

Python



THE WALRUS OPERATOR

ii

```
46 print("EXAMPLE 3")
47
48 # Without Walrus
49 var = 5
50 if var == 5:
51     ans = input("Type your answer: ")
52     if ans != "":
53         print(ans)
54
55 # With Walrus
56 var = 5
57 if var == 5 and (ans := input("Type your answer: ")) != "":
58     print(ans)
```



The Best Feature in Python 3.8?



What is Walrus Operator in Python?

Walrus Operator in Python allows you to assign values to variables as part of an expression. It was first made available in Python 3.8 and later. In layman's terms, it combines Python's Assignment and Equality operators in a single line of code.

Here is the syntax:

```
variable := expression
```

It got its name from the operator symbol (`:=`) mimicking the eyes and tusks of a sideways walrus (colon equals operator).

Walrus Operator in Python 3.8

Python 3.8 is still in development. But many alpha versions have been released. One of the latest features in Python 3.8 is the Walrus Operator. In this article, we're going to discuss the Walrus operator and explain it with an example.

Introduction

Walrus-operator is another name for assignment expressions. According to the official documentation, it is a way to assign to variables within an expression using the notation `NAME := expr`. The Assignment expressions allow a value to be assigned to a variable, even a variable that doesn't exist yet, in the context of expression rather than as a stand-alone statement.

Code :

```
a = [1, 2, 3, 4]
if (n := len(a)) > 3:
    print(f'List is too long ({n} elements, expected <= 3)')
```

Output :

```
List is too long (4 elements, expected <= 3)
```

Here's instead of using "len(a)" in two places we have assigned it to a variable called "n", which can be used later. This helps us to resolve code duplication and improves readability.

Example –

Let's try to understand Assignment Expressions more clearly with the help of an example using both Python 3.7 and Python 3.8. Here we have a list of dictionaries called "sample_data", which contains the userId, name and a boolean called completed.

```
sample_data = [
    {"userId": 1, "name": "rahul", "completed": False},
    {"userId": 1, "name": "rohit", "completed": False},
    {"userId": 1, "name": "ram", "completed": False},
    {"userId": 1, "name": "ravan", "completed": True}
]

print("With Python 3.8 Walrus Operator:")
for entry in sample_data:
    if name := entry.get('name'):
        print(f'Found name: "{name}"')

print("Without Walrus operator:")
for entry in sample_data:
    name = entry.get('name')
    if name:
        print(f'Found name: "{name}"')
```

Output:

```
With Python 3.8 Walrus Operator:  
Found name: "rahu1"  
Found name: "rohit"  
Found name: "ram"  
Found name: "ravan"
```

```
Without Walrus operator:  
Found name: "rahu1"  
Found name: "rohit"  
Found name: "ram"  
Found name: "ravan"
```