Name	ack	The Silver Searcher	git-grep	GNU grep	ripgrep
Project page	Link	Link	Link	Link	Link
Language  License	Perl Artistic License 2.0	C Apache License 2.0	C GPL 2	C GPL 3	Rust MIT/Unlicense
Regular expressions	Native Perl	Perl-compatible	Basic, extended, or Perl- compatible	Basic, extended, or Perl- compatible (experimental)	Fast non-backtracking, Perl- compatible, or automatic selection
Search where	anywhere	anywhere	git repository by default, or	anywhere	anywhere
Search git history			anywhere withno-index		
Include/exclude files by filetype  Specify filetype by file extension	✓ ✓				
Specify filetype by pattern match on filename					
Specify filetype by pattern match on first line of file  Configuration file	System-, user- and project-		System-, user- and project-		Specified by
Ignore files based on .gitignore or .ignore files	level		level		RIPGREP_CONFIG_PATH environment variable
Parallelism		✓, threads	✓, threads		✓, threads
Deterministic output  Match patterns across newlines	✓, usingsort-files				✓, usingsort path
Smart case searching					
Multiple patterns with boolean expressions  Print lines by number					
Show proximity of matches to other matches	✓, in ack 3				
Build output for each line based on match groups  Limit length of output lines					✓ ✓
Underline matches to show matches w/o color  Search in gzip files					
Ignore case					
Smart case searching (case-insensitive unless the pattern contains a capital letter)					
Re-enable case-sensitive search over case-insensitive or smart-case search	•	•	•		
Match whole words  Invert match	✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	✓ ✓	
Match entire line only  Specify pattern explicitly				•	
Specify pattern explicitly  Read patterns from a file					
Specify multiple patterns with boolean expressions  Match patterns across newlines					
Match patterns across newlines  Print specific lines by number					
Use fixed strings, not regular expressions, for a literal match					
Use basic regular expressions  Use extended regular expressions					
Use Perl (or Perl-compatible) regular expressions					
Print only filenames that contain matches					
Print only filenames that do not contain matches  Show only the part of a line that matched					
Specify output for each line match					
Print the filename for each match  Suppress the prefixing filename on output					
Print paths relative to the project top directory			~		
Prefix the line number to matching lines  Suppress line numbers		✓ ✓	✓ ✓		✓ ✓
Print a heading of each file's name before its matches	•	•	•		•
Specify filename to show for matches on STDIN  Show the column number of the first match					
Print lines of context after matches  Print lines of context before matches	•	✓		•	
Print lines of context before matches  Print lines of context before and after matches			✓		
Show number of lines matching per file  Print null byte as separator between filenames				✓	
Stop searching in each file after NUM matches		✓		•	
Stop searching after one match of any kind  Print the byte offset within the file before each line					
Suppress error messages about nonexistent or unreadable files					
Limit length of output lines  Do not output matched lines					
Print stats (files scanned, time taken, etc.)		•			•
Enable color output		•			
Underline matches  Set colors for various output items	✓				
Pipe output through a pager or other command  Separate match output with blank lines unless they are on adjacent	✓				
lines  Group together all matches in a file	✓ ✓				
Specify group separator  Show the function name of the match				•	
Show the function name of the match  Show the function in which a match was found					
Print a break between results from different files  Flush output on every line					
Only print the files selected, without searching					
Show which types each file has					
List searchable files that match a pattern  Read the list of files to search from FILE	✓				
Sort the found files lexically  Pond the list of files to search from STDIN	•				
Read the list of files to search from STDIN  Limit search to filenames matching a pattern					
Search hidden files					
Search only files of a given type  Exclude files of a given type					
Recurse into subdirectories					
Recurse into subdirectories, following symlinks  No descending into subdirectories					
Add/remove directory from list of ignored dirs					
Don't respect ignore files (.gitignore, .ignore, etc)  Ignore files larger than a given size					
Specify files to search				•	
Ignore files/directories matching  Add filter for ignoring files					
Include only files of recognized types Follow symlinks					
Don't follow links to other devices					
Search all types of files  Limit directory search depth					
Search binary files					
Treat files as binary  Don't search in binary files					
Treat binary files as if they were text  Search all text files					
Search all text files  Search all files					
Skip rules found in VCS ignore files (.gitignore, .hgignore, etc)		•			
Create a filetype, replacing the previous specs  Add specifications to an existing filetype					
Add specifications to an existing filetype  Remove a file type	✓				
Ignore default type definitions  Display all known types					
Display all known types  Print all lines, whether matching or not					
Print all lines, whether matching or not  Outputs a default ackrc for your customization to standard output	✓				
Dump information on which options are loaded  Specify a configuration file to use					
Specify a configuration file to use  Ignore environment variables and global configuration files					
Treat standard input as a pipe  Search contents of compressed files (e.g. gzip)					
22 - 23 - 25 - 25 - 25 - 25 - 25 - 25 -					<b>✓</b>