

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	Hexadecimal digit
\0	Octal digit

POSIX	
[:upper:]	Upper case letters
[:lower:]	Lower case 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

Lookahead assertion
Negative lookahead
Lookbehind assertion
Negative lookbehind
Once-only Subexpression
Condition [if then]
Condition [if then else]
Comment

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

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"x" below represents a quantifier x? Ungreedy version of "x"

### **Escape Character**

\ Escape Character

# Metacharacters (must be escaped)

^	[	
\$	{	*
(	\	+
)	1	?
<	>	

#### **Special Characters**

\n	New line
\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 new line (\n)	
(a b)	a or b	
()	Group	
(?:)	Passive Group	
[abc]	Range (a or b or c)	
[^abc]	Not a or b or c	
[a-q]	Letter between a and q	
[A-Q]	Upper case letter	
	between A and Q	
[0-7]	Digit between 0 and 7	
\ <i>n</i>	nth group/subpattern	
Note: Ranges are inclusive.		

# Pattern Modifiers

g	Global match	
i	Case-insensitive	
m	Multiple lines	
S	Treat string as single line	
X	Allow comments and	
	white space in pattern	
е	Evaluate replacement	
U	Ungreedy pattern	

# String Replacement (Backreferences)

\$n	nth non-passive group	
\$2	"xyz" in /^(abc(xyz))\$/	
\$1	"xyz" in /^(?:abc)(xyz)\$/	
\$`	Before matched string	
\$'	After matched string	
\$+	Last matched string	
\$&	Entire matched string	

#### Sample Patterns

Pattern	Will Match
([A-Za-z0-9-]+)	Letters, numbers and hyphens
$(\d{1,2}\V\d{1,2}\V\d{4})$	Date (e.g. 21/3/2006)
$([^\s]+(?=\.(jpg gif png))\.\2)$	jpg, gif or png image
(^[1-9]{1}\$ ^[1-4]{1}[0-9]{1}\$ ^50\$)	Any number from 1 to 50 inclusive
(#?([A-Fa-f0-9]){3}(([A-Fa-f0-9]){3})?)	Valid hexadecimal colour code
((?=.*\d)(?=.*[a-z])(?=.*[A-Z]).{8,15})	String with at least one upper case letter, one lower case letter, and one digit (useful for passwords).
$(\w+@[a-zA-Z_]+?\.[a-zA-Z]{2,6})$	Email addresses
(\<(/?[^\>]+)\>)	HTML Tags

Note: These patterns are intended for reference purposes and have not been extensively tested. Please use with caution and test thoroughly before use.