

Special characters	Methods of 're' module	Methods of 're' module (cont)
.	re.compile( <i>pattern</i> , <i>flags=0</i> ) Compile a regular expression pattern into a regular expression object. Can be used with <i>match()</i> , <i>search()</i> and others	re.sub( <i>pattern</i> , <i>repl</i> , <i>string</i> , <i>count=0</i> , <i>flags=0</i> ) Return the <b>string</b> obtained by replacing the leftmost non-overlapping occurrences of <i>pattern</i> in <i>string</i> by the <i>replacement repl</i> . <i>repl</i> can be a function.
.	DOTALL: Match any character including newline	
^	Default: Match the start of a string	re.search( <i>pattern</i> , <i>string</i> , <i>flags=0</i> ) Search through <i>string</i> matching the first location of the RE. Returns a <b>match object</b> or <b>None</b>
^	MULTILINE: Match immediately after each newline	re.match( <i>pattern</i> , <i>string</i> , <i>flags=0</i> ) If zero or more characters at the beginning of a string match <i>pattern</i> return a <b>match object</b> or <b>None</b>
\$	Match the end of a string	re.fullmatch( <i>pattern</i> , <i>string</i> , <i>flags=0</i> ) If the whole <i>string</i> matches the <i>pattern</i> return a <b>match object</b> or <b>None</b>
\$	MULTILINE: Also match before a newline	
*	Match 0 or more repetitions of RE	re.split( <i>pattern</i> , <i>string</i> , <i>maxsplit=0</i> , <i>flags=0</i> ) Split <i>string</i> by the occurrences of <i>pattern</i> <i>maxsplit</i> times if non-zero. Returns a <b>list</b> of all groups.
+	Match 1 or more repetitions of RE	re.findall( <i>pattern</i> , <i>string</i> , <i>flags=0</i> ) Return all non-overlapping matches of <i>pattern</i> in <i>string</i> as <b>list</b> of strings.
?	Match 0 or 1 repetitions of RE	
*, +, ??	Match non-greedy as <i>few</i> characters as possible	re.finditer( <i>pattern</i> , <i>string</i> , <i>flags=0</i> ) Return an <b>iterator</b> yielding <b>match objects</b> over all non-overlapping matches for the <i>pattern</i> in <i>string</i>
{m}	Match exactly <i>m</i> copies of the previous RE	
{m,n}	Match from <i>m</i> to <i>n</i> repetitions of RE	
{m,n}?	Match non-greedy	
\	Escape special characters	
[]	Match a <i>set</i> of characters	
	RE1 RE2: Match either RE1 or RE2 non-greedy	
(...)	Match RE inside parentheses and indicate start and end of a group	
With RE is the resulting regular expression.		
Special characters must be escaped with \ if it should match the character literally		



### Raw String Notation

In raw string notation `r"te xt"` there is no need to escape the backslash character again.

```
>>> re.match(r"\W(.)\1\W", "t\te xt")
<re.Match object; span=(0, 4), match='t\te xt'>
>>> re.match(r"\W(.)\\1\\W", "t\te xt")
<re.Match object; span=(0, 4), match='t\te xt'>
```

### Reference

<https://docs.python.org/3/howto/regex.html>

<https://docs.python.org/3/library/re.html>

### Extensions

(...)	This is the start of an extension
(?)	The letters set the corresponding flags <i>See flags</i>
(?:...)	A non-capturing version of regular parentheses

