Versions of Python

Version	Python v1	Python v2	Python v3
Years	1991-2000	2000-2010	2008-To Date

Python Version 1

Python was created by Dutch programmer Guido van Rossum, and the first interpreter was released in 1991. This initial version had almost everything van Rossum wanted in the language, but there were a few small things he felt were missing, so instead of labelling this as version 1.0, he released it as 0.9. It wasn't until 1994 that version 1.0 of the interpreter was finally released and had new features to help process lists and records. Python became more and more popular, and programmers wanted more features added to the interpreter, both to make it better and to give it all the features that other programming languages have. For the next six years new features were added to the interpreter, and a new sub-version of the interpreter was released on average once a year, until reaching version 1.6.

Python Version 2

At this point van Rossum decided to look at all the new features that had been added on, as well as looking at all the major outstanding issues, and decided to do a major redesign of the interpreter, and release an updated interpreter as version 2.0 in the year 2000. This new version added further features to help process lists and records, as well as changing the way that Python stores information in computer memory. New sub-versions of Python were created again on average once a year until 2008, when van Rossum decided to redesign the interpreter again, and release a new version. However, unlike the previous transition from version 1 to version 2, the new redesign involved a complete change of how the interpreter worked, to such an extent that a Python program written in version 2 would not work with a version 3 interpreter. This caused a fork in the road, where some people in the Python community continued to develop programs in version 2 and continued to develop and improve the version 2 interpreter for the next two years, and others began to develop programs in the new version 3 interpreter. The last new improvement of version 2 interpreter was released in 2010 and was version 2.7, which some programmers in the Python community still use.

Python Version 3

Version 3 of Python was a complete redesign that began in 2008, it looked at all of the features that had been added since 1991, to look at which ones were duplicated and which ones were consistent with the overall Python philosophy of "*there should be one - and preferably only one - obvious way to do it*", and tried to remove all of the unnecessary features. There have been 9 sub-versions so far, with Python 3.10 anticipated to come out on the 25th of October 2021.