Summary

This is just the tiniest tip of the iceberg of what regular expressions can do. In other words, even though you're completely overwhelmed by them now, believe me, you ain't seen nothing yet.

You should now be familiar with the following techniques:

- ^ matches the beginning of a string.
- \$ matches the end of a string.
- \b matches a word boundary.
- \d matches any numeric digit.
- \D matches any non-numeric character.
- x? matches an optional x character (in other words, it matches an x zero or one times).
- x* matches x zero or more times.
- x+ matches x one or more times.
- x{n,m} matches an x character at least n times, but not more than m times.
- (a|b|c) matches exactly one of a, b or c.
- (x) in general is a remembered group. You can get the value of what matched by using the <code>groups()</code> method of the object returned by <code>re.search</code>.

Regular expressions are extremely powerful, but they are not the correct solution for every problem. You should learn enough about them to know when they are appropriate, when they will solve your problems, and when they will cause more problems than they solve.