

See notebook.

Defining and evaluating functions

Recall how you used functions in middle-school math:

$$\text{Given } f(x) = |x| + 2$$

$$f(-3) = |-3| + 2$$

$$= 3 + 2$$

$$= 5$$



The parameter x stands for varying values

Python functions work much the same way:

```
def f(x): return abs(x) + 2
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Directory

<i>Directory</i>	
<i>Name</i>	<i>Value</i>
<i>x</i>	-3

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f(-3)

→ abs(x) + 2

→ abs(-3) + 2

→ 3 + 2

Directory

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```
def f(x): return abs(x) + 2
```

f(-3)

→ abs(x) + 2

→ abs(-3) + 2

→ 3 + 2

→ 5

Directory

<i>Directory</i>	
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<i>x</i>	-3

Example

Mary Berry needs to know how many cakes to bake for her cake shop.

To avoid running out or having too many, she wants to bake two cakes more than the number she sold the previous day.


E.g., if Mary sells eight cakes on Monday, she makes ten cakes on Tuesday.

Let's write some code to help Mary!




```
def cakes_to_make(num_sold):  
    return num_sold + 2
```

*Keyword to **define** a function*



```
def cakes_to_make(num_sold):  
    return num_sold + 2
```

```
def cakes_to_make(num_sold):  
    return num_sold + 2
```


Function name

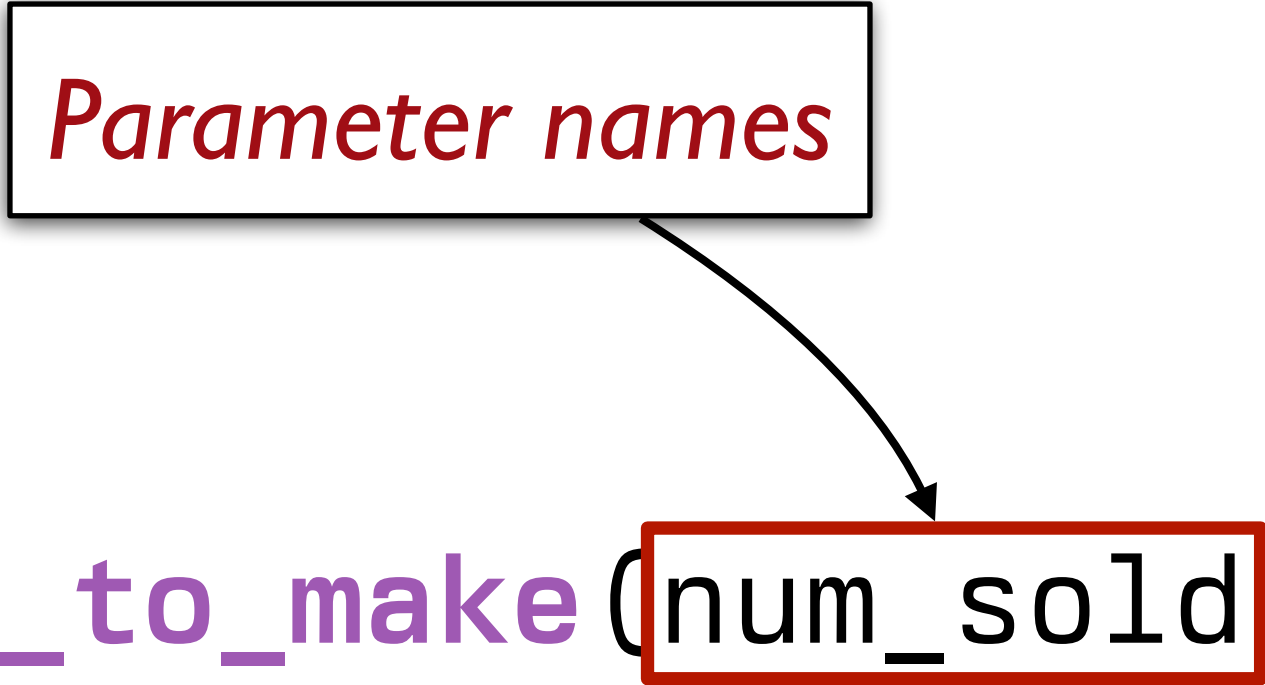


```
def cakes_to_make(num_sold):  
    return num_sold + 2
```

```
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```

Parameter names

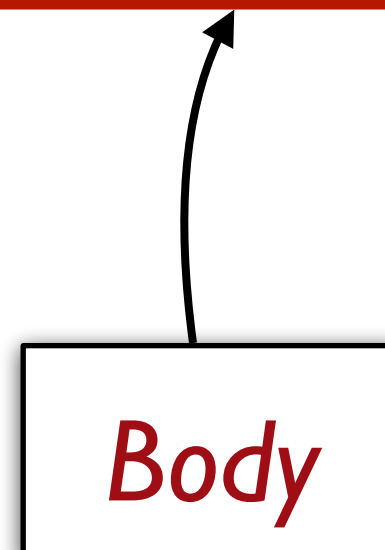
```
def cakes_to_make(num_sold):  
    return num_sold + 2
```



