

# Package ‘re’

September 2, 2024

**Title** 'Python' Style Regular Expression Functions

**Version** 0.1.0

**Description** A comprehensive set of regular expression functions based on those found in 'Python' without relying on 'reticulate'. It provides functions that intend to (1) make it easier for users familiar with 'Python' to work with regular expressions, (2) reduce the complexity often associated with regular expressions code, (3) and enable users to write more readable and maintainable code that relies on regular expression-based pattern matching.

**License** MIT + file LICENSE

**Encoding** UTF-8

**RoxygenNote** 7.2.3

**Imports** stringi

**URL** <https://pythonicr.github.io/re/>, <https://github.com/pythonicr/re>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/pythonicr/re/issues>

**Config/Needs/website** pythonicr/pythonicrtemplate

**Suggests** testthat (>= 3.0.0)

**Config/testthat/edition** 3

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Author** Garrett Shipley [aut, cre] (<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0444-0367>>)

**Maintainer** Garrett Shipley <garrett.shipley7@gmail.com>

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2024-09-02 14:30:07 UTC

## Contents

re_compile	2
re_contains	3
re_escape	4
re_findall	4
re_fullmatch	5
re_match	6

re_search . . . . .	7
re_split . . . . .	8
re_sub . . . . .	9

## Index 11

---

re_compile	<i>Create a regular expression object with specific flags</i>
------------	---

---

### Description

re\_compile compiles a regular expression pattern with specified flags. This function allows setting various flags akin to regex modifiers in other programming languages like Python. The flags control various aspects of pattern matching. This function is really just a way to set flag arguments with a constant variable.

### Usage

```
re_compile(pattern, IGNORECASE, I, MULTILINE, M, DOTALL, S, VERBOSE, X, NOFLAG)
```

### Arguments

pattern	The regular expression pattern to be compiled.
IGNORECASE	Flag to indicate case-insensitive matching.
I	Abbreviation for IGNORECASE.
MULTILINE	Flag to indicate multi-line matching, where ^ and \$ match the start and end of each line.
M	Abbreviation for MULTILINE.
DOTALL	Flag to indicate that . (dot) should match any character including newline.
S	Abbreviation for DOTALL
VERBOSE	Flag to allow a more verbose regex syntax, which can include comments and whitespace for readability.
X	Abbreviation for VERBOSE
NOFLAG	Flag to indicate that no flags should be set.

### Value

An object of class "Pattern" representing the compiled regular expression with the specified flags.

### See Also

[Python re.compile\(\) documentation](#)

### Examples

```
pattern <- re_compile("^abc", IGNORECASE)
pattern <- re_compile("end$", M = TRUE)
pattern <- re_compile("a.b", DOTALL = TRUE)
```

---

re_contains	<i>Check if string contains a regular expression</i>
-------------	--

---

### Description

re\_contains checks whether a specified pattern (regular expression) is found within each element of a character vector. If the provided pattern is not already a compiled pattern object, it compiles it using re\_compile.

### Usage

```
re_contains(pattern, string, ...)
```

### Arguments

pattern	A regular expression pattern or a compiled pattern object.
string	A character vector where each element is a string to be checked against the pattern.
...	Arguments passed on to <a href="#">re_compile</a> IGNORECASE Flag to indicate case-insensitive matching. I Abbreviation for IGNORECASE. MULTILINE Flag to indicate multi-line matching, where ^ and \$ match the start and end of each line. M Abbreviation for MULTILINE. DOTALL Flag to indicate that . (dot) should match any character including new-line. S Abbreviation for DOTALL VERBOSE Flag to allow a more verbose regex syntax, which can include comments and whitespace for readability. X Abbreviation for VERBOSE NOFLAG Flag to indicate that no flags should be set.

### Value

A logical vector of the same length as string, indicating whether each element contains a match for the pattern.

### Examples

```
pattern <- re_compile("^abc", IGNORECASE)
re_contains(pattern, "abcdef")
re_contains("xyz$", "hello world xyz")
```

---

re_escape	<i>Escape special characters</i>
-----------	----------------------------------

---

**Description**

re\_escape escapes all special characters in a string. This function is useful when you want to treat a string literally in a regular expression context, escaping characters that would otherwise be interpreted as special regex operators.

**Usage**

```
re_escape(pattern)
```

**Arguments**

pattern	A character vector where each element is a string in which special regex characters are to be escaped.
---------	--

**Value**

A character vector of the same length as pattern.

