

Activity

Write a regular expression that matches any lowercase string has a repeated vowel, such as 'noon', 'peel', 'festoon', or 'zebraa'.

✓ Click here to see the answer **after** you've tried it yourself at regex101.com.

anything *double vowels* *anything.*



regex101.com

REGULAR EXPRESSION no match

/ insert your regular expression here / gm

TEST STRING

noon
neon
peel
festoon
zebraa
zebra

6:6

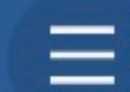
Even more regex syntax

operation	example	matches	does not match
escape character	umich\.edu	'umich.edu'	'umich!edu'
beginning of line	^ark	'ark two' 'ark o ark'	'dark'
end of line	ark\$	'dark' 'ark o ark'	'ark two'
zero or one	cat?	'ca' 'cat'	'cart' (matches 'ca' only)
built-in character classes*	\w+ \d+	'billy' '231231'	'this person' '858 people'
character class negation	[^a-z]+	'WOLVERINE551' '1721\$\$'	'porch' 'billy.edu'

anchor

```
/(.*[a-z].*[0-9].*)|(.*[0-9].*[a-z].*)/gm
```

```
billy398
398!!billy
bil3ly98
DOGS
12345
HE110
```



REGULAR EXPRESSION

no match (28 steps, 60µs)

/ ^734-764\$ / gm

TEST STRING

yoo•text•me•at•734-764-1000•real•quick

←

734-764-1000•is•where•you•can•reach•me

←

text•me•at:•734-764

←

734-764-1000

Example (anchors):

- What does 734-764 match?
- What does ^734-764 match?
- What does 734-764\$ match?

what if you remove the anchors?.





Example (built-in character classes):

- What does `\d{3} \d{3}-\d{4}` match?
- What does `\bcat\b` match? Does it find a match in 'my cat is hungry'? What about 'concatenate', 'kitty cat', or 'in-the-cat-hat'?

Remember, in Python's implementation of regex,

- `\d` refers to digits.
- `\w` refers to alphanumeric characters (`[A-Z] [a-z] [0-9] _`). **Whenever we**



REGULAR EXPRESSION

3 matches (23 steps, 80µs)

`/ \bcat\b / gm`

TEST STRING

my • cat • is • hungry ←
 concatenate ←
 kitty • cat ←
 in-the-cat-hat ←
 in_the_cat_hat |

"word boundary"

underscores are alphanumeric!



Raw strings

When using regular expressions in Python, it's a good idea to use **raw strings**, denoted by an **r** before the quotes, e.g. `r'exp'`.

```
In [7]: re.findall('\bcat\b', 'my cat is hungry')
```

Out[7]: []

```
In [8]: re.findall(r'\bcat\b', 'my cat is hungry')
```

Out[8]: ['cat']

```
In [9]: # Huh?
print('\bcat\b')
ca
```

word boundary

raw string: always use for regex patterns

backspace/delete



- Earlier, we also saw that parentheses can be used to group parts of a together. When using `re.findall`, all groups are treated as captured

```
In [15]: # A regex that matches strings with two of the same vowel followed by 3 digits.
# We only want to capture the digits, but...
re.findall(r'(aa|ee|ii|oo|uu)(\d{3})', 'eoo124 and aa555 and 123')
```

Out [15]: [('oo', '124'), ('aa', '555')]

- To specify that we **don't** want to capture a particular group, use `?:` in parentheses at the start.

`?:` specifies a **non-capturing group**.

```
In [14]: re.findall(r'?:aa|ee|ii|oo|uu)(\d{3})', 'eoo124 and aa555 and 123')
```

Out [14]: ['124', '555']

