HOW TO REGEX





Regular Expressions (RegEx)

- Regex, or regular expressions, are special sequences used to find or match patterns in strings.
- These sequences use <u>metacharacters</u> and other syntax to represent sets, ranges, or specific characters.

Why use RegEx?

- It is fast, powerful and extremely useful!
 - (and fun)
- Most programming languages understands it.
- Regular expressions have many real-world uses cases, which include:
 - 1. Form-input validation
 - 2. Web scraping
 - 3. Search (and replace)
 - 4. Filtering for information in massive text files (such as logs)

Why use RegEx?

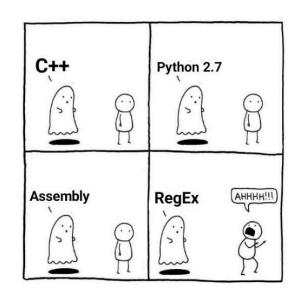
• The memes!



https://www.reddit.com/r/ProgrammerHumor/comments/l1k4iy/every_time,



https://www.reddit.com/r/ProgrammerHumor/comments/aoktpr/regex_is_life/

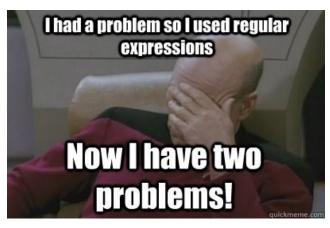


None could compare to its fierce looks and deadly syntax

https://mtruongn93.github.io/blog/alternative-for-confusing-RegEx.html



https://medium.com/@sydciohnson/regular-expression-for-dummies-1062e5d74b7a



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RegEx terminology

- Pattern: regular expression pattern
- String: test string used to match the pattern
- **Digit**: 0-9
- Letter: a-z, A-Z
- **Symbol**: !\$%^&*()_+|~-=`{}[]:";'<>?,./
- **Space**: single white space, tab
- Character: refers to a letter, digit or symbol

Common Python usage

- re.findall(RegEx, str to find it in) matches all instances and returns in a list.
- re.search(RegEx, str to find it in) matches only the first instance.
- re.split(RegEx)
 extracts specific sections of a string (usually used after findall).
- re.sub(RegEx, replace str, original str) substitutes part of a string for something else.

Common Regular Expressions

• see commonRegEx.md in the repo commonRegEx.md in the repo



Regular Expressions Cheat Sheet

• For more: see cheatRegEx.md in the repo cheatRegEx.md in the repo



