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Windows 11 Help on 'FINDSTR' command

C:\>HELP FINDSTR

Searches for strings in files.

FINDSTR [/B] [/E] [/L] [/R] [/S] [/I] [/X] [/V] [/N] [/M] [/O] [/P] [/F:file]

[/C:string] [/G:file] [/D:dir list] [/A:color attributes] [/OFF[LINE]] strings [[drive:][path]filename[...]]

- /B Matches pattern if at the beginning of a line.
- /E Matches pattern if at the end of a line.
- /L Uses search strings literally.
- /R Uses search strings as regular expressions.
- /S Searches for matching files in the current directory and all subdirectories.
- /I Specifies that the search is not to be case-sensitive.
- /X Prints lines that match exactly.
- /V Prints only lines that do not contain a match.
- /N Prints the line number before each line that matches.
- /M Prints only the filename if a file contains a match.
- /O Prints character offset before each matching line.
- /P Skip files with non-printable characters.

/OFF[LINE] Do not skip files with offline attribute set.

- /A:attr Specifies color attribute with two hex digits. See "color /?"
- /F:file Reads file list from the specified file(/ stands for console).
- /C:string Uses specified string as a literal search string.
- /G:file Gets search strings from the specified file(/ stands for console).

/D:dir Search a semicolon delimited list of directories

strings Text to be searched for.

[drive:][path]filename

Specifies a file or files to search.

Use spaces to separate multiple search strings unless the argument is prefixed with /C. For example, 'FINDSTR "hello there" x.y' searches for "hello" or "there" in file x.y. 'FINDSTR /C:"hello there" x.y' searches for "hello there" in file x.y.

Regular expression quick reference:

Wildcard: any character

* Repeat: zero or more occurrences of previous character or class

^ Line position: beginning of line

\$ Line position: end of line

[class] Character class: any one character in set

[^class] Inverse class: any one character not in set

[x-y] Range: any characters within the specified range

\x Escape: literal use of metacharacter x

\<xyz Word position: beginning of word

xyz\> Word position: end of word

For full information on FINDSTR regular expressions refer to the online Command Reference.