

# tiny regex intro an receipts

Some people, when confronted with a problem, think "I know, I'll use regular expressions." Now they have two problems.

## However ...

- . (a dot) stands for any character
- \* matches the previous item zero or more times
- + matches the previous item one or more times
- ? matches the previous item zero or one time
- ` escapes special character.. to match an actual period, \ for an actual backslash
- d any digit [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,0]
- D any character that is NOT a digit
- s any whitespace character, S anything not a whitespace character
- w any word character (letter, word, underscore), W anything not a word character
- [...] anything in the brackets, eg [ab3] matches anything that contains a or b or 3
  - ♦ [0-9] matches any digit, just like d, but [1-3] matches only 1 or 2 or 3
  - ♦ [A-Z] matches any capital letter
  - ♦ [a-Z] matches any letter
  - ♦ [a-z] lowercase letters only
- ^ beginning of a string (in which to search)
- \$ end of the string
- | logical OR
- () the full string in brackets, used for grouping, we'll combine that later

and so forth ... can google for more, it's powerful.

## some receipts

- we want to match the item\_id "0": ^0\$
  - ♦ ^ beginning of the string to match
  - ♦ 0 the item to look for
  - ♦ \$ end of string
  - ♦ just searching for "0" would give any id that contains a zero
  - ♦ 

<code>^0\$</code>	<code>^64\$</code>	<code>^128\$</code>
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 matches the item\_id "0", "64" and "128"
- assume we want to search for gen1 and gen2 items in the collection column. many roads lead to rome, but we can do: ^Gen[12]
  - ♦ ^ marks the beginning of the row (in our not that necessary)
  - ♦ Gen for obvious reasons
  - ♦ [12] either one or two
  - ♦ 

could also just match for [12] or `1		2`
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- we want to search for E2 and E3 items in rarity: E[23]
- |   |        |
|---|--------|
| we want to search for "Voice" or "Mouth" in the type column: `Voice | Mouth` |
|---|--------|