

Perl

Dynamic. Powerful. Open

The language is used for solving issues within in many areas, including system administration, the running of websites, data management or with integration between legacy systems. Perl applications scale from simple one-liners to complex software applications on the web.

Some companies build their business on top of a Perl program: XING AG, the largest business social network in Europe; OTRS AG, the company behind the great ticket system; and many more.

Perl is ubiquitous and comes as an integral part of many free and commercial operating systems, from GNU/Linux and FreeBSD to Solaris and MacOS X. There are also several Perl distributions for Windows.

Perl is Open Source and free to use, including for commercial products.

What can I do with Perl?

You can do nearly everything you want to do. Well, you can't predict next weeks' lotto winning numbers.

Perl is often used for text manipulation and processing, but you can use it for web applications, too. Perl can be fully integrated in the Apache web server with mod_perl.

You have several options for programming graphical user interfaces, so you can create a new interface very easy and quick.

You can automate your business workflows as much as possible: Build your online shopping system, integrate it to your ERP and CRM system. There are endless opportunities to use Perl!

Perl is a high-level programming language that lets you work more quickly and integrate your systems more effectively. For new users, Perl almost immediately offers gains in productivity and lower maintenance costs – and for advanced users, Perl offers the Comprehensive Perl Archive Network (CPAN) – a single-namespace library of more than 19,600 packages, giving easy access to functionality for everything from bioinformatics to gaming.

Perl strengths

„CPAN“ (<http://search.cpan.org/>) - the worlds largest single-namespace software repository

A strong culture for software testing, with more than 370 testing modules on CPAN, and almost every package coming with tests.

„CPAN Testers“ (<http://cpantesters.org/>) - a volunteer community that tests all software uploaded to CPAN on all kinds of OSes and Perl versions, and uploading the results to a central repository.

Lively grass-roots communities all over the globe. Find your local „Perl Mongers“ (<http://pm.org/>) group!

Active support communities at „Perl-Monks“ (<http://perlmonks.org/>) and on irc.perl.org.

Conferences all over the planet. Most of them are low-key and informal, and all of them have a high signal/noise ratio.

Active blogging and online community scene, with the Perl Iron Man competition, blogs.perl.org, „Perlbuzz“ (<http://perlbuzz.com/>) and „use Perl;“ (<http://use.perl.org/>) as highlights.