Perl Programming Documentation

Perl version

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Perl functions A-Z

A

- [abs](#) - absolute value function

- [accept](#) - accept an incoming socket connect
- [alarm](#) - schedule a SIGALRM
- [atan2](#) - arctangent of Y/X in the range -PI to PI

B

- [bind](#) - binds an address to a socket
- [binmode](#) - prepare binary files for I/O
- [bless](#) - create an object
- [break](#) - break out of a "given" block

C

- [caller](#) - get context of the current subroutine call
- [chdir](#) - change your current working directory
- [chmod](#) - changes the permissions on a list of files
- [chomp](#) - remove a trailing record separator from a string
- [chop](#) - remove the last character from a string
- [chown](#) - change the owership on a list of files
- [chr](#) - get character this number represents
- [chroot](#) - make directory new root for path lookups
- [close](#) - close file (or pipe or socket) handle
- [closedir](#) - close directory handle
- [connect](#) - connect to a remote socket
- [continue](#) - optional trailing block in a while or foreach
- [cos](#) - cosine function
- [crypt](#) - one-way passwd-style encryption

D

- [dbmclose](#) - breaks binding on a tied dbm file
- [dbmopen](#) - create binding on a tied dbm file
- [defined](#) - test whether a value, variable, or function is defined
- [delete](#) - deletes a value from a hash
- [die](#) - raise an exception or bail out
- [do](#) - turn a BLOCK into a TERM
- [dump](#) - create an immediate core dump

E

- [each](#) - retrieve the next key/value pair from a hash
- [endgrent](#) - be done using group file
- [endhostent](#) - be done using hosts file
- [endnetent](#) - be done using networks file
- [endprotoent](#) - be done using protocols file
- [endpwent](#) - be done using passwd file

- [endservent](#) - be done using services file
- [eof](#) - test a filehandle for its end
- [eval](#) - catch exceptions or compile and run code
- [exec](#) - abandon this program to run another
- [exists](#) - test whether a hash key is present
- [exit](#) - terminate this program
- [exp](#) - raise I to a power

F

- [fcntl](#) - file control system call
- [fileno](#) - return file descriptor from filehandle
- [flock](#) - lock an entire file with an advisory lock
- [fork](#) - create a new process just like this one
- [format](#) - declare a picture format with use by the write() function
- [formline](#) - internal function used for formats

G

- [getc](#) - get the next character from the filehandle
- [getgrent](#) - get next group record
- [getgrgid](#) - get group record given group user ID
- [getgrnam](#) - get group record given group name
- [gethostbyaddr](#) - get host record given its address
- [gethostbyname](#) - get host record given name
- [gethostent](#) - get next hosts record
- [getlogin](#) - return who logged in at this tty
- [getnetbyaddr](#) - get network record given its address
- [getnetbyname](#) - get networks record given name
- [getnetent](#) - get next networks record
- [getpeername](#) - find the other end of a socket connection
- [getpgrp](#) - get process group
- [getppid](#) - get parent process ID
- [getpriority](#) - get current nice value
- [getprotobyname](#) - get protocol record given name
- [getprotobynumber](#) - get protocol record numeric protocol
- [getprotoent](#) - get next protocols record
- [getpwent](#) - get next passwd record
- [getpwnam](#) - get passwd record given user login name
- [getpwuid](#) - get passwd record given user ID
- [getservbyname](#) - get services record given its name
- [getservbyport](#) - get services record given numeric port
- [getservent](#) - get next services record
- [getsockname](#) - retrieve the sockaddr for a given socket
- [getsockopt](#) - get socket options on a given socket
- [glob](#) - expand filenames using wildcards
- [gmtime](#) - convert UNIX time into record or string using Greenwich time

- [goto](#) - create spaghetti code
- [grep](#) - locate elements in a list test true against a given criterion

H

- [hex](#) - convert a string to a hexadecimal number

I

- [import](#) - patch a module's namespace into your own
- [index](#) - find a substring within a string
- [int](#) - get the integer portion of a number
- [ioctl](#) - system-dependent device control system call

J

- [join](#) - join a list into a string using a separator

K

- [keys](#) - retrieve list of indices from a hash
- [kill](#) - send a signal to a process or process group

L

- [last](#) - exit a block prematurely
- [lc](#) - return lower-case version of a string
- [lcfirst](#) - return a string with just the next letter in lower case
- [length](#) - return the number of bytes in a string
- [link](#) - create a hard link in the filesytem
- [listen](#) - register your socket as a server
- [local](#) - create a temporary value for a global variable (dynamic scoping)
- [localtime](#) - convert UNIX time into record or string using local time
- [lock](#) - get a thread lock on a variable, subroutine, or method
- [log](#) - retrieve the natural logarithm for a number
- [lstat](#) - stat a symbolic link

M

- [m](#) - match a string with a regular expression pattern
- [map](#) - apply a change to a list to get back a new list with the changes
- [mkdir](#) - create a directory
- [msgctl](#) - SysV IPC message control operations
- [msgget](#) - get SysV IPC message queue
- [msgrcv](#) - receive a SysV IPC message from a message queue

- [msgsnd](#) - send a SysV IPC message to a message queue
- [my](#) - declare and assign a local variable (lexical scoping)

N

- [next](#) - iterate a block prematurely
- [no](#) - unimport some module symbols or semantics at compile time

O

- [oct](#) - convert a string to an octal number
- [open](#) - open a file, pipe, or descriptor
- [opendir](#) - open a directory
- [ord](#) - find a character's numeric representation
- [our](#) - declare and assign a package variable (lexical scoping)

