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# Append text to file python

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Example: >>> with open('test1', 'wb') as f: f.write('test') >>> with open('test1', 'ab') as f: f.write('koko') >>> with open('test1', 'rb') as f: f.read() 'testkoko' Note: Using 'a' is not the same as opening with 'w' and seeking to the end of the file - consider what might happen if another program opened the file and started writing between the seek and the write. On some operating systems, opening the file with 'a' guarantees that all your following writes will be appended atomically to the end of the file (even as the file grows by other writes). A few more details about how the "a" mode operates (tested on Linux only). Even if you seek back, every write will append to the end of the file: >>> f = open('test', 'a+') # Not using 'with' just to simplify the example REPL session >>> f.write('hi') >>> f.seek(0) >>> f.read() 'hi' >>> f.seek(0) >>> f.write('bye') # Will still append despite the seek(0)! >>> f.seek(0) >>> f.read() 'hibye' In fact, the fopen manpage states: Opening a file in append mode (a as the first character of mode) causes all subsequent write operations to this stream to occur at end-of-file, as if preceded the call: fseek(stream, 0, SEEK\_END); Old simplified answer (not using with): Example: (in a real program use with to close the file - see the documentation) >>> open("test", "wb").write("test") >>> open("test", "a+b").write("koko") >>> open("test", "rb").read() 'testkoko' Access modes govern the type of operations possible in the opened file. It refers to how the file will be used once its opened. In order to append a new line your existing file, you need to open the file in append mode , by setting "a" or "ab" as the mode. When you open with "a" mode , the write position will always be at the end of the file (an append). There are other permutations of the mode argument for updating (+), truncating (w) and binary (b) mode but starting with just "a" is your best. If you want to seek through the file to find the place where you should insert the line, use 'r+'. The following code append a text in the existing file: with open("index.txt", "a") as myfile: myfile.write("text appended") You can also use file access mode "a+" for Open for reading and writing. The file is created if it does not exist. The stream is positioned at the end of the file . The initial file position for reading is at the beginning of the file, but output is appended to the end of the file. with open("index.txt", "a+") as myfile: myfile.write("New text appended") How to append new data onto a new line? You can use "" while writing data to file. with open("index.txt", "a") as myfile: myfile.write("First Line") myfile.write("Second Line") Next : What are the differences between the threading and multiprocessing? Python Interview Questions and Answers Prerequisites:Basics of file handlingAccess modesWhile reading or writing to a file, access mode governs the type of operations possible in the opened file. It refers to how the file will be used once it's opened. These modes also define the location of the File Handle in the file. File handle is like a cursor, which defines from where the data has to be read or written in the file.In order to append a new line to the existing file, open the file in append mode, by using either 'a' or 'a+' as the access mode. The definition of these access modes are as follows:Append Only ('a'): Open the file for writing. The file is created if it does not exist. The handle is positioned at the end of the file. The data being written will be inserted at the end, after the existing data.Append and Read ('a+') : Open the file for reading and writing. The file is created if it does not exist. The handle is positioned at the end of the file. The data being written will be inserted at the end, after the existing data. Let's see the below example to clarify the difference between write mode and append mode.Example:file1 = open("myfile.txt", "w")L = ["This is Delhi ", "This is Paris ", "This is London"]file1.writelines(L)file1.close()file1 = open("myfile.txt", "w") file1.write("Tomorrow ")file1.close()file1 = open("myfile.txt", "r")print("Output of Readlines after writing")print(file1.read())print(file1.close())Output: Output of Readlines after appending This is Delhi This is Paris This is LondonToday "r")print("Output of Readlines after appending")print(file1.read())print(file1.close())file1 = open("myfile.txt", "w") file1.write("Tomorrow ")file1.close()file1 = open("myfile.txt", "r")print("Output of Readlines after appending This is Delhi This is Paris This is London Today Note: To know more about with statement click here. In this article, we will discuss how to append text or new lines to an existing file using python. To append some text to a file in the end, we first need to open the file with access mode 'a'. file object = open('sample.txt', 'a') With file access mode 'a', open() function first checks if file exists or not. If the file doesn't exist, then it creates an empty file and opens it. Whereas, if the file already exists then it opens it. In both cases, it returns a file object, and it has write cursor, which points to the end of the opened file. Now, if you write anything to the file using this file object, then it will be appended to the end. Let's use this to append text at the