

## NAME

perlcheat - Perl 5 Cheat Sheet

## DESCRIPTION

This 'cheat sheet' is a handy reference, meant for beginning Perl programmers. Not everything is mentioned, but 195 features may already be overwhelming.

## The sheet

CONTEXTS	SIGILS	ref	ARRAYS	HASHES
void	\$scalar	SCALAR	@array	%hash
scalar	@array	ARRAY	@array[0, 2]	@hash{'a', 'b'}
list	%hash	HASH	\$array[0]	\$hash{'a'}
	&sub	CODE		
	*glob	GLOB	SCALAR VALUES	
		FORMAT	number, string, ref, glob, undef	
REFERENCES				
\	reference	\$\$foo[1]	aka \$foo->[1]	
\$@%&*	dereference	\$\$foo{bar}	aka \$foo->{bar}	
[]	anon. arrayref	\${\$foo[1]}[2]	aka \$foo->[1]->[2]	
{}	anon. hashref	\${\$foo[1]}[2]	aka \$foo->[1][2]	
\()	list of refs			
SYNTAX				
OPERATOR PRECEDENCE		foreach (LIST) { }	for (a;b;c) { }	
->		while (e) { }	until (e) { }	
++ --		if (e) { } elsif (e) { } else { }		
**		unless (e) { } elsif (e) { } else { }		
! ~ \ u+ u-		given (e) { when (e) {} default {} }		
== !~				
* / % x		NUMBERS vs STRINGS	FALSE vs TRUE	
+ - .		=	=	undef, "", 0, "0"
<< >>		+	.	anything else
named uops		== !=	eq ne	
< > <= >= lt gt le ge		< > <= >=	lt gt le ge	
== != <=> eq ne cmp ~~		<=>	cmp	
&				
^		REGEX MODIFIERS	REGEX METACHARS	
&&		/i case insensitive	^	string begin
//		/m line based ^\$	\$	str end (bfr \n)
.. ...		/s . includes \n	+	one or more
?:		/x ignore wh.space	*	zero or more
= += last goto		/p preserve	?	zero or one
, =>		/a ASCII /aa safe	{3,7}	repeat in range
list ops		/l locale /d dual		alternation
not		/u Unicode	[]	character class
and		/e evaluate /ee rpts	\b	boundary
or xor		/g global	\z	string end
		/o compile pat once	()	capture
DEBUG			(?:p)	no capture
-MO=Deparse		REGEX CHARCLASSES	(?#t)	comment
-MO=Terse		. [^\n]	(?=p)	ZW pos ahead
-D##		\s whitespace	(?!p)	ZW neg ahead
-d:Trace		\w word chars	(?<=p)	ZW pos behind \K
		\d digits	(?<!p)	ZW neg behind
CONFIGURATION		\pP named property	(?>p)	no backtrack
perl -V:ivsize		\h horiz.wh.space	(? p p)	branch reset
		\R linebreak	(?<n>p)	named capture

		\S \W \D \H negate	\g{n} ref to named cap
			\K keep left part
FUNCTION RETURN LISTS			
stat	localtime	caller	SPECIAL VARIABLES
0 dev	0 second	0 package	\$_ default variable
1 ino	1 minute	1 filename	\$0 program name
2 mode	2 hour	2 line	\$/ input separator
3 nlink	3 day	3 subroutine	\$\ output separator
4 uid	4 month-1	4 hasargs	\$  autoflush
5 gid	5 year-1900	5 wantarray	\$! sys/libcall error
6 rdev	6 weekday	6 evaltext	\$_ eval error
7 size	7 year-day	7 is_require	\$\$ process ID
8 atime	8 is_dst	8 hints	\$. line number
9 mtime		9 bitmask	@ARGV command line args
10 ctime		10 hinthash	@INC include paths
11 blksize		3..10 only	@_ subroutine args
12 blksize		with EXPR	%ENV environment

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The first version of this document appeared on Perl Monks, where several people had useful suggestions. Thank you, Perl Monks.

A special thanks to Damian Conway, who didn't only suggest important changes, but also took the time to count the number of listed features and make a Perl 6 version to show that Perl will stay Perl.

## AUTHOR

Juerd Waalboer <#####@juerd.nl>, with the help of many Perl Monks.

## SEE ALSO

- [http://perlmonks.org/?node\\_id=216602](http://perlmonks.org/?node_id=216602) - the original PM post
- [http://perlmonks.org/?node\\_id=238031](http://perlmonks.org/?node_id=238031) - Damian Conway's Perl 6 version
- <http://juerd.nl/site.plp/perlcheat> - home of the Perl Cheat Sheet