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Red Hat Enterprise Linux Release 9.2 Manual Pages on 'perl.1' command

\$ man perl.1

PERL(1) Perl Programmers Reference Guide PERL(1)

NAME

perl - The Perl 5 language interpreter

SYNOPSIS

```
perl [ -sTtuUWX ] [ -hv ] [ -V[:configvar] ]  
    [ -cw ] [ -d[t][:debugger] ] [ -D[number/list] ]  
    [ -pna ] [ -Fpattern ] [ -l[octal] ] [ -O[octal/hexadecimal] ]  
    [ -ldir ] [ -m[-]module ] [ -M[-]'module...' ] [ -f ]  
    [ -C [number/list] ] [ -S ] [ -x[dir] ]  
    [ -i[extension] ]  
    [ [-e|-E] 'command' ] [ -- ] [ programfile ] [ argument ]...
```

For more information on these options, you can run "perldoc perlrun".

GETTING HELP

The perldoc program gives you access to all the documentation that comes with Perl. You can get more documentation, tutorials and community support online at <<https://www.perl.org/>>.

If you're new to Perl, you should start by running "perldoc perlintro", which is a general intro for beginners and provides some background to help you navigate the rest of Perl's extensive documentation. Run "perldoc perldoc" to learn more things you can do with perldoc.

For ease of access, the Perl manual has been split up into several sections.

perl	Perl overview (this section)
perlintro	Perl introduction for beginners
perlrun	Perl execution and options
perltoc	Perl documentation table of contents

Tutorials

perlreftut	Perl references short introduction
perldsc	Perl data structures intro
perllo1	Perl data structures: arrays of arrays
perlrequick	Perl regular expressions quick start
perlretut	Perl regular expressions tutorial
perlootut	Perl OO tutorial for beginners
perlperf	Perl Performance and Optimization Techniques
perlstyle	Perl style guide
perlcheat	Perl cheat sheet
perltrap	Perl traps for the unwary
perldebtut	Perl debugging tutorial
perlfaq	Perl frequently asked questions
perlfaq1	General Questions About Perl
perlfaq2	Obtaining and Learning about Perl
perlfaq3	Programming Tools
perlfaq4	Data Manipulation
perlfaq5	Files and Formats
perlfaq6	Regexes
perlfaq7	Perl Language Issues
perlfaq8	System Interaction
perlfaq9	Networking

Reference Manual

perlsyn	Perl syntax
perldata	Perl data structures
perllop	Perl operators and precedence
perlsub	Perl subroutines
perlfunc	Perl built-in functions
perlopentut	Perl open() tutorial

perlpacktut Perl pack() and unpack() tutorial

perlpod Perl plain old documentation

perlpodspec Perl plain old documentation format specification

perlpodstyle Perl POD style guide

perldiag Perl diagnostic messages

perldeprecation Perl deprecations

perllexwarn Perl warnings and their control

perldebug Perl debugging

perlvar Perl predefined variables

perlre Perl regular expressions, the rest of the story

perlrebackslash Perl regular expression backslash sequences

perlrecharclass Perl regular expression character classes

perlrefref Perl regular expressions quick reference

perlref Perl references, the rest of the story

perform Perl formats

perlobj Perl objects

perltie Perl objects hidden behind simple variables

perldbfilter Perl DBM filters

perlipc Perl interprocess communication

perlfork Perl fork() information

perlnumber Perl number semantics

perlthrtut Perl threads tutorial

perlport Perl portability guide

perllocale Perl locale support

perluniintro Perl Unicode introduction

perlunicode Perl Unicode support

perlunicook Perl Unicode cookbook

perlunifaq Perl Unicode FAQ

perluniprops Index of Unicode properties in Perl

perlunitut Perl Unicode tutorial

perlebcdic Considerations for running Perl on EBCDIC platforms

perlsec Perl security

perlsecpolicy Perl security report handling policy

perlmod	Perl modules: how they work
perlmodlib	Perl modules: how to write and use
perlmodstyle	Perl modules: how to write modules with style
perlmodinstall	Perl modules: how to install from CPAN
perlnewmod	Perl modules: preparing a new module for distribution
perlpragma	Perl modules: writing a user pragma
perlutil	utilities packaged with the Perl distribution
perlfiler	Perl source filters
perldtrace	Perl's support for DTrace
perlglossary	Perl Glossary

