

regular expressions

February 3, 2026

```
[2]: import re
```

```
[ ]: # search==> returns first match object or none
text="My phone number is 8309644254"
res=re.search(r'\d{10}',text)

print(res.group()) # Output: 8309644254
```

8309644254

```
[3]: # match --> match only at the beginning of the string
text="8309644254 is my phone number"
res=re.match(r'\d{10}',text)
print(res.group()) # Output: 8309644254
print(re.match(r'is',text)) # Output: None
```

8309644254

None

```
[4]: # full match --> match entire string
print(re.fullmatch(r'\d{10}',"8309644254")) # Output: <re.Match object;
↪span=(0, 10), match='8309644254'>
```

<re.Match object; span=(0, 10), match='8309644254'>

```
[7]: # findall --> returns all matches in a list
text="My phone numbers are 8309644254 and 9876543210"
res=re.findall(r'\d{10}',text)
print(res) # Output: ['8309644254', '9876543210']
```

['8309644254', '9876543210']

```
[8]: # re.sub() --> replace patter
text="My phone number is 8309644254"
print(re.sub(r'\d','*',text)) # Output: My phone number is *****
```

My phone number is *****

```
[ ]: # split using pattern
text="apple,banana;orange|grape"
```

```
print(re.split(r'[;,|]',text)) # [.,/] used as delimiters
```

```
['apple', 'banana', 'orange', 'grape']
```

Match every object

When search/match/fullmatch works → returns Match Object

common methods of Match Object: - group() → returns the matched string - start() → returns starting index of matched string - end() → returns ending index of matched string - span() → returns tuple of (start,end) index of matched string

() → Grouping

() → used to capture group

(?P...) → named capturing group

(?:...) → non-capturing group

```
[11]: text = "Date: 2026-01-31"
m = re.search(r"(\d{4})-(\d{2})-(\d{2})", text)

print(m.group(1)) # year
print(m.group(2)) # month
print(m.group(3)) # day
```

```
2026
```

```
01
```

```
31
```

```
[ ]: m.group() # full match
m.groups() # tuple of all groups
```

```
[ ]: ('2026', '01', '31')
```

```
[14]: print(m.groups())
# ('2026', '01', '31')
```

```
('2026', '01', '31')
```

```
[16]: # Named Groups(?P<name>)
m=re.search(r"(?P<year>\d{4})-(?P<month>\d{2})-(?P<day>\d{2})", "Date: 2026-01-31")
print(m.group("year")) # Output: 2026
print(m.group("month")) # Output: 01
print(m.group("day")) # Output: 31
print(m.groupdict()) # Output: {'year': '2026', 'month': '01', 'day': '31'}
```

```
2026
```

```
01
```

```
31
```

```
{'year': '2026', 'month': '01', 'day': '31'}
```

```
[17]: # Non -capturing Groups (?:...)  
re.search(r"(?:Mr|Mrs)\.?\s[A-Z]\w+", "Mr Smith") # Matches 'Mr Smith'
```

```
[17]: <re.Match object; span=(0, 8), match='Mr Smith'>
```

```
[13]: # regex  
# \ means escape/ special character  
# \. means literal dot  
# \w --> word character [a-zA-Z0-9_]  
# \d --> digit [0-9]  
# \s --> whitespace [ \t\n\r\f\v]  
# \W --> non-word character [^a-zA-Z0-9_]  
# \* --> literal *  
  
print(re.search(r"/", "a/b"))  
  
# ^ start of the string (starts with character or word )  
print(re.search(r"^Hello", "Hello World")) # Matches  
print(re.search(r"^World", "Hello World")) # None  
  
# $-- end of the string  
print(re.search(r"World$", "Hello World")) # Matches  
print(re.search(r"Hello$", "Hello World")) # None  
  
# . --> any character except newline  
print(re.search(r"h.t", "hat")) # Matches  
  
# * --> 0 or more ( a*c --> a followed by 0 or more a's followed by c)  
print(re.search(r"a*c", "aac"))  
  
# + --> 1 or more( a+c --> a followed by 1 or more a's followed by c)  
# + means must appear at least once  
print(re.search(r"a+c", "aac"))  
  
# ? --> 0 or 1 ( a?c --> a followed by 0 or 1 a's followed by c)  
print(re.search(r"a?c", "ac"))  
print(re.search(r"a?c", "c"))
```

```
<re.Match object; span=(1, 2), match='/'>  
<re.Match object; span=(0, 5), match='Hello'>  
None  
<re.Match object; span=(6, 11), match='World'>  
None  
<re.Match object; span=(0, 3), match='hat'>  
<re.Match object; span=(0, 4), match='aac'>  
<re.Match object; span=(0, 4), match='aac'>  
<re.Match object; span=(0, 2), match='ac'>
```

```
<re.Match object; span=(0, 1), match='c'>
```

```
[ ]: # { } --> exact count/range(a{m,n}c --> a followed by m to n a's followed by c)

# \d{10} --> exactly 10 digits
# \d{2,4} --> between 2 to 4 digits
# \d{3,} --> 3 or more digits
print(re.search(r"a{2,4}c", "aaac")) # Matches
print(re.search(r"a{4,}c", "aaac")) # None
```

```
<re.Match object; span=(0, 4), match='aaac'>
None
```

```
[18]: # | --> OR operator
print(re.search(r"cat|dog", "I have a dog")) # Matches 'dog'
print(re.search(r"cat|dog", "I have a cat")) # Matches 'cat'
```

```
<re.Match object; span=(9, 12), match='dog'>
<re.Match object; span=(9, 12), match='cat'>
```

```
[20]: # [ ] --> character set
# match one of many
# [aeiou] --> matches any vowel
print(re.search(r"[aeiou]", "sky")) # None
print(re.search(r"[aeiou]", "apple")) # Matches 'a'
print(re.search(r"[0-9]", "Version 2.0")) # Matches '2'

# inside [], symbol lose power
# [^0-9] --> matches any non-digit character
print(re.search(r"[^0-9]", "Version 2.0")) #
```

