

Special char NOT requiring escape

<code>\</code>	Escape next character
<code>^</code>	Start-of-line
<code>\$</code>	End-of-line
<code>.</code>	Any char
<code>*</code>	0 or more quantifier
<code>~</code>	Match last given substitute string
<code>[...]</code>	Match range
<code>[^...]</code>	Not range
<code>&</code>	In replacement: insert whole matched pattern

Interpreted as regular expression operator without escaping (escape to match literal)

Special char requiring escape

<code>\<</code>	Beginning of a word
<code>\></code>	End of word
<code>\(...\)</code>	Group
<code>\ </code>	Separate alternative
<code>_.</code>	Any single char or end-of-line
<code>\+</code>	1 or more quantifier
<code>\=</code>	0 or 1 quantifier
<code>\?</code>	or or 1 quantifier
<code>\{n,m}</code>	n to m quantifier
<code>\{n}</code>	n quantifier
<code>\{n,}</code>	at least n quantifier
<code>\{,m}</code>	0 to m quantifier

Interpreted as regular expression operators only when escaped (otherwise will be interpreted as literals).

Useful examples

<code>:g/<pattern>/d_</code>	delete all lines matching pattern
<code>s/^\.*\$\n//</code>	delete empty lines
<code>s/<pattern>/new &/</code>	Replace pattern by "new <whole matched pattern>"
<code>s/<pattern>/\=@a/</code>	Replace pattern by content of register "a"
<code>s/<pattern>/\gn</code>	Count nb occurrence of pattern

Look around assertions

<code>\@<=</code>	positive look behind
<code>\@<!</code>	negative look behind
<code>\@=</code>	positive look ahead
<code>\@!</code>	negative look ahead

Must follow a group matching what to look behind or ahead (ex: `\(<pattern>\)\@<=`)



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Published 19th December, 2016.
 Last updated 19th December, 2016.
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