

1. All strings of lowercase letters that begin and end in a

$a([a-z]^*a)?$

2. All strings of lowercase letters that either begin or end in a (or both)

$a[a-z]^* \mid [a-z]^*a$

3. All strings of digits that contain no leading zeroes

$nonzero = [1-9]$

$digit = 0 \mid nonzero$

$answer = 0 \mid nonzero digit^*$

4. All strings of digits that represent even numbers

$even = 0 \mid 2 \mid 4 \mid 6 \mid 8$

$answer = even \mid [1-9][0-9]^*even$

5. All strings of digits such that all the 2's occur before all the 9's

$non9 = [0-8]$

$non2 = [013-9]$

$answer = non9^*non2^*$

6. All strings of a's and b's that contain no three consecutive b's

$(a \mid ba \mid bba)^*(b \mid bb)?$

7. All strings of a's and b's that contain an odd number of a's or an odd number of b's (or both)

$b^*ab^*(ab^*ab^*)^* \mid a^*ba^*(ba^*ba^*)^*$

8. All strings of a's and b's that contain an even number of a's and an even number of b's

$(aa \mid bb)^*((ab|ba)(aa \mid bb)^*(ab|ba)(aa \mid bb)^*)^*$

9. All strings of a's and b's that contain an even number of a's and an odd number of b's

$even_a_even_b = (aa \mid bb)^*((ab|ba)(aa \mid bb)^*(ab|ba)(aa \mid bb)^*)^*$

$even_a_odd_b = b\ even_a_even_b \mid a(aa \mid bb)^*(ab|ba)\ even_a_even_b$

10. All strings that contain exactly as many a's and b's

11. Comments, consisting of a string surrounded by /* and */, without an intervening */.

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$other1 = [^\#]$

$other2 = [^\#/\]$

$answer = /\# other1^*(\# \#^* other2 other^*)^* \#^* \#/\$

12. All strings of digits with no repeated digits. Hint: Try this problem first with a few digits, such as {0; 1; 2}

$zero = 0$

$one = zero(1\ zero)^* \mid (zero\ 1)^+ \mid 1\ (zero\ 1)^* \mid (1\ zero)^+$

two = one (2 one)* | (one 2)+ | 2 (one 2)* | (2 one)+

three = two (3 two)* | (two 3)+ | 3 (two 3)* | (3 two)+

four = three (4 three)* | (three 4)+ | 4 (three 4)* | (4 three)+

...

nine = eight (9 eight)* | (eight 9)+ | 9 (eight 9)* | (9 eight)+

13. All strings of digits with at most one repeated digit.