

Regular Expressions

Escape Character

\ - Escape character

Metacharacters (must be escaped)

^ \$ () . * + ?
[{ \ | < >

Anchors

^ - Start of string
\A - Start of string
\$ - End of string
\Z - End of string
\b - Word boundary
\B - Not word boundary
\< - Start of word
\> - End of word

Character Classes

\c - Control character
\s - White space
\S - Not white space
\d - Digit
\D - Not digit
\w - Word
\W - Not word
\x - Hex digit
\0 - Oct digit

Special Characters

\n - New line
\r - Carriage return
\t - Tab
\v - Vertical tab
\f - From feed
\xxx - Oct character xxx
\xhh - Hex character hh

POSIX

[:upper:] - Upper case letters
[:lower:] - Lower case letters
[:alpha:] - All letters
[:alnum:] - Digits and letters
[:digit:] - Digits
[:xdigit:] - Hex 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

Quantifiers

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

Groups and Ranges

. - Any character except new line
(a|b) - a or b
(...) - Group
(?:...) - Passive group
[abc] - Range (a or b or c)
[^abc] - Not a or not b or not c
[a-q] - Letter between a and q
[A-Q] - Letter between A and Q
[0-7] - Digit between 0 and 7

Assertions

?= - Lookahead assertion
?! - Negative lookahead
?<= - Lookbehind assertion
?!= - Negative lookbehind
?<! - Negative lookbehind
?> - Once-only subexpression
?() - Condition if-then
?()| - Condition if-then-else
?# - Comment

Backreferences

\$n - n-th non-passive group
\$^ - Before natched string
\$' - After matched string
\$+ - Last matched string
\$\$ - Entire matched string

Pattern Modifiers

g - Global match
i - Case-insensitive
m - Multiple lines
s - Treat string as dingle line
x - Allow comments and white spaces
e - Evaluate replacement
U - Ungreedy pattern