Internals and C Language Interface

perlembed	Perl ways to embed perl in your C or C++ application
perldebbugs	Perl debugging guts and tips
perlxstut	Perl XS tutorial
perlxs	Perl XS application programming interface
perlxstypemap	Perl XS C/Perl type conversion tools
perlclib	Internal replacements for standard C library functions
perlguts	Perl internal functions for those doing extensions
perllcall	Perl calling conventions from C
perlmroapi	Perl method resolution plugin interface
perlreapi	Perl regular expression plugin interface
perlreguts	Perl regular expression engine internals
perlapi	Perl API listing (autogenerated)
perlintern	Perl internal functions (autogenerated)
perliol	C API for Perl's implementation of IO in Layers
perlapiio	Perl internal IO abstraction interface
perlhack	Perl hackers guide
perlsources	Guide to the Perl source tree
perlinterp	Overview of the Perl interpreter source and how it works
perlhacktut	Walk through the creation of a simple C code patch
perlhacktips	Tips for Perl core C code hacking
perlpolicy	Perl development policies
perlgov	Perl Rules of Governance

perlgit Using git with the Perl repository

Miscellaneous

perlbook Perl book information

perlcommunity Perl community information

perldoc Look up Perl documentation in Pod format

perlhst Perl history records

perldelta Perl changes since previous version

perl5320delta Perl changes in version 5.32.0

perl5303delta Perl changes in version 5.30.3

perl5302delta Perl changes in version 5.30.2

perl5301delta Perl changes in version 5.30.1

perl5300delta Perl changes in version 5.30.0

perl5283delta Perl changes in version 5.28.3

perl5282delta Perl changes in version 5.28.2

perl5281delta Perl changes in version 5.28.1

perl5280delta Perl changes in version 5.28.0

perl5263delta Perl changes in version 5.26.3

perl5262delta Perl changes in version 5.26.2

perl5261delta Perl changes in version 5.26.1

perl5260delta Perl changes in version 5.26.0

perl5244delta Perl changes in version 5.24.4

perl5243delta Perl changes in version 5.24.3

perl5242delta Perl changes in version 5.24.2

perl5241delta Perl changes in version 5.24.1

perl5240delta Perl changes in version 5.24.0

perl5224delta Perl changes in version 5.22.4

perl5223delta Perl changes in version 5.22.3

perl5222delta Perl changes in version 5.22.2

perl5221delta Perl changes in version 5.22.1

perl5220delta Perl changes in version 5.22.0

perl5203delta Perl changes in version 5.20.3

perl5202delta Perl changes in version 5.20.2

perl5201delta Perl changes in version 5.20.1

perl5200delta	Perl changes in version 5.20.0
perl5184delta	Perl changes in version 5.18.4
perl5182delta	Perl changes in version 5.18.2
perl5181delta	Perl changes in version 5.18.1
perl5180delta	Perl changes in version 5.18.0
perl5163delta	Perl changes in version 5.16.3
perl5162delta	Perl changes in version 5.16.2
perl5161delta	Perl changes in version 5.16.1
perl5160delta	Perl changes in version 5.16.0
perl5144delta	Perl changes in version 5.14.4
perl5143delta	Perl changes in version 5.14.3
perl5142delta	Perl changes in version 5.14.2
perl5141delta	Perl changes in version 5.14.1
perl5140delta	Perl changes in version 5.14.0
perl5125delta	Perl changes in version 5.12.5
perl5124delta	Perl changes in version 5.12.4
perl5123delta	Perl changes in version 5.12.3
perl5122delta	Perl changes in version 5.12.2
perl5121delta	Perl changes in version 5.12.1
perl5120delta	Perl changes in version 5.12.0
perl5101delta	Perl changes in version 5.10.1
perl5100delta	Perl changes in version 5.10.0
perl589delta	Perl changes in version 5.8.9
perl588delta	Perl changes in version 5.8.8
perl587delta	Perl changes in version 5.8.7
perl586delta	Perl changes in version 5.8.6
perl585delta	Perl changes in version 5.8.5
perl584delta	Perl changes in version 5.8.4
perl583delta	Perl changes in version 5.8.3
perl582delta	Perl changes in version 5.8.2
perl581delta	Perl changes in version 5.8.1
perl58delta	Perl changes in version 5.8.0
perl561delta	Perl changes in version 5.6.1

perl56delta Perl changes in version 5.6
perl5005delta Perl changes in version 5.005
perl5004delta Perl changes in version 5.004
perlexperiment A listing of experimental features in Perl
perlartistic Perl Artistic License
perlgpl GNU General Public License

Language-Specific

perlcn Perl for Simplified Chinese (in EUC-CN)
perljp Perl for Japanese (in EUC-JP)
perlko Perl for Korean (in EUC-KR)
perltw Perl for Traditional Chinese (in Big5)

Platform-Specific

perlaix Perl notes for AIX
perlamiga Perl notes for AmigaOS
perlandroid Perl notes for Android
perlbs2000 Perl notes for POSIX-BC BS2000
perlcygwin Perl notes for Cygwin
perldos Perl notes for DOS
perlfreebsd Perl notes for FreeBSD
perlhaiku Perl notes for Haiku
perlhpux Perl notes for HP-UX
perlhurd Perl notes for Hurd
perlirix Perl notes for Irix
perllinux Perl notes for Linux
perlmacos Perl notes for Mac OS (Classic)
perlmacosx Perl notes for Mac OS X
perlnetware Perl notes for NetWare
perlopenbsd Perl notes for OpenBSD
perlos2 Perl notes for OS/2
perlos390 Perl notes for OS/390
perlos400 Perl notes for OS/400
perlplan9 Perl notes for Plan 9
perlqnx Perl notes for QNX

perlriscos	Perl notes for RISC OS
perlsolaris	Perl notes for Solaris
perlsymbian	Perl notes for Symbian
perlsynology	Perl notes for Synology
perltru64	Perl notes for Tru64
perlvms	Perl notes for VMS
perlvos	Perl notes for Stratus VOS
perlwin32	Perl notes for Windows

Stubs for Deleted Documents

perlboot
perlbot
perlrepository
perltodo
perltooc
perltoot

On a Unix-like system, these documentation files will usually also be available as manpages for use with the man program.

