

Extending and Embedding Perl
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ISBN 1-930110-82-0 [1st edition August 2002]
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18.1.12 Perl in Magazines

The first (and for a long time, only) periodical devoted to All Things Perl, *The Perl Journal* contains tutorials, demonstrations, case studies, announcements, contests, and much more. *TPJ* has columns on web development, databases, Win32 Perl, graphical programming, regular expressions, and networking, and sponsors the Obfuscated Perl Contest and the Perl Poetry Contests. Beginning in November 2002, *TPJ* moved to a reader-supported monthly e-zine format in which subscribers can download issues as PDF documents. For more details on *TPJ*, see <http://www.tpj.com/>. Beyond this, magazines that frequently carry quality articles on Perl are *The Perl Review* (<http://www.theperlreview.com>), *Unix Review* (<http://www.unixreview.com/>), *Linux Magazine* (<http://www.linuxmagazine.com/>), and Usenix's newsletter/magazine to its members, *login:* (<http://www.usenix.org/>)

The Perl columns of Randal L. Schwartz are available on the web at <http://www.stonehenge.com/merlyn/WebTechniques/>, <http://www.stonehenge.com/merlyn/UnixReview/>, and <http://www.stonehenge.com/merlyn/LinuxMag/>.

18.1.13 Perl on the Net: FTP and WWW Access

To get the best performance, pick a site from the list at <http://www.cpan.org/SITES.html>. From there you can find the quickest site for you.

You may also use xx.cpan.org where "xx" is the 2-letter country code for your domain; e.g. Australia would use au.cpan.org. [Note: This only applies to countries that host at least one mirror.]

18.1.14 What mailing lists are there for Perl?

Most of the major modules (Tk, CGI, libwww-perl) have their own mailing lists. Consult the documentation that came with the module for subscription information.

A comprehensive list of Perl related mailing lists can be found at:

<http://lists.perl.org/>

18.1.15 Archives of comp.lang.perl.misc

The Google search engine now carries archived and searchable newsgroup content.

<http://groups.google.com/groups?group=comp.lang.perl.misc>

If you have a question, you can be sure someone has already asked the same question at some point on c.l.p.m. It requires some time and patience to sift through all the content but often you will find the answer you seek.

18.1.16 Where can I buy a commercial version of Perl?

In a real sense, Perl already *is* commercial software: it has a license that you can grab and carefully read to your manager. It is distributed in releases and comes in well-defined packages. There is a very large user community and an extensive literature. The `comp.lang.perl.*` newsgroups and several of the mailing lists provide free answers to your questions in near real-time. Perl has traditionally been supported by Larry, scores of software designers and developers, and myriad programmers, all working for free to create a useful thing to make life better for everyone.

However, these answers may not suffice for managers who require a purchase order from a company whom they can sue should anything go awry. Or maybe they need very serious hand-holding and contractual obligations. Shrink-wrapped CDs with Perl on them are available from several sources if that will help. For example, many Perl books include a