| | [**Overview**](http://docs.google.com/overview-summary.html) | **Package** | Class | [**Use**](http://docs.google.com/package-use.html) | [**Tree**](http://docs.google.com/package-tree.html) | [**Deprecated**](http://docs.google.com/deprecated-list.html) | [**Index**](http://docs.google.com/index-files/index-1.html) | [**Help**](http://docs.google.com/help-doc.html) | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | | ***Java™ Platform***  ***Standard Ed. 6*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [**PREV PACKAGE**](http://docs.google.com/java/util/prefs/package-summary.html)   [**NEXT PACKAGE**](http://docs.google.com/java/util/spi/package-summary.html) | [**FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/index.html?java/util/regex/package-summary.html)    [**NO FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/package-summary.html)     [**All Classes**](http://docs.google.com/allclasses-noframe.html) |

## Package java.util.regex

Classes for matching character sequences against patterns specified by regular expressions.

**See:**

[**Description**](#3znysh7)

| **Interface Summary** | |
| --- | --- |
| [**MatchResult**](http://docs.google.com/java/util/regex/MatchResult.html) | The result of a match operation. |

| **Class Summary** | |
| --- | --- |
| [**Matcher**](http://docs.google.com/java/util/regex/Matcher.html) | An engine that performs match operations on a [character sequence](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/CharSequence.html) by interpreting a [Pattern](http://docs.google.com/java/util/regex/Pattern.html). |
| [**Pattern**](http://docs.google.com/java/util/regex/Pattern.html) | A compiled representation of a regular expression. |

| **Exception Summary** | |
| --- | --- |
| [**PatternSyntaxException**](http://docs.google.com/java/util/regex/PatternSyntaxException.html) | Unchecked exception thrown to indicate a syntax error in a regular-expression pattern. |

## Package java.util.regex Description

Classes for matching character sequences against patterns specified by regular expressions.

An instance of the [Pattern](http://docs.google.com/java/util/regex/Pattern.html) class represents a regular expression that is specified in string form in a syntax similar to that used by Perl.

Instances of the [Matcher](http://docs.google.com/java/util/regex/Matcher.html) class are used to match character sequences against a given pattern. Input is provided to matchers via the [CharSequence](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/CharSequence.html) interface in order to support matching against characters from a wide variety of input sources.

Unless otherwise noted, passing a null argument to a method in any class or interface in this package will cause a [NullPointerException](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/NullPointerException.html) to be thrown.

## Related Documentation

An excellent tutorial and overview of regular expressions is [*Mastering Regular Expressions*, Jeffrey E. F. Friedl, O'Reilly and Associates, 1997.](http://www.oreilly.com/catalog/regex/)

**Since:** 1.4

| | [**Overview**](http://docs.google.com/overview-summary.html) | **Package** | Class | [**Use**](http://docs.google.com/package-use.html) | [**Tree**](http://docs.google.com/package-tree.html) | [**Deprecated**](http://docs.google.com/deprecated-list.html) | [**Index**](http://docs.google.com/index-files/index-1.html) | [**Help**](http://docs.google.com/help-doc.html) | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | | ***Java™ Platform***  ***Standard Ed. 6*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [**PREV PACKAGE**](http://docs.google.com/java/util/prefs/package-summary.html)   [**NEXT PACKAGE**](http://docs.google.com/java/util/spi/package-summary.html) | [**FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/index.html?java/util/regex/package-summary.html)    [**NO FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/package-summary.html)     [**All Classes**](http://docs.google.com/allclasses-noframe.html) |

[Submit a bug or feature](http://bugs.sun.com/services/bugreport/index.jsp)

For further API reference and developer documentation, see [Java SE Developer Documentation](http://docs.google.com/webnotes/devdocs-vs-specs.html). That documentation contains more detailed, developer-targeted descriptions, with conceptual overviews, definitions of terms, workarounds, and working code examples.

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