JavaScript RegExp Reference

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The RegExp Object

A regular expression is a **pattern** of characters.

The pattern is used for **searching and replacing** characters in strings.

The **RegExp Object** is a regular expression with added **Properties** and **Methods**.

Syntax

```
/pattern/modifier(s);
```

Example

```
let pattern = /w3schools/i;
```

Try it Yourself »

Example explained:

w3schools	The pattern to search for

For a tutorial about Regular Expressions, read our JavaScript RegExp Tutorial.

Browser Support

`/regexp/` is an ECMAScript1 (JavaScript 1997) feature.

It is supported in all browsers:

Chrome	Edge	Firefox	Safari	Opera	IE
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Modifiers

Modifiers define how to perform the search:

Modifier	Description
/g	Perform a global match (find all)
/i	Perform case-insensitive matching
/m	Perform multiline matching

Brackets

Brackets are used to find a range of characters:

Bracket	Description
[abc]	Find any character between the brackets
[^abc]	Find any character NOT between the brackets
[0-9]	Find any character between the brackets (any digit)

Metacharacters

Metacharacters are characters with a special meaning:

Character	Description
.	Find a single character, except newline or line terminator
\w	Find a word character
\W	Find a non-word character
\d	Find a digit
\D	Find a non-digit character
\s	Find a whitespace character
\S	Find a non-whitespace character
\b	Find a match at the beginning/end of a word, beginning like this: \bHI, end like this: HI\b
\B	Find a match, but not at the beginning/end of a word
\0	Find a NULL character
\n	Find a new line character

\t	Find a tab character
\v	Find a vertical tab character
\xxx	Find the character specified by an octal number xxx
\xdd	Find the character specified by a hexadecimal number dd
\udddd	Find the Unicode character specified by a hexadecimal number dddd

Quantifiers

Quantifier	Description
n+	Matches any string that contains at least one *n*
n*	Matches any string that contains zero or more occurrences of *n*
n?	Matches any string that contains zero or one occurrences of *n*
n{X}	Matches any string that contains a sequence of *X* *n*'s
n{X,Y}	Matches any string that contains a sequence of X to Y *n*'s
n{X,}	Matches any string that contains a sequence of at least X *n*'s
n$	Matches any string with *n* at the end of it
^n	Matches any string with *n* at the beginning of it
?=n	Matches any string that is followed by a specific string *n*
?!n	Matches any string that is not followed by a specific string *n*

RegExp Object Properties

Property	Description
constructor	Returns the function that created the RegExp object's prototype
global	Checks whether the "g" modifier is set

multiline	Checks whether the "m" modifier is set
source	Returns the text of the RegExp pattern

RegExp Object Methods

Method	Description
compile()	Deprecated in version 1.5. Compiles a regular expression
exec()	Tests for a match in a string. Returns the first match
test()	Tests for a match in a string. Returns true or false
toString()	Returns the string value of the regular expression

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