Some documentation is not available as man pages, so if a cross-reference is not found by man, try it with perldoc. Perldoc can also take you directly to documentation for functions (with the -f switch). See "perldoc --help" (or "perldoc perldoc" or "man perldoc") for other helpful options perldoc has to offer.

In general, if something strange has gone wrong with your program and you're not sure where you should look for help, try making your code comply with use strict and use warnings. These will often point out exactly where the trouble is.

DESCRIPTION

Perl officially stands for Practical Extraction and Report Language, except when it doesn't.

Perl was originally a language optimized for scanning arbitrary text files, extracting information from those text files, and printing reports based on that information. It quickly became a good language for many system management tasks. Over the years, Perl has grown into a

general-purpose programming language. It's widely used for everything from quick "one-liners" to full-scale application development.

The language is intended to be practical (easy to use, efficient, complete) rather than beautiful (tiny, elegant, minimal). It combines (in the author's opinion, anyway) some of the best features of sed, awk, and sh, making it familiar and easy to use for Unix users to whip up quick solutions to annoying problems. Its general-purpose programming facilities support procedural, functional, and object-oriented programming paradigms, making Perl a comfortable language for the long haul on major projects, whatever your bent.

Perl's roots in text processing haven't been forgotten over the years. It still boasts some of the most powerful regular expressions to be found anywhere, and its support for Unicode text is world-class. It handles all kinds of structured text, too, through an extensive collection of extensions. Those libraries, collected in the CPAN, provide ready-made solutions to an astounding array of problems. When they haven't set the standard themselves, they steal from the best -- just like Perl itself.

AVAILABILITY

Perl is available for most operating systems, including virtually all Unix-like platforms. See "Supported Platforms" in perlport for a listing.

ENVIRONMENT

See "ENVIRONMENT" in perlrun.

AUTHOR

Larry Wall <larry@wall.org>, with the help of oodles of other folks. If your Perl success stories and testimonials may be of help to others who wish to advocate the use of Perl in their applications, or if you wish to simply express your gratitude to Larry and the Perl developers, please write to perl-thanks@perl.org .

FILES

"@INC" locations of perl libraries

"@INC" above is a reference to the built-in variable of the same name;

see perlvar for more information.

SEE ALSO

<https://www.perl.org/> the Perl homepage
<https://www.perl.com/> Perl articles
<https://www.cpan.org/> the Comprehensive Perl Archive
<https://www.pm.org/> the Perl Mongers

DIAGNOSTICS

Using the "use strict" pragma ensures that all variables are properly declared and prevents other misuses of legacy Perl features.

The "use warnings" pragma produces some lovely diagnostics. One can also use the -w flag, but its use is normally discouraged, because it gets applied to all executed Perl code, including that not under your control.

See perldiag for explanations of all Perl's diagnostics. The "use diagnostics" pragma automatically turns Perl's normally terse warnings and errors into these longer forms.

Compilation errors will tell you the line number of the error, with an indication of the next token or token type that was to be examined. (In a script passed to Perl via -e switches, each -e is counted as one line.)

Setuid scripts have additional constraints that can produce error messages such as "Insecure dependency". See perlsec.

Did we mention that you should definitely consider using the use warnings pragma?

BUGS

The behavior implied by the use warnings pragma is not mandatory. Perl is at the mercy of your machine's definitions of various operations such as type casting, atof(), and floating-point output with sprintf().

If your stdio requires a seek or eof between reads and writes on a particular stream, so does Perl. (This doesn't apply to sysread() and syswrite().)

While none of the built-in data types have any arbitrary size limits

(apart from memory size), there are still a few arbitrary limits: a given variable name may not be longer than 251 characters. Line numbers displayed by diagnostics are internally stored as short integers, so they are limited to a maximum of 65535 (higher numbers usually being affected by wraparound).

You may submit your bug reports (be sure to include full configuration information as output by the myconfig program in the perl source tree, or by "perl -V") to <<https://github.com/Perl/perl5/issues>>.

Perl actually stands for Pathologically Eclectic Rubbish Lister, but don't tell anyone I said that.

NOTES

The Perl motto is "There's more than one way to do it." Divining how many more is left as an exercise to the reader.

The three principal virtues of a programmer are Laziness, Impatience, and Hubris. See the Camel Book for why.

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