end of a file, Append a text to file in Python Suppose we have a file 'sample.txt', and its contents are, Hello this is a sample file It contains sample text This is the end of file Now let's append text 'hello' at the end of this file, # Open a file with access mode 'a' file object = open('sample.txt', 'a') # Append 'hello' at the end of file file object.write('hello') # Close the file file object.close() Contents of the file 'sample.txt' will be now,Hello this is a sample file It contains sample text This is the end of filehello We opened the file 'sample.txt' in append mode i.e. using access mode 'a'. As cursor was pointing to the end of the file in the file object, therefore when we passed the string in write() function, it appended it at the end of the file. So, our text 'hello' gets added at the end of the file 'sample.txt'. Append a text to file in Python using 'with open' statement We can open the file in append access mode i.e. 'a', using 'with open' statement too, and then we can append the text at the end of the file. For example,# Open a file with access mode 'a' with open('sample.txt', 'a') as file object: # Append 'hello' at the end of file file object.write('hello') Contents of the file 'sample.txt' will be now,Hello this is a sample file It contains sample text This is the end of filehellohello Text 'hello' gets again added at the end of file 'sample.txt'. The main difference between this approach and the previous one was that we don't need to close the file explicitly. It gets automatically closed when the execution block of 'with statement' ends. In both the above examples, the text gets added at the end of the file. But as we can see, it is not appended as a new line. There might be scenarios when we want to add data to a file as a new line. Let's see how to do that, Append data to a file as a new line in Python Solution for this is a little tricky here. let's start with the basic approach and then we will discuss drawback in it and see how to improve over it. Basic approach Open the file in append mode ('a'). Write cursor points to the end of file. Append " at the end of the file using write() function Append the given line to the file using write() function. Close the file Well this approach works fine if our file already exists and already has some data in it. But if the file doesn't exist or file is empty then this approach will fail because contents of the file will be like this, ..... New added Line It first writes an empty line and then writes our line. But in this case, only appending a line was fine, we don't need to write " before that. So, our final approach should be like this, Open the file in append & read mode ('a+'). Both read & write cursor points to the end of the file. Move read cursor to the start of the file. Read some text from the file and check if the file is empty or not. If the file is not empty, then append " at the end of the file using write() function. Append a given line to the file using write() function. Close the file This solution will work fine in both scenarios. Let's use this solution to append a newline at the end of the file. Suppose we have a file 'sample2.txt' with following contents, Hello this is a sample file It contains sample text This is the end of file Append new line to the file.# Open the file in append & read mode ('a+') with open('sample2.txt', 'a+') as file object: # Move read cursor to the start of file. file object.seek(0) # If file is not empty then append " data = file object.read(100) if len(data) > 0: file object.write("") # Append text at the end of file file object.write("hello hi") Contents of the file 'sample2.txt' now, Hello this is a sample file It contains sample text This is the end of file hello hi A new line is appended at the end of the file. File access mode 'a+' , creates opens the file for both read and writing. Also if file it doesn't exist, and then it creates the file too. Initially, both read & write cursors will be pointing to the end of the file. We moved the read cursor to the top of file to check if the file is empty or not. If the file is not empty, then append " at the end of the file first and then append the line. Let's move the code to a separate function, def append\_new\_line(file\_name, text, to\_append): ""Append given text as a new line at the end of file"" # Open the file in append & read mode ('a+') with open(file\_name, "a+") as file object: # Move read cursor to the start of file. file object.seek(0) # If file is not empty then append " data = file object.read(100) if len(data) > 0: file object.write("") # Append text at the end of file file object.write(text) to\_append) Let's use this function to append one more line to a file that doesn't exist.