None

```
<re.Match object; span=(0, 1), match='a'>
<re.Match object; span=(8, 9), match='2'>
<re.Match object; span=(0, 1), match='V'>
```

```
[21]: # ( ) --> Group
# used to extract data
# apply quantifier to multiple chars

# (ab)+ ==> matches one or more occurrences of "ab"
print(re.search(r"(ab)+", "abababxyz")) # Matches 'ababab'

# (\d{2})-(\d{2}) ==> matches patterns like "12-34"
m = re.search(r"(\d{2})-(\d{2})", "Date: 12-34")
print(m.group(1)) # Output: 12
print(m.group(2)) # Output: 34
```

```
<re.Match object; span=(0, 6), match='ababab'>
12
```

```
[22]: # \d+ - digit (same as [0-9])
      # \D+ -->not digit
      # \w --> word character (same as [a-zA-Z0-9_])

      # \W --> non-word character (same as [^a-zA-Z0-9_])
      print(re.search(r"\D+", "Version 2.0")) # Matches 'Version '
```

```
<re.Match object; span=(0, 8), match='Version '>
```

```
[ ]: # (?=.) ==> Positive lookahead assertion, ensures that what follows matches the
      ↪ pattern inside the parentheses without including it in the match

      # examples
      # (?=.*[A-Z]) --> at least one uppercase
      # (?=.*[a-z]) --> at least one lowercase
      # (?=.*\d)     --> at least one digit
      # (?=.*[!@#$%^&*+=]) --> at least one special character
```

```
[ ]: # \s --> whitespace character (space, tab, newline)
      # \S --> non-whitespace character

      # \ ex: \s+, \S+
```

```
[23]: # Examples
      # Requirement:
      # username# letters, digits, dot =[A-Za-z0-9._]+ --> here _ means actual
      ↪ underscore
      # @ --> @
      # domain --> [a-zA-Z]+
      # .com or .in --> \.(com|in)+ ==> \. means actual dot

      pattern=r"^[a-zA-Z0-9._]+@[a-zA-Z]+\.(com|in)+$"
      print(re.search(pattern, "example.user_123@domain.com")) # Matches
```

```
<re.Match object; span=(0, 27), match='example.user_123@domain.com'>
```

```
[25]: # Indian mobile number
      # general mobile number: \d{10}
      # starts with 6-9, total 10 digits
      pattern=r"^[6-9]\d{9}$"
      print(re.search(pattern, "8309644254")) # Matches
```

```
<re.Match object; span=(0, 10), match='8309644254'>
```

```
[26]: # password(strong )
      # Min 8 chars
      # 1 uppercase
```

```
# 1 lowercase
# 1 digit
# 1 special

pattern = r"^(?=.*[A-Z])(?=.*[a-z])(?=.*\d)(?=.*
↳*[@#$%^&+=]) [A-Za-z\d@#$%^&+=]{8,}$" # at least 8 chars from the given set
```