

10stripe's Perl Cheat-Sheet

Variable Types and Sigils

\$scalar	Single value
@array	List of values
%hash	List of key/value pairs
*typeglob	All types (holds \$typeglob, @typeglob, etc.)
&subroutine	Named block of instructions
\\$reference	Memory address (or \@reference, etc)

Flow Control

{ }	"Naked" block for scope control
while (true) { }	Loop while evaluates to true
until (false) { }	Equivalent to while !(false) { }
if (true) { }	Execute once if evaluates to true
elsif (true) { }	Follows if, note the missing 'e'
else { }	Follows if
unless (false) { }	Equivalent to if !(false) { }
for (initial;test;iterate) { }	Loop, e.g. for (\$i=0;\$i<9;\$i++) { }
foreach (@items) { }	Option: foreach \$item (@items) { }
last	Exit loop; like C's break
next	Advance loop to next iteration
redo	Repeat loop, do not iterate

pack and unpack Templates

a	Null-padded string of bytes
A	Space-padded string of bytes
b	Bit string, ascending bit order inside each byte (like vec)
B	Bit string, descending bit order inside each byte
c	Signed char (8-bit integer)
C	Unsigned char (8-bit integer); see U for Unicode
d	Double-precision (64-bit) floating point, native format
f	Single-precision (32-bit) floating-point, native format
h	Hexadecimal string, low nybble first
H	Hexidecimal string, high nybble first
i	Signed integer, native format
I	Unsigned integer, native format
l	Signed long, always 32 bits
n	16-bit short in "network" (big-endian) order
N	32-bit long in "network" (big-endian) order
p	Pointer to a null-terminated string
P	Pointer to a fixed-length string
q	Signed quad (64-bit integer) value
Q	Unsigned quad (64-bit integer) value
s	Signed short value, always 16 bits
S	Unsigned short value, always 16 bits
u	A uuencoded string
U	Unicode character number
v	16-bit short in "VAX" (little-endian) order
V	32-bit long in "VAX" (little-endian) order
w	BER compressed integer
x	Null byte (skip forward a byte)
X	Back up a byte
Z	Null-terminated (and null-padded) string of bytes
@	Null-fill to absolute position

Bitwise Operators

&	And
	Or
^	XOR
<<	Shift left (Usage: 6 << 2 shifts left 2)
>>	Shift right
~	Bitwise negation

File Tests

Usage: if (-r \$filename) { }	
-r	Readable by this (effective) user/group
-w	Writable by this (effective) user/group
-x	Executable by this (effective) user/group
-o	Owned by this (effective) user/group
-R	Readable by this real user/group
-W	Writable by this real user/group
-X	Executable by this real user/group
-O	Owned by this real user/group
-e	Exists
-z	Exists and has zero size (false for directories)
-s	Exists and nonzero size (returns size in bytes)
-f	Is a plain file
-d	Is a directory
-l	Is a symbolic link
-S	Is a socket
-p	Is a named pipe ("fifo")
-b	Is a block-special file (like a mountable disk)
-c	Is a character-special file (like an I/O device)
-u	Is a setuid
-g	Is a setgid
-k	Has sticky bit set
-t	Is a tty
-T	"Looks like" plain text (reads beginning of file)
-B	"Looks like" binary file (reads beginning of file)
-M	Time since last modified (floating-point days)
-A	Time since last accessed (floating-point days)
-C	Time since inode last modified (floating-point days)

printf and sprintf Formats

%c	Character with the given number
%s	String
%d	Signed integer, in decimal
%u	Unsigned integer, in decimal
%o	Unsigned integer, in octal
%x	Unsigned integer, in hexadecimal
%e	Floating-point number, in scientific notation
%f	Floating-point number, in fixed decimal notation
%g	Floating-point, let Perl choose good way (%e or %f)
%%	Literal percent sign

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