Perl Quick Reference

Common Perl Syntax

Scalars

Description	Syntax	Example(s)
Scalars	*Numbers, Strings(Text)*	10, 20.32, "Hello"
Declaring Scalar Variables	**my** $*name*; $*name* = *value*; 　　**OR** **my** $*name* = *value*;	my $number; $number = 6; my $name = 'John';

Vectors

Description	Syntax	Example(s)
Vectors	*Arrays, Lists*	[1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6] ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd']
Declaring Vector Variables	**my @**name* = (*elements of list*)**;	my @numbers = (5, 6, 7); my @names = ('John', 'Jane');
Accessing & Changing Elements	$*arrayName*[*index*]; $*arrayName*[*index*] = *value;* ***Indices start at 0!***	$numbers[0]; ----> **5** $names[0] = 'Joe';
Adding to back of array	**push(@**arrayName*, *value***);**	push(@numbers, 8); push(@names, 'Robert');
Remove from back of array	**pop(@**arrayName***);**	pop(@numbers); pop(@names);
Add to front of array	**unshift(@**arrayName*, *value***);**	unshift(@numbers, 4); unshift(@names, 'Mark');
Remove from front of array	**shift(@**arrayName***);**	shift(@numbers); shift(@names);

Arithmetic Operators

Description	Syntax	Example(s)
Add, Subtract, Multiply, Divide	+, - , * , /	5 + 2, 5 - 2, 5 * 2, 5 / 2
Modulus (Think Remainder)	%	5 % 2 = 1 6 % 4 = 2 10 % 10 = 0

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Comparison

Description	Syntax	Example(s)
Inequality Signs	<, >, <=, >=	3 < 5, 5 > 3, 9 >= 9, 7 <= 7
Equality Signs	==, !=, ~~	3 == 3, 7 != 10

Input/Output

Description	Syntax	Example(s)
Printing with Single Quotes	**print** '*Text to be printed*';	print 'Hello World!';
Printing with Double Quotes	**print** "*$variable other text*"	$greeting = 'Hello'; print "$greeting World!";
Printing with an implicit new line	**say** "*Text to be printed*";	say "Hello World!"; say $greeting;
User Input (Diamond Operator)	**my** $*variable* = <>;	my $number = <>;
User Input with No New Lines	**chomp** (**my** $*variable* = <>);	chomp (my $greeting = <>);
Escape Characters	**\n (Newline), \t (Tab)** ***There are other characters!***	print 'Hello World!\n"; print 'Hello\tWorld!";

Selection and Repetition Statements

Description	Syntax	Example(s)

if / elsif/ else statements	**if** (*Condition*)
	  statement(s);
	elif (*Condition2*)
	  statement(s);
	else
	  statement(s);
		if ($x < 4)
		  print"x < 4";
		elif $x == 4
		  print"x == 4";
		else
		  print"x > 4";

While Statements	**while** (*Condition*)
	{
	  statement(s)
	  manipulate variable
	}
		while ($x < 5)
		{
		  say $x;
		  $x++;
		}

For Statements	**for** (*start; stop; modifiy*)
	{
	  statement(s)
	}
		for ($x = 0; $x < 5; $x++)
		{
		  say $x;
		}