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

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

& |
|
= RESEX METACHARS   RESEX 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 compl 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
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

http://perldoc.perl.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     @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.

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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