

Regex Cheatsheet

A detailed cheat sheet featuring numerous regex examples and explanations on how regex works. Explore literal matching, metacharacters, groups, lookahead/lookbehind, alternation, and practical patterns for emails, URLs, dates, and code extraction.



Basic Regex Patterns

Literal & Simple Patterns	Character Classes		
/cat/ Matches the literal string "cat".	/[abc]/ Matches any one of the characters: a, b, or c.		
Example: In "concatenate", finds "cat" at position 0.	<pre>/[A-Z]/ Matches any uppercase letter. /[0-9]/ Matches any digit from 0 to 9.</pre>		
Matches the literal string "dog". Example: In "dogma", finds "dog" at the start.			
/123/ Matches the literal number sequence "123". Example: In "abc123xyz", finds "123".	/[a-zA-Z]/ Matches any letter, regardless of case.		
/hello/ Matches the literal word "hello".	/[^0-9]/ Matches any character that is not a digit.		
Example: In "well, hello there", finds "hello".	/[\s]/ Matches any whitespace character (space, tab, newline).		
Moria Matches the literal word "world". Example: In "hello world", finds "world".	Quantifiers		
a.b The dot (.) matches any character (except newline), so it finds patterns like "acb" or "a-b".	/a*/ Matches zero or more occurrences of "a". Example: Matches "", "a", "aa", etc.		
Anchors & Boundaries	 ∕a+/ Matches one or more occurrences of "a". Example: Matches "a", "aa", but not "". 		
Matches "Hello" only at the beginning of a string. Example: In "Hello there", matches at index 0.	/a?/ Matches zero or one occurrence of "a". Example: Matches "" or "a".		
world\$ Matches "world" only at the end of a string. Example: In "Hello world", matches at the end.	/a{3}/ Matches exactly three "a" characters.		
Altheorem And Altheorem And Altheorem Altheore	/a{2,}/ Matches two or more occurrences of "a".		
Example: In "123abc", matches "123".	/a{2,4}/ Matches between two and four occurrences of "a".		
Example: In "foo bar", matches "bar". /^start/ Matches the literal word "start" at the beginning.			
/end\$/ Matches the literal word "end" at the end.			
Advanced Regex Techniques			

Grouping & Capturing

(cat)/ Captures the sequence "cat" into group 1. Useful for backreferences.
/(dog cat)/ Matches either "dog" or "cat" and captures the match.
/(\d{3})-(\d{2})-(\d{4})/ Matches a pattern like a Social Security Number with three capturing groups.
/(?P <area/> \d{3})/ Uses a named capturing group "area" to capture three digits.
/(?:abc)/ A non-capturing group for the literal "abc"; grouping without storing the match.
1 Backreference to the first captured group. Ensures the same text is repeated.

Lookahead & Lookbehind

Alternation & Escaping

/cat dog/ Matches either "cat" or "dog" using alternation.
/a\+b/ Escapes the plus sign to match the literal string "a+b".
[/\[abc\]/ Escapes square brackets to match the literal string "[abc]".
Escapes the dot to match a literal period.
Matches a single backslash character.
/(a b)c/ Matches either "ac" or "bc" by grouping alternatives.

Practical Regex Examples

Email & URL Patterns

Date & Time Formats

Code Snippets & Extraction

Email Pattern 1	/^[\w]+@[\w]+\.[A-Za-z] {2,6}\$/ Matches a standard email address	ISO Date	/^\d{4}-\d{2}-\d{2}\$/ Matches dates in YYYY-MM-DD format.	Python Comment	/^\s*#.*\$/ Matches a Python comment line starting with '#'.
Email Pattern 2	format. /^[a-zA-Z0-9+-]+@[a-zA-Z0- 9-]+\.[a-zA-Z0-9]+\$/ A solution actions for unclidation	US Date	<pre>/^\d{2}/\d{2}/\d{4}\$/ Matches dates in MM/DD/YYYY format.</pre>	HTML Tag	<pre>/<\/?[a-zA-Z]+(\s+[a-zA- Z]+="[^"]*")*\s*>/ Matches a simple HTML tag with optional attributes</pre>
A robust pattern for validating emails. URL /^(https?://)?(www\.)?[\w-]+\.	European Date	/^\d{2}-\d{2}-\d{4}\$/ Matches dates in DD-MM-YYYY format.	JS Console Log	/console\.log\(.*\);/ Matches a JavaScript	
Pattern 1	[a-z]{2, }\$/ Matches basic URLs with optional http/https and <u>www</u> .	24-Hour Time	<pre>/^\d{2}:\d{2}:\d{2}\$/ Matches time in HH:MM:SS format</pre>	Python Function	console.log statement. //def\s+\w+\(.*\):/ Matches a Python function
URL /^(ftp http https):\/\/[\w]+ Pattern 2 (?:\.[\w\]+)+[\w\-\~:/?# [\]@!\$&'()*+,;=.]+\$/ A more comprehensive URL matching pattern.	12-Hour	/^\d{1,2}:\d{2}(?:AM PM)\$/		definition.	
	(?:\.[\w\]+)+[\w\-\~:/?# [\]@!\$&'()*+,;=.]+\$/	Time	Matches time in 12-hour format with AM/PM.	Java Main Method	<pre>/public\s+static\s+void\ s+main\(.*\)/</pre>
	A more comprehensive URL matching pattern.	Day of Week	<pre>/^(Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat S un)\$/ Matches abbreviated days of the week.</pre>		Matches a Java main method signature.
Simple URL	<pre>/^(www\.)?[\w-]+\.[a-z]{2,}\$/ Matches URLs without protocol.</pre>			TODO/FIXME Comment	/(TODO FIXME):.*/ Matches lines with TODO or
Email	/(mailto:)?[\w]+@[\w]+\.[A-				FIXME comments.
with mailto	Za-z]{2,6}/ Matches an email address with an optional "mailto:" prefix.			JS Variable Declaration	<pre>/\b(?:var let const)\s+\ w+\b/ Matches variable declarations in JavaScript.</pre>