

Regex Cheat Sheet



Regular Expressions

Basic Syntax

- /.../: Start and end regex delimiters
- | : Alternation
- (): Grouping

Position Matching

- ^: Start of string or start of line in multi-line mode
- \A: Start of string
- \$: End of string or end of line in multi-line mode
- \z : End of string
- \b : Word boundary
- \B: Not word boundary
- \< : Start of word
- \> : End of word

Character Classes

- \s : Whitespace
- \s : Not whitespace
- \w : Word
- \w: Not word
- \d : Digit
- \D : Not digit
- \x : Hexadecimal digit
- \0 : Octal digit

Special Characters

- \n : Newline
- \r : Carriage return
- \t : Tab
- \v : Vertical tab
- \f : Form feed
- \xxx : Octal character xxx
- \xhh : Hex character hh

Groups and Ranges

- . : Any character except newline (\n)
- (a|b): a or b
- (...) : Group
- (?:...): Passive (non-capturing) group
- [abc]: a, b or c
- [^abc] : Not a, b or c
- [a-z]: Letters from a to z
- [A-Z]: Uppercase letters from A to Z
- [0-9]: Digits from 0 to 9

Note: Ranges are inclusive.

Quantifiers

- *:0 or more
- +: 1 or more
- ?:0 or 1
- {3 : Exactly 3
- {3,}:3 or more
- {3,5}: 3, 4 or 5

Note: Quantifiers are greedy - they match as many times as possible. Add a ? after the quantifier to make it ungreedy.

Escape Sequences

- \:Escape following character. Used to escape any of the following metacharacters: {}^\$.|*+?.
- \Q : Begin literal sequence
- \E : End literal sequence

String Replacement

- \$1:1st group
- \$2 : 2nd group
- \$n: nth group
- `\$``: Before matched string
- \$': After matched string
- \$+: Last matched string
- \$&: Entire matched string

Note: Some regex implementations use \ instead of \$.

Assertions

- ?= : Lookahead assertion
- ?! : Negative lookahead
- ?<= : Lookbehind assertion
- ?!=, ?<! : Negative lookbehind
- ?> : Once-only subexpression
- ?(): Condition if-then

- ?()|: Condition if-then-else
- ?#: Comment

POSIX

- [:upper:]: Uppercase letters
- [:lower:]: Lowercase letters
- [:alpha:]: All letters
- [:alnum:]: Digits and letters
- [:digit:]: Digits
- [:xdigit:]: Hexadecimal digits
- [:punct:]: Punctuation
- [:blank:]: Space and tab
- [:space:]: Blank characters
- [:cntrl:]: Control characters
- [:graph:]: Printed characters
- [:print:]: Printed characters and spaces
- [:word:]: Digits, letters and underscore

Pattern Modifiers

- g: Global match
- i : Case-insensitive
- m: Multi-line mode. Causes ^ and \$ to also match the start/end of lines.
- s : Single-line mode. Causes . to match all, including line breaks.
- x : Allow comments and whitespace in pattern
- e : Evaluate replacement
- u : Ungreedy mode



clarketm commented on Oct 25, 2017 • edited ▼

Solid reference @vitorbritto!



loveplay1983 commented on Apr 11

Nice dude,i really need this.