s**

RANGE

Range objects are useful for creating sequences of integers for looping.
range(5) - Returns a sequence from **0** to **4**
range(2000,2018) - Returns a sequence from **2000** to **2017**
range(0,11,2) - Returns a sequence from **0** to **10**, with each item incrementing by **2**
range(0,-10,-1) - Returns a sequence from **0** to **-9**
) - Returns a list from **0** to **4**
list(range(5))

DICTIONARIES

max(d, key=d.get) - Return the key that corresponds to the largest value in **d**
min(d, key=d.get) - Return the key that corresponds to the smallest value in **d**

SETS

my_set = set(l) - Return a **set** object containing the unique values from **l**

len(my_set) - Returns the number of objects in **my_set** (or, the number of unique values from **l**)
a in my_set - Returns **True** if the value **a** exists in **my_set**

REGULAR EXPRESSIONS

import re - Import the Regular Expressions module
re.search("abc") - Returns a **Match** object if the regular expression **"abc"** is found in **s**, otherwise **None**
re.sub("abc","xyz",s) - Returns a string where all instances matching regex **"abc"** are replaced by **"xyz"**

LIST COMPREHENSION

A one-line expression of a for loop
[i ** 2 for i in range(10)] - Returns a list of the squares of values from **0** to **9**
[s.lower() for s in l_strings] - Returns the list with all strings having had the **.lower()** applied
[i for i in l_floats if i < 0.5] - Returns the items from **l_floats** that are less than **0.5**

FUNCTIONS FOR LOOPING

for i, value in enumerate(l):
print("The value of item {} is {}".format(i,value))
 - Iterate over the list **l** printing the index location of each item and its value
for one, two in zip(l_one,l_two):
print("one: {}, two: {}".format(one,two))
 - Iterate over two lists, **l_one** and **l_two** and print each value
while x < 10:
x += 1
 - Run the code in the body of the loop until the value of **x** is no longer less than **10**

DATETIME

import datetime as dt - Import the **datetime** module
now = dt.datetime.now() - Assign **datetime** object representing the current time to **now**
wks4 = dt.datetime.timedelta(weeks=4)
 - Assign a **timedelta** object representing a timespan of 4 weeks to **wks4**

now - wks4 - Return a **datetime** object representing the time 4 weeks prior to **now**
newyear_2020 = dt.datetime(year=2020, month=12, day=31) - Assign a **datetime** object representing December 25, 2020 to **newyear_2020**
newyear_2020.strftime("%A, %b %d, %Y") - Returns **"Thursday, Dec 31, 2020"**
dt.datetime.strptime('Dec 31, 2020', "%b %d, %Y") - Return a **datetime** object representing December 31, 2020

RANDOM

import random - Import the **random** module
random.random() - Returns a random float between **0.0** and **1.0**
random.randint(0,10) - Returns a random integer between **0** and **10**
random.choice(l) - Returns a random item from the list **l**

COUNTER

from collections import Counter - Import the **Counter** class
c = Counter(l) - Create a **Counter** object with the counts of each unique item from **l**
c.most_common(3) - Return the 3 most common items from **l**

TRY/EXCEPT

Catch and deal with Errors
l_ints = [1, 2, 3, "", 5] - Assign a list of integers with one missing value to **l_ints**
l_floats = []
for i in l_ints:
try:
l_floats.append(float(i))
except:
l_floats.append(i)
 - Convert each value of **l_ints** to a float, catching and handling **ValueError: could not convert string to float:** where values are missing.