**Regular Expression**

Q. Is there a way in Notepad++ to delete every other or nth line? I have a massive list of data and I need to reduce the size.

The data itself is not that important and out of a list of 10,000 items I only need a selection of 5,000

ANS. I think it's a strange idea to try to do with Notepad++, but I like a challenge, so I decided to give it a spin.

Open the replace menu, fill in ([^\n]\*\n)[^\n]\*\n in the "Find what" box and $1 in the "Replace with" box. Then select regular expression for the search mode, click replace all and every second line is deleted.

You can build similar regexes if you want to do something similar. For example, (([^\n]\*\n){a})[^\n]\*\n will replace every nth line if you replace a by n - 1 and [^\n]\*\n([^\n]\*\n) will let you keep even lines instead of odd ones.

(That wasn't hard at all - all I had to do was update my outdated Notepad++ installation.)