**See Also**

[Python re.escape\(\) documentation](#)

**Examples**

```
re_escape("a[bc].*d?")
re_escape(".*$|*+?{}[]()")
```

---

re_findall	<i>Extract all occurrences of a pattern in a string</i>
------------	---

---

**Description**

re\_findall extracts all occurrences of a specified pattern (regular expression) from each element of a character vector. If the provided pattern is not already a compiled pattern object, it compiles it using re\_compile.

**Usage**

```
re_findall(pattern, string, ...)
```

**Arguments**

pattern	A regular expression pattern or a compiled pattern object.
string	A character vector where each element is a string from which to extract matches of the pattern.
...	Arguments passed on to <a href="#">re_compile</a> IGNORECASE Flag to indicate case-insensitive matching. I Abbreviation for IGNORECASE. MULTILINE Flag to indicate multi-line matching, where ^ and \$ match the start and end of each line. M Abbreviation for MULTILINE. DOTALL Flag to indicate that . (dot) should match any character including new-line. S Abbreviation for DOTALL VERBOSE Flag to allow a more verbose regex syntax, which can include comments and whitespace for readability. X Abbreviation for VERBOSE NOFLAG Flag to indicate that no flags should be set.

**Value**

A list of character vectors, where each vector contains all the matches found in the corresponding element of string.

**See Also**

[Python re.findall\(\) documentation](#)

**Examples**

```
pattern <- re_compile("\\b\\w+\\b")
re_findall(pattern, "This is a test.") # Extracts all words
re_findall("\\d+", "123 abc 456")
```

---

re_fullmatch	<i>Match a pattern against the entire string</i>
--------------	--

---

**Description**

re\_fullmatch checks whether each element of a character vector fully matches a specified pattern (regular expression). If the provided pattern is not already a compiled pattern object, it compiles it using re\_compile. The function ensures that the entire string matches the pattern from start to end.

**Usage**

```
re_fullmatch(pattern, string, ...)
```

**Arguments**

pattern	A regular expression pattern or a compiled pattern object.
string	A character vector where each element is a string to be matched against the pattern.
...	Arguments passed on to <a href="#">re_compile</a>
	IGNORECASE Flag to indicate case-insensitive matching.
	I Abbreviation for IGNORECASE.
	MULTILINE Flag to indicate multi-line matching, where ^ and \$ match the start and end of each line.
	M Abbreviation for MULTILINE.
	DOTALL Flag to indicate that . (dot) should match any character including new-line.
	S Abbreviation for DOTALL
	VERBOSE Flag to allow a more verbose regex syntax, which can include comments and whitespace for readability.
	X Abbreviation for VERBOSE
	NOFLAG Flag to indicate that no flags should be set.

**Value**

A list where each element is a character vector containing the full match for the corresponding element of string, or character(0) if there is no match.

**See Also**

[Python re.fullmatch\(\) documentation](#)

**Examples**

```
pattern <- re_compile("\\d{3}-\\d{2}-\\d{4}")
re_fullmatch(pattern, "123-45-6789") # Full match
re_fullmatch("123-45-6789", "123-45-6789 and more") # No full match
```

---

re\_match

*Match a pattern at the start of a string*


---

**Description**

re\_match checks whether each element of a character vector matches a specified pattern (regular expression) at the start. If the provided pattern is not already a compiled pattern object, it compiles it using re\_compile. The function ensures that the matching occurs at the beginning of the string.

**Usage**

```
re_match(pattern, string, ...)
```

**Arguments**

pattern	A regular expression pattern or a compiled pattern object.
string	A character vector where each element is a string to be matched against the pattern at the beginning.
...	Arguments passed on to <a href="#">re_compile</a>
	IGNORECASE Flag to indicate case-insensitive matching.
	I Abbreviation for IGNORECASE.
	MULTILINE Flag to indicate multi-line matching, where ^ and \$ match the start and end of each line.
	M Abbreviation for MULTILINE.
	DOTALL Flag to indicate that . (dot) should match any character including new-line.
	S Abbreviation for DOTALL
	VERBOSE Flag to allow a more verbose regex syntax, which can include comments and whitespace for readability.
	X Abbreviation for VERBOSE
	NOFLAG Flag to indicate that no flags should be set.

**Value**

A list where each element is a character vector containing the match found at the start of the corresponding element of `string`, or character (`0`) if there is no match at the start.

**See Also**

[Python re.match\(\) equivalent functionality documentation](#)

**Examples**

```
pattern <- re_compile("\\d{3}")
re_match(pattern, "123abc")
re_match("abc", "xyzabc")
```

---

re_search	<i>Search for a pattern in a string</i>
-----------	---

---

**Description**

`re_search` searches for occurrences of a specified pattern (regular expression) within each element of a character vector. If the provided pattern is not already a compiled pattern object, it compiles it using `re_compile`.