```
def cakes_to_make(num_sold):  
    return num_sold + 2
```

```
def cakes_to_make(num_sold):  
    return num_sold + 2
```

Body

A diagram illustrating the components of a function definition. A box labeled "Body" in red italicized font is positioned below the function body code. A curved arrow points from the box to the return statement "return num_sold + 2", which is highlighted with a red rectangular border in the code above.

```
def cakes_to_make(num_sold):  
    return num_sold + 2
```

Note that the parameter names are only defined inside the function body:

```
def cakes_to_make(num_sold):  
    return num_sold + 2
```

```
cakes_to_make(10)
```



12

```
num_sold
```



Error!

Once the function is finished, the names are removed from the directory.

Calling a function

```
yesterday = 10
already_made = 5

to_make = (
    cakes_to_make(yesterday)
    - already_made
)
```

<i>Directory</i>	
<i>Name</i>	<i>Value</i>

Calling a function

```
yesterday = 10  
already_made = 5  
  
to_make = (  
    cakes_to_make(yesterday)  
    - already_made  
)
```

Directory	
Name	Value
<i>yesterday</i>	10

Calling a function

```
yesterday = 10  
already_made = 5  
  
to_make = (  
    cakes_to_make(yesterday)  
    - already_made  
)
```

Directory	
Name	Value
<i>yesterday</i>	10
<i>already_made</i>	5

Calling a function

```
yesterday = 10  
already_made = 5  
  
to_make = (  
    cakes_to_make(yesterday)  
    - already_made  
)
```

Directory	
Name	Value
<i>yesterday</i>	10
<i>already_made</i>	5
<i>to_make</i>	

Calling a function

```
yesterday = 10  
already_made = 5
```

```
to_make = (  
    cakes_to_make(yesterday)  
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```

Directory	
Name	Value
<i>yesterday</i>	10
<i>already_made</i>	5
<i>to_make</i>	

Calling a function

```
yesterday = 10  
already_made = 5  
  
to_make = (  
    cakes_to_make(10)  
    - already_made  
)
```

Directory	
Name	Value
<i>yesterday</i>	10
<i>already_made</i>	5
<i>to_make</i>	

Calling a function

ye
a
to
)

```
def cakes_to_make(num_sold):  
    return num_sold + 2
```

Directory

Directory

Name

Value

num_sold 10

Calling a function

ye
a
to
)

```
def cakes_to_make(num_sold):  
    return 10 + 2
```

Directory	
Name	Value
num_sold	10

Calling a function

ye
a
to
)

```
def cakes_to_make(num_sold):  
    return 12
```

Directory	
Name	Value
<i>num_sold</i>	10

Calling a function

```
yesterday = 10  
already_made = 5  
  
to_make = (  
    12  
    - already_made  
)
```

Directory	
Name	Value
<i>yesterday</i>	10
<i>already_made</i>	5
<i>to_make</i>	

Calling a function

```
yesterday = 10  
already_made = 5  
  
to_make = (  
    12  
    - 5  
)
```

Directory	
Name	Value
<i>yesterday</i>	10
<i>already_made</i>	5
<i>to_make</i>	

Calling a function

```
yesterday = 10  
already_made = 5  
  
to_make = 7
```

Directory	
Name	Value
<i>yesterday</i>	10
<i>already_made</i>	5
<i>to_make</i>	

Calling a function

```
yesterday = 10  
already_made = 5
```

```
to_make = 7
```

Directory	
Name	Value
yesterday	10
already_made	5
to_make	7

We say a parameter name has only *local scope*, while names defined outside a function have *global scope*.

