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              ARRAYS          HASHES
void      $scalar   whole:    @array          %hash
scalar    @array    slice:    @array[0, 2]    @hash{'a', 'b'}
list      %hash     element:  $array[0]       $hash{'a'}
          &sub
          *glob     SCALAR VALUES
                    number, string, reference, glob, undef
REFERENCES
\       references      $$foo[1]      aka $foo->[1]
$@%&*   dereference     $$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
                        NUMBERS vs STRINGS  LINKS
OPERATOR PRECEDENCE     =           =       perl.plover.com
->                      +           .       search.cpan.org
++ --                   == !=       eq ne   cpan.org
**                      < > <= >=   lt gt le ge   pm.org
! ~ \ u+ u-             <=>         cmp     tpj.com
=~ !~                                       perldoc.com
* / % x                 SYNTAX
+ - .                   for     (LIST) { }, for (a;b;c) { }
<< >>                   while   ( ) { }, until ( ) { }
named uops              if      ( ) { } elsif ( ) { } else { }
< > <= >= lt gt le ge   unless  ( ) { } elsif ( ) { } else { }
== != <=> eq ne cmp ~~  for equals foreach (ALWAYS)
&
| ^                REGEX METACHARS            REGEX MODIFIERS
&&                 ^      string begin        /i case insens.
|| //              $      str. end (before \n) /m line based ^$
.. ...             +      one or more         /s . includes \n
?:                 *      zero or more        /x ign. wh.space
= += -= *= etc.    ?      zero or one         /g global
, =>               {3,7}  repeat in range     /o cmpl pat. once
list ops           ()     capture
not                (?:)   no capture       REGEX CHARCLASSES
and                []     character class  .  == [^\n]
or xor             |      alternation      \s == whitespace
                   \b     word boundary    \w == word characters
                   \z     string end       \d == digits
DO                                         \S, \W and \D negate
use strict;        DON'T
use warnings;      "$foo"           LINKS
my $var;           $$variable_name  perl.com
open() or die $!;  `$userinput`     use.perl.org
use Modules;       /$userinput/     perl.apache.org
```

```
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 yearday    7 is_require  $$    process ID
 8 atime   8 is_dst     8 hints       $.    line number
 9 mtime                9 bitmask     @ARGV command line args
10 ctime   just use                   @INC  include paths
11 blksz   POSIX::      3..9 only     @_    subroutine args
12 blcks   strftime!    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

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SEE ALSO

- *http://perlmonks.org/?node_id=216602* - the original PM post

- *http://perlmonks.org/?node_id=238031* - Damian Conway's Perl 6 version

- *http://juerd.nl/site.plp/perlcheat* - home of the Perl Cheat Sheet