**Java – String matches() Method example**

[**STRING HANDLING**](http://beginnersbook.com/category/string-handling/)

Method matches() checks whether the String is matching with the specified[**regular expression**](http://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/regex/Pattern.html#sum). If the String fits in the specified regular expression then this method returns true else it returns false. Below is the syntax of the method:

public boolean matches(String regex)

It throws [**PatternSyntaxException**](http://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/regex/PatternSyntaxException.html) – if the specified regular expression is not valid.

**Example: matches() method**

In this example we have a String and three regular expressions. We are matching the regular expressions(regex) with the input String using thematches() method.

public class MatchesExample{

public static void main(String args[]){

String str = new String("Java String Methods");

System.out.print("Regex: (.\*)String(.\*) matches string? " );

System.out.println(str.matches("(.\*)String(.\*)"));

System.out.print("Regex: (.\*)Strings(.\*) matches string? " );

System.out.println(str.matches("(.\*)Strings(.\*)"));

System.out.print("Regex: (.\*)Methods matches string? " );

System.out.println(str.matches("(.\*)Methods"));

}

}

Output:

Regex: (.\*)String(.\*) matches string? true

Regex: (.\*)Strings(.\*) matches string? false

Regex: (.\*)Methods matches string? true