

Definition

Regular expression is a tool for matching patterns in text. With the help of regular expression you can find, match and replace text in strings.

A regular expression is a special sequence of characters that helps you match or find other strings or sets of strings, using a specialized syntax held in a pattern.

Module name re is imported to be used.

White Space Characters

\n Newline

\s Space

\t Tab

\e Escape

\r Return

Identifiers

\d Any **single** character or number

\D Anything but a number (non-digit character)

\s Space

\S Anything but a space

\w Any character (A-Z, a-z, 0-9 and underscore)

\W Anything but a character

.

Any **single** character except for a new line

\b The white space around words

\. A period

Functions

match() Syntax - re.match(pattern, string, <flag=0>)

search() For any pattern in the string - only the first match

findall() Matches all occurrences

split() Splits the string - forms an array

replace() To replace one or more characters in a string

Modifiers

{x,y} We expect x to y integers

+ Match one or more occurrences

? Match 0 or 1 occurrence

* Match 0 or more of the preceding expression (eg. x* will match occurrences of x)

\$ Match the end of the string

^ Matching the beginning of a string

| Used as OR

[] Displaying a range

() To group the regular expressions



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