

PERL_DESTRUCT_LEVEL

Relevant only if your perl executable was built with **-DDEBUGGING**, this controls the behavior of global destruction of objects and other references. See `PERL_DESTRUCT_LEVEL` in *perlhack* for more information.

PERL_DL_NONLAZY

Set to one to have perl resolve **all** undefined symbols when it loads a dynamic library. The default behaviour is to resolve symbols when they are used. Setting this variable is useful during testing of extensions as it ensures that you get an error on misspelled function names even if the test suite doesn't call it.

PERL_ENCODING

If using the `encoding` pragma without an explicit encoding name, the `PERL_ENCODING` environment variable is consulted for an encoding name.

PERL_HASH_SEED

(Since Perl 5.8.1.) Used to randomise Perl's internal hash function. To emulate the pre-5.8.1 behaviour, set to an integer (zero means exactly the same order as 5.8.0). "Pre-5.8.1" means, among other things, that hash keys will be ordered the same between different runs of Perl.

The default behaviour is to randomise unless the `PERL_HASH_SEED` is set. If Perl has been compiled with `-DUSE_HASH_SEED_EXPLICIT`, the default behaviour is **not** to randomise unless the `PERL_HASH_SEED` is set.

If `PERL_HASH_SEED` is unset or set to a non-numeric string, Perl uses the pseudorandom seed supplied by the operating system and libraries. This means that each different run of Perl will have a different ordering of the results of `keys()`, `values()`, and `each()`.

Please note that the hash seed is sensitive information. Hashes are randomized to protect against local and remote attacks against Perl code. By manually setting a seed this protection may be partially or completely lost.

See Algorithmic Complexity Attacks in *perlsec* and `PERL_HASH_SEED_DEBUG` for more information.

PERL_HASH_SEED_DEBUG

(Since Perl 5.8.1.) Set to one to display (to `STDERR`) the value of the hash seed at the beginning of execution. This, combined with `PERL_HASH_SEED` is intended to aid in debugging nondeterministic behavior caused by hash randomization.

Note that the hash seed is sensitive information: by knowing it one can craft a denial-of-service attack against Perl code, even remotely, see Algorithmic Complexity Attacks in *perlsec* for more information. **Do not disclose the hash seed** to people who don't need to know it. See also `hash_seed()` of *Hash::Util*.

PERL_ROOT (specific to the VMS port)

A translation concealed rooted logical name that contains perl and the logical device for the `@INC` path on VMS only. Other logical names that affect perl on VMS include `PERLSHR`, `PERL_ENV_TABLES`, and `SYSTIMEZONE_DIFFERENTIAL` but are optional and discussed further in *perlvms* and in *README.vms* in the Perl source distribution.

PERL_SIGNALS

In Perls 5.8.1 and later. If set to **unsafe** the pre-Perl-5.8.0 signals behaviour (immediate but unsafe) is restored. If set to **safe** the safe (or deferred) signals are used. See **Deferred Signals (Safe signals)** in *perlipc*.

PERL_UNICODE

Equivalent to the `-C` command-line switch. Note that this is not a boolean variable— setting this to "1" is not the right way to "enable Unicode" (whatever that would mean). You can use "0" to "disable Unicode", though (or alternatively unset `PERL_UNICODE` in your shell before starting Perl). See the description of the `-C` switch for more information.

SYSS\$ LOGIN (specific to the VMS port)

Used if `chdir` has no argument and `HOME` and `LOGDIR` are not set.