Formatting matters! A line of code is only part of the body of a function if it's indented:

```
def cakes_to_make(num_sold):  
    tomorrow = num_sold + 2  
return tomorrow
```

Error!

Formatting matters! A line of code is only part of the body of a function if it's indented:

```
def cakes_to_make(num_sold):  
    tomorrow = num_sold + 2  
    return tomorrow
```

*Now this line is part of function,
so tomorrow is defined!*

Functions are abstractions over specific computations

For Mary's cake shop, we want to determine the price of each cake based on the cost of the ingredients and the time to prepare it.

As the price, she uses twice the cost of the ingredients plus $\frac{1}{4}$ of the preparation time in minutes.

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Chocolate cake

Ingredients: \$10

Prep. time: 20 min.

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Ingredients: \$10

Prep. time: 20 min.

$$\text{choc_cake_price} = (2 * 10) + (1/4 * 20)$$

Cheesecake

Ingredients: \$15

Prep. time: 36 min.

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Ingredients: \$10

Prep. time: 20 min.

$$\text{choc_cake_price} = (2 * 10) + (1/4 * 20)$$

Cheesecake

Ingredients: \$15

Prep. time: 36 min.

$$\text{cheesecake_price} = (2 * 15) + (1/4 * 36)$$

We use functions to avoid repetitive code when we need to perform the same operations on different values.

choc_cake_price = (2 * 10) + (1/4 * 20)

cheesecake_price = (2 * 15) + (1/4 * 36)

We use functions to avoid repetitive code when we need to perform the same operations on different values.

$$\textit{choc_cake_price} = (2 * 10) + (1/4 * 20)$$

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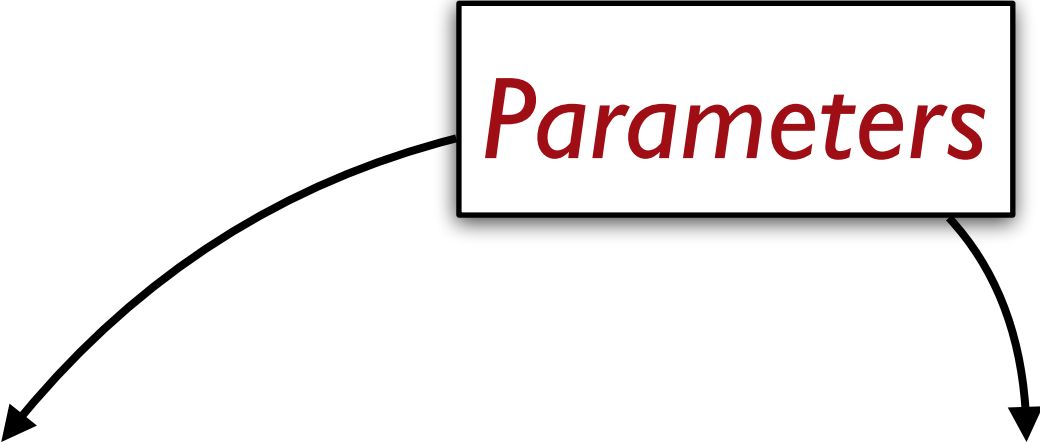
$$(2 * \text{ingredients_cost}) + (1/4 * \text{prep_time})$$

We use functions to avoid repetitive code when we need to perform the same operations on different values.

$$\text{choc_cake_price} = (2 * 10) + (1/4 * 20)$$

$$\text{cheesecake_price} = (2 * 15) + (1/4 * 36)$$


```
def cake_price(ingredients_cost, prep_time):  
    return (2 * ingredients_cost) + (1/4 * prep_time)
```



```
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    return (2 * ingredients_cost) + (1/4 * prep_time)
```

The diagram shows a box labeled "Parameters" with two arrows pointing to the arguments "ingredients_cost" and "prep_time" in the function definition above.