Extensions (cont)	Match objects	Match objects (cont)
(?P<name>...)	Like regular paranthes but with a <i>named</i> group	Match.expand( <i>template</i> ) Return the string obtained by backslash substitution on <i>template</i> , as done by the <b>sub()</b> method
(?P=name)	A backreference to a <i>named</i> group	Match.lastindex The integer index of the last matched capturing group, or None.
(?#...)	A comment	Match.lastgroup The name of the last matched capturing group or None
(?=...)	<i>lookahead assertion</i> : Matches if ... matches next without consuming the string	Match.group( [ <i>group1</i> ,...]) Returns one or more subgroups of the match. 1 Argument returns <b>string</b> and more arguments return a <b>tuple</b> .
(?!...)	<i>negative lookahead assertion</i> : Matches if ... doesn't match next	Match.__getitem__( <i>g</i> ) Access groups with <i>m[0]</i> , <i>m[1]</i> ...
(?<=...)	<i>positive lookbehind assertion</i> : Match if the current position in the string is preceded by a match for ... that ends the current position	Match.groups( <i>default=None</i> ) Return a <b>tuple</b> containing all the subgroups of the match
(?<!=...)	<i>negative lookbehind assertion</i> : Match if the current position in the string is <b>not</b> preceded by a match for ...	Match.groupdict( <i>default=None</i> ) Return a <b>dictionary</b> containing the named subgroups of the match, keyed by the subgroup name.
(? (id/name)yes-pattern no-pattern)	Match with <i>yes-pattern</i> if the group with gived <i>id</i> or <i>name</i> exists and with <i>no-pattern</i> if not	Match.start( [ <i>group</i> ]) Return the indices of the start of the substring matched by <i>group</i>
<b>Special escape characters</b>		
		Match.string The string passed to <b>match()</b> or <b>search()</b>
	Match.end( [ <i>group</i> ]) Match the empty string at the beginning or end of a word	\b Match only at the start of the string
	Match.span( [ <i>group</i> ]) For a match <i>m</i> , return the 2-tuple ( <i>m.start</i> ( <i>group</i> ), <i>m.end</i> ( <i>group</i> ))	\B Match the empty string when <i>not</i> at the beginning or end of a word
	Match.pos The value of <i>pos</i> which was passed to the <b>search()</b> or <b>match()</b> method of the <b>regex object</b>	\D Match any character which is <b>not</b> a decimal digit
	Match.endpos Likewise but the value of <i>endpos</i>	\s Match <b>Unicode</b> white space characters which includes [ \t\n\r\f\v]
		\S Matches any character which is <b>not</b> a whitespace character. The opposite of \s
		\w Match <b>Unicode</b> word characters including [a-zA-Z0-9_]
		\W Match the opposite of \w
		\Z Match only at the end of a string



### Regular Expression Objects

Pattern.**search**(  
*string*[, *pos*[, *endpos*]])

See `re.search()`.  
*pos* gives an index where to start the search. *endpos* limits how far the string will be searched.

Pattern.**match**(  
*string*[, *pos*[, *endpos*]])

Likewise but see `re.match()`

Pattern.**fullmatch**(  
*string*[, *pos*[, *endpos*]])

Likewise but see `re.fullmatch()`

Pattern.**split**(  
*string*, *maxsplit*=0)

Identical to `re.split()`

Pattern.**findall**(  
*string*[, *pos*[, *endpos*]])

Similar to `re.findall()` but with additional parameters *pos* and *endpos*

Pattern.**finditer**(  
*string*[, *pos*[, *endpos*]])

Similar to `re.finditer()` but with additional parameters *pos* and *endpos*

Pattern.**sub**(  
*repl*, *string*, *count*=0)

Identical to `re.sub()`

Pattern.**subn**(  
*repl*, *string*, *count*=0)

Identical to `re.subn()`

Pattern.**flags**

The regex matching flags.

### Regular Expression Objects (cont)

Pattern.**groups**

The number of capturing groups in the pattern

Pattern.**groupindex**

A dictionary mapping any symbolic group names to group members

Pattern.**pattern**

The pattern string from which the pattern object was compiled

These objects are returned by the `re.compile()` method

### Flags

ASCII, A

ASCII-only matching in \w, \b, \s and \d

IGNORECASE, I

ignore case

LOCALE, L

do a local-aware match

MULTILINE, M

multiline matching, affecting ^ and \$

DOTALL, S

dot matches all

u

unicode matching (just in (?aiLmsux))

VERBOSE, X

verbose

Flags are used in (?aiLmsux-imsx:...) or (?aiLmsux) or can be accessed with `re.FLAG`. In the first form flags are set or removed.

This is useful if you wish to include the flags as part of the regular expression, instead of passing a flag argument to the `re.compile()` function



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Page 3 of 3.

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