**Intro to Python**

**Assignment**

**Exercise : Box**

**Loops**

This exercise is designed to give you experience in using loops to repeat actions. You will also have to ask the user for information and receive it.

**Boxes**

Your program must draw a rectangle using text output. For example, a rectangle that is 4 characters wide and 6 lines high looks like this:

```
* * * *
* * * *
* * * *
* * * *
* * * *
* * * *
```

Your program should ask the user how wide and how high to make the rectangle. Then, it should draw the rectangle.

**Things You Should Know About User Input**

You can ask the user for numbers and receive them using the `input()` command. For example, you can do this to ask for the width of the rectangle:

```python
width = input("How wide is the rectangle? ")
```

This will cause the message in quotes to be displayed, and the program will pause until the user types a number and hits the enter key. After that, the number typed by the user will be stored in the `width` variable.

**Things You Should Know About User Output**

You can show messages to the user with the `print` command. For example, you can say hello to the user like this:

```python
print "Hello"
```

This will display a line of output with the message in the quotes. If you want to display part of a message, but not complete the line, you can add a comma at the end of the statement, like this:

```python
print "Hello",
```

This will display the message in the quotes, followed by a space, but the line will not be ended.

**Things You Should Know About Loops**

Loops are used to repeat the same commands many times. For example, to say hello to the user 3 times, we could use this loop:

```python
for i in range(3):
    print "Hello"
```

Note the 3, in the line of code. This tells the program how many times to repeat the `print` command.

In this problem, you probably want to repeatedly repeat some printing. That’s OK. Just indent a loop inside of a loop to have the loop be repeated.
for j in range(4):
    for j in range(3):
        print "(+)",
        print "="

**Tasks:**

- Edit `box.py` to make a program that will draw a rectangle of any size specified by the user.
- The sample box uses the `*` character to draw the rectangle, you can use whatever you want. However, spaces don’t look very impressive.
- Can you find how to use `raw_input()` to let the user specify the character to use?
- Can you just show the outline of the box, instead of having it filled?

**Download**

- [Box](#)