**Usage**

```
re_search(pattern, string, ...)
```

**Arguments**

pattern	A regular expression pattern or a compiled pattern object.
string	A character vector where each element is a string in which to search for the pattern.
...	Arguments passed on to <a href="#">re_compile</a>
	IGNORECASE Flag to indicate case-insensitive matching.
	I Abbreviation for IGNORECASE.
	MULTILINE Flag to indicate multi-line matching, where ^ and \$ match the start and end of each line.
	M Abbreviation for MULTILINE.
	DOTALL Flag to indicate that . (dot) should match any character including new-line.
	S Abbreviation for DOTALL
	VERBOSE Flag to allow a more verbose regex syntax, which can include comments and whitespace for readability.
	X Abbreviation for VERBOSE
	NOFLAG Flag to indicate that no flags should be set.

**Value**

A list where each element is a character vector containing all matches found in the corresponding element of string. If no matches are found, the element will be character(0).

**See Also**

[Python re.search\(\) documentation](#)

**Examples**

```
pattern <- re_compile("\\d+")
re_search(pattern, "abc 123 xyz") # Finds "123"
re_search("\\bword\\b", "A sentence with the word.") # Finds "word"
```

---

re\_split

*Split a string by a regular expression pattern*


---

**Description**

re\_split splits each element of a character vector into substrings based on a specified pattern (regular expression). If the provided pattern is not already a compiled pattern object, it compiles it using re\_compile. The function allows for controlling the maximum number of splits performed.

**Usage**

```
re_split(pattern, string, ..., maxsplit = -1L)
```



**Arguments**

pattern	A regular expression pattern or a compiled pattern object.
string	A character vector where each element is a string to be split.
...	Arguments passed on to <a href="#">re_compile</a>
	IGNORECASE Flag to indicate case-insensitive matching.
	I Abbreviation for IGNORECASE.
	MULTILINE Flag to indicate multi-line matching, where ^ and \$ match the start and end of each line.
	M Abbreviation for MULTILINE.
	DOTALL Flag to indicate that . (dot) should match any character including new-line.
	S Abbreviation for DOTALL
	VERBOSE Flag to allow a more verbose regex syntax, which can include comments and whitespace for readability.
	X Abbreviation for VERBOSE
	NOFLAG Flag to indicate that no flags should be set.
maxsplit	The maximum number of splits to perform on each string. If -1L (default), all possible splits are performed.

**Value**

A list of character vectors, where each vector contains the substrings resulting from splitting the corresponding element of string.

**See Also**

[Python re.split\(\) documentation](#)

**Examples**

```
pattern <- re_compile("\\s+")
re_split(pattern, "Split this string") # Splits on whitespace
re_split("\\W+", "Split,with!punctuation.morestuff", maxsplit = 2)
```

---

re\_sub

*Substitute occurrences of a pattern in a string*


---

**Description**

re\_sub replaces all occurrences of a specified pattern (regular expression) in each element of a character vector with a replacement string. If the provided pattern is not already a compiled pattern object, it compiles it using `re_compile`.

**Usage**

```
re_sub(pattern, replacement, string, ...)
```

**Arguments**

pattern	A regular expression pattern or a compiled pattern object.
replacement	The replacement string.
string	A character vector where each element is a string in which the pattern will be replaced.
...	Arguments passed on to <a href="#">re_compile</a>
	IGNORECASE Flag to indicate case-insensitive matching.
	I Abbreviation for IGNORECASE.
	MULTILINE Flag to indicate multi-line matching, where ^ and \$ match the start and end of each line.
	M Abbreviation for MULTILINE.
	DOTALL Flag to indicate that . (dot) should match any character including new-line.
	S Abbreviation for DOTALL
	VERBOSE Flag to allow a more verbose regex syntax, which can include comments and whitespace for readability.
	X Abbreviation for VERBOSE
	NOFLAG Flag to indicate that no flags should be set.

**Value**

A character vector of the same length as string, with all occurrences of the pattern replaced by replacement in each element.

**See Also**

[Python re.sub\(\) documentation](#)

**Examples**

```
pattern <- re_compile("\\d+")
re_sub(pattern, "number", "Replace 123 with text.") # Replaces "123" with "number"
re_sub("\\s+", "-", "Split and join") # Replaces spaces with hyphens
```

# Index

`re_compile`, [2](#), [3](#), [5–10](#)  
`re_contains`, [3](#)  
`re_escape`, [4](#)  
`re_findall`, [4](#)  
`re_fullmatch`, [5](#)  
`re_match`, [6](#)  
`re_search`, [7](#)  
`re_split`, [8](#)  
`re_sub`, [9](#)