*The **parameters** are the values passed into the function that it needs to know for each operation.*

```
def cake_price(ingredients_cost, prep_time):  
    return (2 * ingredients_cost) + (1/4 * prep_time)
```

Statement computed each time the function is called

A rectangular box with a black border and a light gray shadow contains the text "Statement computed each time the function is called" in a red, italicized serif font. A black arrow points vertically upwards from the top center of the box to the line of code "return (2 * ingredients_cost) + (1/4 * prep_time)" in the code block above.

```
def cake_price(ingredients_cost, prep_time):  
    return (2 * ingredients_cost) + (1/4 * prep_time)
```

Price of chocolate cake

```
cake_price(10, 20)
```

Price of cheesecake

```
cake_price(15, 36)
```

To calculate the price of chocolate cake or cheesecake, you just call your function and pass in the relevant values!

Improving our function definitions

```
def c(x, y):  
    return (2 * x) + (1/4 * y)
```

*If you're looking at someone else's notebook and you see this function, you'd have no idea why they wrote it. What is this function **used for**? What are **x** and **y**?*

```
def cake_price(ingredients_cost, prep_time):  
    return (2 * ingredients_cost) + (1/4 * prep_time)
```

Just using good names goes a long way!

```
def cake_price(  
    ingredients_cost: float,  
    prep_time: float  
):  
    return (2 * ingredients_cost) + (1/4 * prep_time)
```

We specify the **type** of each parameter so that other people – or our future selves – know what kind of values the function expects.

✓ cake_price(10.70, 2.5)

✗ cake_price("expensive", "slow")


```
def cake_price(  
    ingredients_cost: float,  
    prep_time: float  
) -> float:  
    return (2 * ingredients_cost) + (1/4 * prep_time)
```

*And we can specify the type of value the function **returns**.*

Commands+ Code+ Text▶ Run all

✓RAMDisk

⌵⌵⌵

☰

🔍

⌵

🔑

📁

[1]
✓ 0s

def **cake_price**(ingredients_cost: float, prep_time: float) -> float:
| return (2 * ingredients_cost) + (1/4 * prep_time)

[2]
✓ 0s

cake_price(10.70, 2.5)

➡ 22.025

[]

cake_price("expensive", "slow")

[]

▶ cake_price(10.70, 2.5) + "is the price"

⬆⬇🔗💬⚙️📄🗑️⋮

Colab is warning us
that we're using the
function wrong!

{ } Variables📄 Terminal

✓ 10:37 PM📄 Python 3

```
def cake_price(  
    ingredients_cost: float,  
    prep_time: float  
) -> float:  
    """Calculate price of cake based on ingredient  
    cost and preparation time.  
    """  
    return (2 * ingredients_cost) + (1/4 * prep_time)
```

Additionally, a *docstring* explains what the function does.

Practice

```
def triangle_area(b, h):  
    return 1/2 * b * h
```

How can we improve this?

```
def triangle_area(base: float, height: float) -> float:  
    """Return the area of the given triangle."""  
    return 1/2 * base * height
```



```
def cake_price(  
    ingredients_cost: float,  
    prep_time: float  
) -> float:  
    """Calculate price of cake based on ingredient  
    cost and preparation time.  
    """  
    return (2 * ingredients_cost) + (1/4 * prep_time)
```

*Our function looks good, but does it **work** correctly? We should test it!*


```
def cake_price(  
    ingredients_cost: float,  
    prep_time: float  
) -> float:  
    """Calculate price of cake based on ingredient  
    cost and preparation time.  
    """  
    return (2 * ingredients_cost) + (1/4 * prep_time)  
  
# Price of chocolate cake  
assert cake_price(10, 20) == (2 * 10) + (1/4 * 20)  
# Price of cheesecake  
assert cake_price(15, 36) == (2 * 15) + (1/4 * 36)
```

Our function looks good, but does it **work** correctly? We should test it!

