**Perl Regex Quick Reference 1.06**

**Specific characters Metacharacters:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **\t** | | A tab character |
| **\n** | | A newline character (OS neutral) |
| **\r** | | A carriage return character |
| **\f** | | A form feed character |
| **\c*X*** | | Control character **CTRL-*X*** |
| **\*NNN*** | | Octal code for character ***NNN*** |
| **.** | Match any one character (except **\n**) | | |
| **|** | Alternation | | |
| **( )** | Group and capture | | |
| **[ ]** | Define character class | | |
| **\** | Modify the meaning of the next char. | | |

**Anchors:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **^** | Match at the beginning of a string (or line with /m) |
| **$** | Match at the end of a string (or line with /m) |
| **\b** | Match at a ‘word’ boundary |
| **\B** | Match at not a ‘word’ boundary |
| **\A** | Anchor the beginning of string |
| **\z** | Anchor the ending of string, nothing can be followed |
| **\Z** | Anchor the ending of string, it can be followed a newlinie |

 **Quantifiers**:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **\*** | Match 0 or more times |
| **+** | Match 1 or more times |
| **?** | Match 0 or 1 times |
| **{*N*}** | Match exactly ***N***times |
| **{*N,*}** | Match at least ***N***times |
| **{*N,M*** **}** | Match at least ***N***but not more than ***M***  times |

**Character class metacharacters:**

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| --- | --- |
| **^** | If the first character of a class, negates that class |
| **-** | Unless first or last character of a class, used for a range |

**Character class shortcuts:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **\d** | **[0-9]** | A digit |
| **\D** | **[^0-9]** | A non-digit |
| **\s** | **[ \t\n\r\f]** | A whitespace char. |
| **\S** | **[^ \t\n\r\f]** | A non-whitespace char. |
| **\w** | **[a-zA-Z0-9\_]** | A ‘word’ char. |
| **\W** | **[^a-zA-Z0-9\_]** | A ‘non-word’ char. |

**Metaquote & case translations:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **\Q** | Quote (de-meta) characters until **\E** |
| **\U** | Uppercase characters until **\E** |
| **\L** | Lowercase characters until **\E** |

**Special variables:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **$`** | The characters to the left of the match  ${^PREMATCH} and \p |
| **$&** | The characters that matched   ${^MATCH} |
| **$’** | The characters to the right of the match   ${^POSTMATCH} |
| **\*N*** | The characters captured by the ***N***th set of parentheses (if on the match side) |
| **\g{N}** | The same to the previous |
| **(?:)** | Non-capturing parentheses to make sure capture the group (?:bronto)? |
| **(?<LABEL>)** | Change key from N to LABEL about previous |
| **\g{LABLEL}** | Captured the labeled |
| **\k<LABLE>** | The same to the previous |
| **$+{LABLE}** | Call the labeled variable |
| **$*N*** | The characters captured by the ***N***th set of parentheses (if not on the match side) |
| **%+** | All variables are stored in this hash |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **$.** | Current line # of the last file handle used |
| **$,** | Default output separator. $, = ‘ ‘ |
| **$!** | Errno value (numeric) or system error (string) |
| **$/** | Input record separator, set to newline by default |
| **$$** | Pid of the program |
| **$0** | Name of the program |
| **$\_** | Default parameter |
| **@\_** | Default parameter list |
| **@ARGV** | Command line parameter list |
| **%ENV** | Environment hash |

**Modifiers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **/i** | Ignore case |
| **/g** | Match globally (all) |
| **/m** | Let **^** and **$** match next to embedded **\n** |
| **/s** | Let **.** match **\n** |
| **/x** | Ignore most whitespace and allow comments |
| **/e** | Evaluate right hand side of **s///** as an expression |
| **/p** | So that we can use ${^PREMATCH} that is better than $`and $& $’ |
| **/a** | Old version |
| **/r** | Substitution operator switch |

All except **/e** apply to both **m//** and **s///** .

**Binding operators:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **=~** | True if the regex matches |
| **!~** | True if the regex doesn’t match |