P

- [pack](#) - convert a list into a binary representation
- [package](#) - declare a separate global namespace
- [pipe](#) - open a pair of connected filehandles
- [pop](#) - remove the last element from an array and return it
- [pos](#) - find or set the offset for the last/next m//g search
- [print](#) - output a list to a filehandle
- [printf](#) - output a formatted list to a filehandle
- [prototype](#) - get the prototype (if any) of a subroutine
- [push](#) - append one or more elements to an array

Q

- [q](#) - singly quote a string
- [qq](#) - doubly quote a string
- [qr](#) - Compile pattern
- [quotemeta](#) - quote regular expression magic characters
- [qw](#) - quote a list of words
- [qx](#) - backquote quote a string

R

- [rand](#) - retrieve the next pseudorandom number
- [read](#) - fixed-length buffered input from a filehandle
- [readdir](#) - get a directory from a directory handle
- [readline](#) - fetch a record from a file
- [readlink](#) - determine where a symbolic link is pointing
- [readpipe](#) - execute a system command and collect standard output

- [recv](#) - receive a message over a Socket
- [redo](#) - start this loop iteration over again
- [ref](#) - find out the type of thing being referenced
- [rename](#) - change a filename
- [require](#) - load in external functions from a library at runtime
- [reset](#) - clear all variables of a given name
- [return](#) - get out of a function early
- [reverse](#) - flip a string or a list
- [rewinddir](#) - reset directory handle
- [rindex](#) - right-to-left substring search
- [rmdir](#) - remove a directory

S

Perl functions A-Z

- [s](#) - replace a pattern with a string
- [say](#) - print with newline
- [scalar](#) - force a scalar context
- [seek](#) - reposition file pointer for random-access I/O
- [seekdir](#) - reposition directory pointer
- [select](#) - reset default output or do I/O multiplexing
- [semctl](#) - SysV semaphore control operations
- [semget](#) - get set of SysV semaphores
- [semop](#) - SysV semaphore operations
- [send](#) - send a message over a socket
- [setgrent](#) - prepare group file for use
- [sethostent](#) - prepare hosts file for use
- [setnetent](#) - prepare networks file for use
- [setpgrp](#) - set the process group of a process
- [setpriority](#) - set a process's nice value
- [setprotoent](#) - prepare protocols file for use
- [setpwent](#) - prepare passwd file for use
- [setservent](#) - prepare services file for use
- [setsockopt](#) - set some socket options
- [shift](#) - remove the first element of an array, and return it
- [shmctl](#) - SysV shared memory operations
- [shmget](#) - get SysV shared memory segment identifier
- [shmread](#) - read SysV shared memory
- [shmwrite](#) - write SysV shared memory
- [shutdown](#) - close down just half of a socket connection
- [sin](#) - return the sine of a number
- [sleep](#) - block for some number of seconds
- [socket](#) - create a socket
- [socketpair](#) - create a pair of sockets
- [sort](#) - sort a list of values
- [splice](#) - add or remove elements anywhere in an array
- [split](#) - split up a string using a regexp delimiter
- [sprintf](#) - formatted print into a string

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- [sqrt](#) - square root function
- [srand](#) - seed the random number generator
- [stat](#) - get a file's status information
- [state](#) - declare and assign a state variable (persistent lexical scoping)
- [study](#) - optimize input data for repeated searches
- [sub](#) - declare a subroutine, possibly anonymously
- [substr](#) - get or alter a portion of a stirng
- [symlink](#) - create a symbolic link to a file
- [syscall](#) - execute an arbitrary system call
- [sysopen](#) - open a file, pipe, or descriptor
- [sysread](#) - fixed-length unbuffered input from a filehandle
- [sysseek](#) - position I/O pointer on handle used with sysread and syswrite
- [system](#) - run a separate program
- [syswrite](#) - fixed-length unbuffered output to a filehandle

T

- [tell](#) - get current seekpointer on a filehandle
- [telldir](#) - get current seekpointer on a directory handle
- [tie](#) - bind a variable to an object class
- [tied](#) - get a reference to the object underlying a tied variable
- [time](#) - return number of seconds since 1970
- [times](#) - return elapsed time for self and child processes
- [tr](#) - transliterate a string
- [truncate](#) - shorten a file

U

- [uc](#) - return upper-case version of a string
- [ucfirst](#) - return a string with just the next letter in upper case
- [umask](#) - set file creation mode mask
- [undef](#) - remove a variable or function definition
- [unlink](#) - remove one link to a file
- [unpack](#) - convert binary structure into normal perl variables
- [unshift](#) - prepend more elements to the beginning of a list
- [untie](#) - break a tie binding to a variable
- [use](#) - load in a module at compile time
- [utime](#) - set a file's last access and modify times

V

- [values](#) - return a list of the values in a hash
- [vec](#) - test or set particular bits in a string

W

- [wait](#) - wait for any child process to die
- [waitpid](#) - wait for a particular child process to die
- [wantarray](#) - get void vs scalar vs list context of current subroutine call
- [warn](#) - print debugging info
- [write](#) - print a picture record

X

- [-X](#) - a file test (-r, -x, etc)

Y

- [y](#) - transliterate a string

perldoc.perl.org - Official documentation for the Perl programming language

Contact details

Site maintained by [Jon Allen (JJ)](#)
See the [project page](#) for more details

Documentation maintained by the [Perl 5 Porters](#)

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