CommandsCodeTextRun all

RAMDisk

⌵

⌵

⌵

[3]
✓ 0s

def cake_price(
 ingredients_cost: float,
 prep_time: float
)-> float:
 """Calculate price of cake based on ingredient cost
 and preparation time.
 """
 return (2 * ingredients_cost) + (1/4 * prep_time)

Price of chocolate cake
assert cake_price(10, 20) == (2 * 10) + (1/4 * 20)
Price of cheesecake
assert cake_price(15, 36) == (2 * 15) + (1/4 * 36)

All good!

VariablesTerminal

✓ 10:44 PM Python 3

Free shipping for orders over \$75



All products ▾ | David Bowie

All products ▾ | David Bowie



 Log in
  Cart (\$0.00)

 Log in
  Cart (\$0.00)

Hide filters

 Hide filters 322 Results

Sort: Relevance

☐ In stock only (204)

Price

\$ 0 to \$ 399

The highest price is \$399.98

Format

☐ Books (5)☐ New 7/Rock (1)

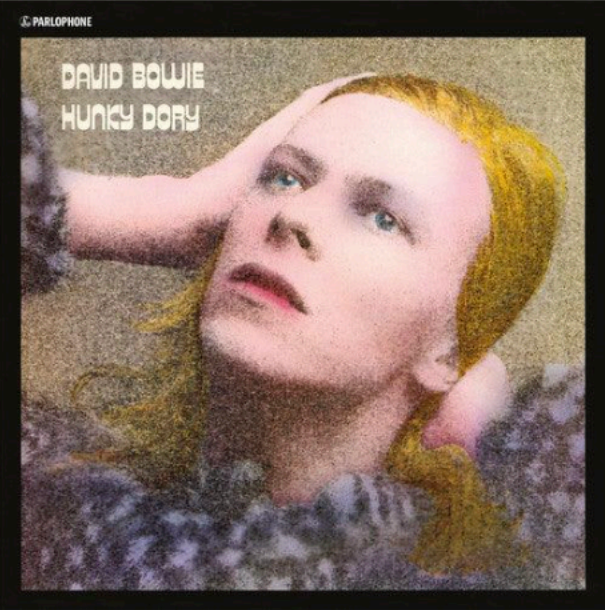
New BluRay/Criterion (1)

n



Rewards

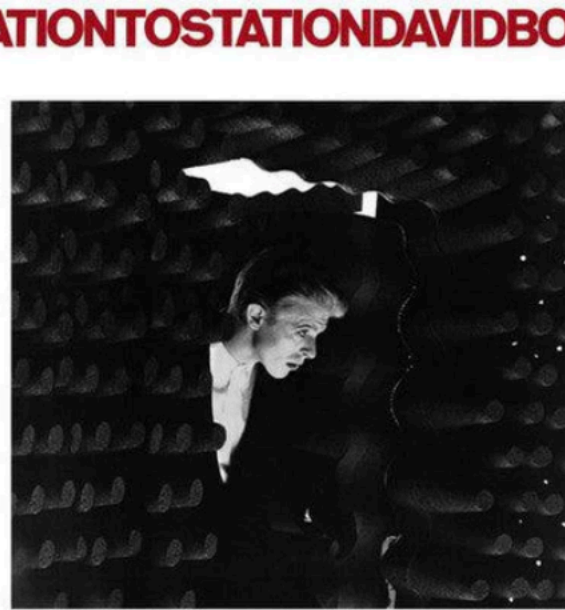
new CD/Classical (1)



