Olika sätt att använda operatorn REGEXP. I exemplen används en databas med filmtitlar

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| **Char** | **Description** | **Example** |
| **\*** | The **asterisk (\*)**metacharacter is used to match zero (0) or more instances of the strings preceding it | *SELECT \* FROM movies WHERE title REGEXP 'da\*';*will give all movies containing characters "da" .For Example, Da Vinci Code , Daddy's Little Girls. |
| **+** | The **plus (+)** metacharacter is used to match one or more instances of strings preceding it. | *SELECT \* FROM `movies` WHERE `title` REGEXP 'mon+';*will give all movies containing characters "mon" .For Example, Angels and Demons. |
| **?** | The question**(?)** metacharacter is used to match zero (0) or one instances of the strings preceding it. | *SELECT \* FROM `categories` WHERE `category\_name` REGEXP 'com?';*will give all the categories containing string com .For Example, comedy , romantic comedy . |
| **.** | The **dot (.)** metacharacter is used to match any single character in exception of a new line. | *SELECT \* FROM movies WHERE `year\_released` REGEXP '200.';*will give all the movies released in the years starting with characters "200" followed by any single character .For Example, 2005,2007,2008 etc. |
| **[abc]** | The **charlist [abc]** is used to match any of the enclosed characters. | *SELECT \* FROM `movies` WHERE `title` REGEXP '[vwxyz]';*will give all the movies containing any single character in "vwxyz" .For Example, X-Men, Da Vinci Code, etc. |
| **[^abc]** | The **charlist [^abc]** is used to match any characters excluding the ones enclosed. | *SELECT \* FROM `movies` WHERE `title` REGEXP '^[^vwxyz]';*will give all the movies containing characters other than the ones in "vwxyz". |
| **[A-Z]** | The **[A-Z]** is used to match any upper case letter. | *SELECT \* FROM `members` WHERE `postal\_address` REGEXP '[A-Z]';*will give all the members that have postal address containing any character from A to Z. .For Example, Janet Jones with membership number 1. |
| **[a-z]** | The **[a-z]** is used to match any lower case letter | *SELECT \* FROM `members` WHERE `postal\_address` REGEXP '[a-z]';*will give all the members that have postal addresses containing any character from  a to z. .For Example, Janet Jones with membership number 1. |
| **[0-9]** | The **[0-9]** is used to match any digit from 0 through to 9. | *SELECT \* FROM `members` WHERE `contact\_number` REGEXP '[0-9]'*will give all the members have submitted contact numbers containing characters "[0-9]" .For Example, Robert Phil. |
| **^** | The **caret (^)** is used to start the match at beginning. | *SELECT \* FROM `movies` WHERE `title` REGEXP '^[cd]';*gives all the movies with the title starting with any of the characters in "cd" .For Example, Code Name Black, Daddy's Little Girls and Da Vinci Code. |
| **|** | The **vertical bar (|)** is used to isolate alternatives. | *SELECT \* FROM `movies` WHERE `title` REGEXP '^[cd]|^[u]';*gives all the movies with the title starting with any of the characters in "cd"  or "u" .For Example, Code Name Black, Daddy's Little Girl, Da Vinci Code and Underworld - Awakening. |
| **[[:<:]]** | The**[[:<:]]** matches the beginning of words. | *SELECT \* FROM `movies` WHERE `title` REGEXP '[[:<:]]for';* gives all the movies with titles starting with the characters. For Example:  Forgetting Sarah Marshal. |
| **[[:>:]]** | The **[[:>:]]**matches the end of words. | *SELECT \* FROM `movies` WHERE `title` REGEXP 'ack[[:>:]]';*  gives all the movies with titles ending with the characters "ack" .For Example, Code Name Black. |
| **[:class:]** | The **[:class:]** matches a character class i.e. *[:alpha:]* to match letters, *[:space:]* to match white space, *[:punct:]* is match punctuations and [:upper:] for upper class letters. | *SELECT \* FROM `movies` WHERE `title` REGEXP '[:alpha:]';*gives all the movies with titles contain letters only .For Example, Forgetting Sarah Marshal, X-Men etc. Movie like Pirates of the Caribbean 4 will be omitted by this query. |