```
match = re.match(pattern, string, flags=0)
# searches only the beginning of the string
# does not work with multiline strings

match = re.search(pattern, string, flags=0)
# searches anywhere within string
# flags specify special options (i.e. ignore case etc)
# returns the first pattern instance in the string
# works with multiline strings

match.group()  : pattern instance
match.group(0) : pattern instance
match.group(i) : i = 1 to number of groups in the pattern: returns the i.th group instance
match.span(i) : i = 1 to number of groups in the pattern: returns the i.th group instance's span

match.start() : pattern instance start index
match.end():    pattern instance end index
```

```
re.findall(pattern, string, flags=0)
# pulls out all instances of the pattern
```

----

re.split(pattern, string, maxsplit=0, flags=0)
splits the string with a given pattern with pattern instance not included

P.S re.split & re.findall can be used for the same use case
where they have different patterns

----

re.sub(pattern, replacement_string, string) (sub: substitute)

For each match instance of the pattern, re.sub() replaces the instance with replacement_string.

re.sub() can operate on a multiline string
re.sub() can receive lambda expressions in place of replacement_string

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Cheatography

Regular Expressions Cheat Sheet

by Dave Child (DaveChild) via cheatography.com/1/cs/5/

Anchors

^	Start of string, or start of line in multi-line pattern
\A	Start of string
$	End of string, or end of line in multi-line pattern
\Z	End of string
\b	Word boundary
\B	Not word boundary
\<	Start of word
\>	End of word

Character Classes

\c	Control character
\s	White space
\S	Not white space
\d	Digit
\D	Not digit
\w	Word
\W	Not word
\x	Hexadecimal digit
\O	Octal digit

POSIX

[:upper:]	Upper case letters
[:lower:]	Lower case letters
[:alpha:]	All letters
[:alnum:]	Digits and letters
[:digit:]	Digits
[:xdigit:]	Hexadecimal digits
[:punct:]	Punctuation
[:blank:]	Space and tab
[:space:]	Blank characters
[:cntrl:]	Control characters
[:graph:]	Printed characters
[:print:]	Printed characters and spaces
[:word:]	Digits, letters and underscore

Assertions

?=	Lookahead assertion
?!	Negative lookahead
?<=	Lookbehind assertion
?!= or ?<!	Negative lookbehind
?>	Once-only Subexpression
?()	Condition [if then]
?()|	Condition [if then else]
?#	Comment

Quantifiers

*	0 or more	{3}	Exactly 3
+	1 or more	{3,}	3 or more
?	0 or 1	{3,5}	3, 4 or 5

Add a ? to a quantifier to make it ungreedy.

Escape Sequences

\	Escape following character
\Q	Begin literal sequence
\E	End literal sequence

"Escaping" is a way of treating characters which have a special meaning in regular expressions literally, rather than as special characters.

Common Metacharacters

^	[	.	$
{	*	(	\
+	)	|	?
<	>		

The escape character is usually \

Special Characters

\n	New line
\r	Carriage return
\t	Tab
\v	Vertical tab
\f	Form feed
\xxx	Octal character xxx
\xhh	Hex character hh

Groups and Ranges

.	Any character except new line (\n)
(a|b)	a or b
(...)	Group
(?:...)	Passive (non-capturing) group
[abc]	Range (a or b or c)
[^abc]	Not (a or b or c)
[a-q]	Lower case letter from a to q
[A-Q]	Upper case letter from A to Q
[0-7]	Digit from 0 to 7
\x	Group/subpattern number "x"

Ranges are inclusive.

Pattern Modifiers

g	Global match
i *	Case-insensitive
m *	Multiple lines
s *	Treat string as single line
x *	Allow comments and whitespace in pattern
e *	Evaluate replacement
U *	Ungreedy pattern

* PCRE modifier

String Replacement

$n	nth non-passive group
$2	"xyz" in /^(abc(xyz))$/
$1	"xyz" in /^(?:abc)(xyz)$/
$`	Before matched string
$'	After matched string
$+	Last matched string
$&	Entire matched string

Some regex implementations use \ instead of $.

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