David Bowie- Hunky Dory

New Vinyl

\$24.99



David Bowie- Station To Station

New Vinyl

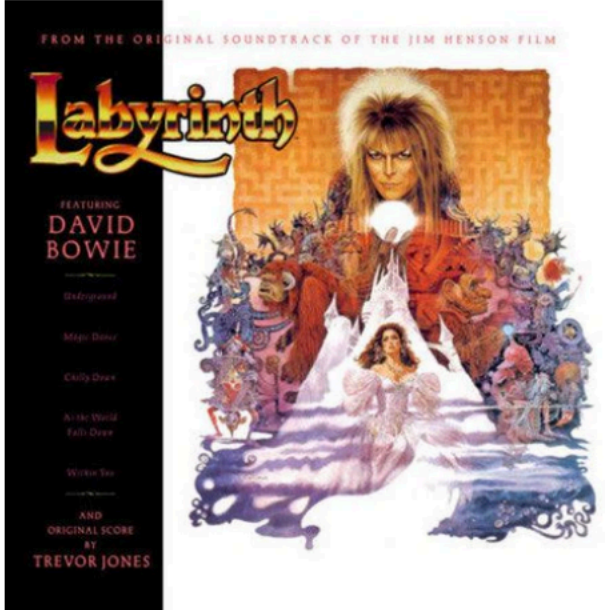
\$24.99



David Bowie- Rise and Fall Of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars

New Vinyl

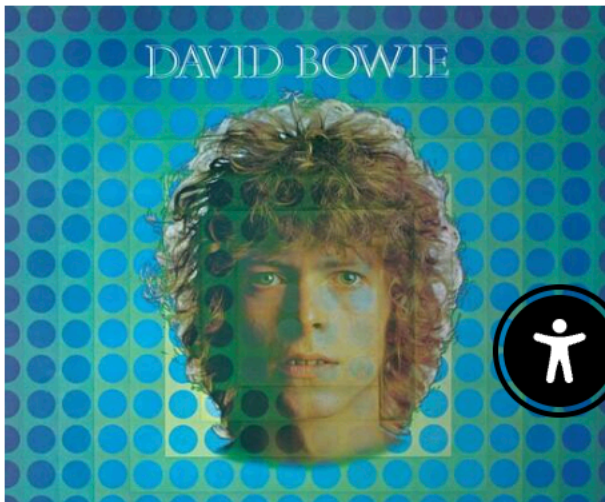
\$26.99



David Bowie- Labyrinth Soundtrack

New Vinyl

\$29.99



Free shipping for orders over \$75

DARKSIDE RECORDS

EST. 2010FOUGHKEEPSIE, NY

All products

David Bowie

Log in

Cart (\$0.00)

Hide filters

322 Results

Sort: Relevance

In stock only (204)

Price

\$0to\$399

The highest price is \$399.98

Format

Books (5)

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Rewards (1)

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David Bowie- Hunky Dory

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New Vinyl

\$26.99

David Bowie- Labyrinth Soundtrack

New Vinyl

\$29.99

Practice

```
def triangle_area(base: float, height: float) -> float:  
    """Return the area of the given triangle."""  
    return 1/2 * base * height
```

What tests should we add?

```
def triangle_area(base: float, height: float) -> float:  
    """Return the area of the given triangle."""  
    return 1/2 * base * height  
  
assert triangle_area(10, 10) == 50  
assert triangle_area(1, 5) == 2.5
```


Functions with comparisons and conditional statements

See notebook.

Exercise

Write a handful of **assert** statements to test the following function:

```
def letter_grade(score: int | float) -> str:
    """Given a score between 0 and 100, returns
    the letter grade of:
    - "A" if the score is 90 or greater,
    - "B" if the score is in the 80s,
    - "C" if the score is lower than 80.
    """
    ...
```

Which versions pass all of the tests?

```
def letter_grade(score):  
    if score >= 80:  
        return "B"  
    elif score >= 90:  
        return "A"  
    else:  
        return "C"
```

```
def letter_grade(score):  
    if score > 90:  
        return "A"  
    elif score > 80:  
        return "B"  
    else:  
        return "C"
```

```
def letter_grade(score):  
    if score >= 90:  
        return "A"  
    elif score >= 80:  
        return "B"  
    else:  
        return "C"
```

Exercise

A year is a leap year if:

The year is divisible by 4 but not divisible by 100, or

The year is divisible by 400.

Complete the following function:

```
def is_leap_year(year):  
    """Return True if year is a leap year."""  
    ...
```

*You can use the % operator to check if year
is divisible by 4: `year % 4 == 0`*