# Append one line to a file that does not exist append\_new\_line('sample3.txt', 'This is first line') Contents of the file 'sample3.txt' will be now,This is first line It confirms that it didn't append " before writing a new line because the file was already empty. Now let's again append another line to the same file to check if it works fine, # Append another line to a file that already exist & has some contents append\_new\_line('sample3.txt', 'This is second line') Contents of the file 'sample3.txt' will be now,This is first line This is second line As file already exist and has contents too; therefore it first appended the " into the file and then our given line. Append multiple lines to a file in Python Suppose we have a list of string, list\_of\_lines = ['First Line', 'Second Line', 'Third Line'] Now we want to append each element in the list as a line in the file. How to do that? We could do that by calling above created function append\_new\_line() multiple times, but it is not an optimized solution because it will open and close the file for each element in the list. We should open the file only once and append all the lines to it. To do that our algorithm should be like, Open the file in append & read mode ('a+'). Both read & write cursor points to the end of the file. Move read cursor to the start of the file. Read some text from the file and check if the file is empty or not. If the file is not empty, then set appendEOL as True else False Now for each element in the list if its first element in list and appendEOL is False Don't append " at the end of the file using write() function. Else Append " at the end of the file using write() function. Append the element to the file using write() function. Close the file Basically we don't need to write first " if the file is empty. A function to append multiple lines in a file is, def append\_multiple\_lines(file\_name, lines, to\_append): # Open the file in append & read mode ('a+') with open(file\_name, "a+") as file object: # Move read cursor to the start of file. file object.seek(0) # Check if file is not empty data = file object.read(100) if len(data) > 0: appendEOL = True # Iterate over each string in the list for line in lines: to\_append = ""Append given text as a new line at the end of file"" # Open the file in append & read mode ('a+') with open(file\_name, "a+") as file object: # Move read cursor to the start of file. file object.seek(0) # If file is not empty then append " before first line for # other lines always append " before appending line if appendEOL == True: file object.write("") else: appendEOL = True # Append element at the end of file file object.write(line) Now let's use this function. Suppose contents of file 'sample3.txt' is as follows,This is first line This is second line We have a list of strings,list\_of\_lines = ['First Line', 'Second Line', 'Third Line'] Append all the strings in this list as separate lines at the end of file 'sample3.txt'# Append strings in list as separate new lines in the end of file append\_multiple\_lines('sample3.txt', list\_of\_lines) Now contents of file 'sample3.txt' is,This is first line This is second line First Line Second Line Third Line It appended all the strings in the given list as newlines in the file. The complete example is as follows, def append\_new\_line(file\_name, text, to\_append): ""Append given text as a new line at the end of file"" # Open the file in append & read mode ('a+') with open(file\_name, "a+") as file object: # Move read cursor to the start of file. file object.seek(0) # If file is not empty then append " data = file object.read(100) if len(data) > 0: file object.write("") # Append text at the end of file file object.write(text) to\_append) def append\_multiple\_lines(file\_name, lines, to\_append): # Open the file in append & read mode ('a+') with open(file\_name, "a+") as file object: appendEOL = False # Move read cursor to the start of file. file object.seek(0) # Check if file is not empty data = file object.read(100) if len(data) > 0: appendEOL = True # Iterate over each string in the list for line in lines: to\_append = ""Append given text as a new line at the end of file"" # Open the file in append & read mode ('a+') with open(file\_name, "a+") as file object: # Move read cursor to the start of file. file object.seek(0) # If file is not empty then append " before first line for # other lines always append " before appending line if appendEOL == True: file object.write("") else: appendEOL = True # Append element at the end of file file object.write(line) def main(): print('Append a text to file in Python') # Open a file with access mode 'a' file object = open('sample.txt', 'a') # Append 'hello' at the end of file file object.write('hello') # Close the file file object.close() print('Append a text to file in Python using "with statement"') # Open a file with access mode 'a' with open('sample.txt', 'a') as file object: # Append 'hello' at the end of file file object.write('hello') print('Append data to a file as a new line in Python') # Open the file in append & read mode ('a+') with open('sample2.txt', 'a+') as file object: # Move read cursor to the start of file. file object.seek(0) # If file is not empty then append " data = file object.read(100) if len(data) > 0: file object.write("") # Append text at the end of file file object.write("hello hi") # Append one line to a file that does not exist append\_new\_line('sample3.txt', 'This is first line') # Append another line to a file that already exist & has some contents append\_new\_line('sample3.txt', 'This is second line') print('Append multiple lines to a file in Python') list\_of\_lines = ['First Line', 'Second Line', 'Third Line'] # Append strings in list as separate new lines in the end of file append\_multiple\_lines('sample3.txt', list\_of\_lines) if \_\_name\_\_ == '\_\_main\_\_': main() Output:Append a text to file in Python Append a text to file in Python using "with statement" Append data to a file as a new line in Python Append multiple lines to a file in Python



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