

# Package ‘re2’

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**Type** Package

**Title** R Interface to Google RE2 (C++) Regular Expression Library

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**Description** Pattern matching, extraction, replacement and other string processing operations using Google's RE2 <<https://github.com/google/re2>> regular-expression engine. Consistent interface (similar to 'stringr'). RE2 uses finite-automata based techniques, and offers a fast and safe alternative to backtracking regular-expression engines like those used in 'stringr', 'stringi' and other PCRE implementations.

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**Imports** Rcpp (>= 1.0.8.3)

**LinkingTo** Rcpp

**URL** <https://github.com/girishji/re2>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/girishji/re2/issues>

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re2_count	<i>Count the number of matches in a string</i>
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### Description

Vectorized over string and pattern. Match against a string using a regular expression and return the count of matches.

### Usage

```
re2_count(string, pattern)
```

### Arguments

string	A character vector, or an object which can be coerced to one.
pattern	Character string containing a regular expression, or a pre-compiled regular expression (or a vector of character strings and pre-compiled regular expressions). See <a href="#">re2_regexp</a> for available options. See <a href="#">re2_syntax</a> for regular expression syntax.

### Value

An integer vector.

### See Also

[re2\\_regexp](#) for options to regular expression, [re2\\_syntax](#) for regular expression syntax.

**Examples**

```
color <- c("yellowgreen", "steelblue", "goldenrod", "forestgreen")
re2_count(color, "e")
re2_count(color, "r")

# Regular expression vs literal string
re2_count(c("...", "a...", "foo.b"), ".")
re2_count(c("...", "a...", "foo.b"), re2_regexp(".", literal = TRUE))
```

re2\_detect

*Find the presence of a pattern in string(s)***Description**

Equivalent to `grepl(pattern, x)`. Vectorized over string and pattern. For the equivalent of `grep(pattern, x)` see [re2\\_which](#).

**Usage**

```
re2_detect(string, pattern)
```

**Arguments**

string	A character vector, or an object which can be coerced to one.
pattern	Character string containing a regular expression, or a pre-compiled regular expression (or a vector of character strings and pre-compiled regular expressions). See <a href="#">re2_regexp</a> for available options. See <a href="#">re2_syntax</a> for regular expression syntax.

**Value**

A logical vector. TRUE if match is found, FALSE if not.

**See Also**

[re2\\_regexp](#) for options to regular expression, [re2\\_syntax](#) for regular expression syntax, and [re2\\_match](#) to extract matched groups.

**Examples**

```
## Character vector input
s <- c("barbazbla", "foobar", "not present here ")
pat <- "(foo)|(bar)baz"
re2_detect(s, pat)

## Use precompiled regexp
re <- re2_regexp("(foo)|(bar)baz", case_sensitive = FALSE)
re2_detect(s, re)
```

---

re2\_extract\_replace     *Extract with substitutions*

---

### Description

Like [re2\\_replace](#), except that if the pattern matches, "rewrite" string is returned with substitutions. The non-matching portions of "text" are ignored.

Difference between `re2_extract_replace` and [re2\\_replace](#):

```
> re2_extract_replace("bunny@wunnies.pl", "(.*)@([^.]*)", "\\2!\\1")
[1] "wunnies!bunny"
```

```
> re2_replace("bunny@wunnies.pl", "(.*)@([^.]*)", "\\2!\\1")
[1] "wunnies!bunny.pl"
```

"\\1" and "\\2" are names of capturing subgroups.

Vectorized over string and pattern.

### Usage

```
re2_extract_replace(string, pattern, rewrite)
```

### Arguments

string	A character vector, or an object which can be coerced to one.
pattern	Character string containing a regular expression, or a pre-compiled regular expression (or a vector of character strings and pre-compiled regular expressions). For <code>re2_replace_all</code> this can also be a named vector ( <code>c(pattern1 = rewrite1)</code> ), in order to perform multiple replacements in each element of string. See <a href="#">re2_regexp</a> for available options. See <a href="#">re2_syntax</a> for regular expression syntax.
rewrite	Rewrite string. Backslash-escaped digits ( <code>\\1</code> to <code>\\9</code> ) can be used to insert text matching corresponding parenthesized group from the pattern. <code>\\0</code> refers to the entire matching text.

### Value

A character vector with extractions.

### See Also

[re2\\_regexp](#) for options to regular expression, [re2\\_syntax](#) for regular expression syntax. See [re2\\_replace](#) and [re2\\_replace\\_all](#) to replace pattern in place.

## Examples

```
# Returns extracted string with substitutions
re2_extract_replace(
    "bunny@wunnies.pl",
    "(.*)@([^.]*)",
    "\\2!\\1"
)

# Case insensitive
re2_extract_replace(
    "BUNNY@wunnies.pl",
    re2_regexp("(b.*)@([^.]*)", case_sensitive = FALSE),
    "\\2!\\1"
)

# Max submatch too large (1 match group, 2 submatches needed).
# Replacement fails and empty string is returned.
re2_extract_replace("foo", "f(o+)", "\\1\\2")
```

---

re2\_get\_options

*Retrieve options*

---

## Description

re2\_get\_options returns a list of all options from a RE2 object (internal representation of compiled regexp).

## Usage

```
re2_get_options(re2ptr)
```

## Arguments

re2ptr           The value obtained from call to [re2\\_regexp](#).

## Value

A list of options and their values.

## See Also

[re2\\_regexp](#).

---

re2_locate	<i>Locate the start and end of pattern in a string</i>
------------	--

---

### Description

Vectorized over string and pattern. For matches of 0 length (ex. spatial patterns like "\$") end will be one character greater than beginning.

### Usage

```
re2_locate(string, pattern)
```

```
re2_locate_all(string, pattern)
```

### Arguments

string	A character vector, or an object which can be coerced to one.
pattern	Character string containing a regular expression, or a pre-compiled regular expression (or a vector of character strings and pre-compiled regular expressions). See <a href="#">re2_regexp</a> for available options. See <a href="#">re2_syntax</a> for regular expression syntax.

### Value

re2\_locate returns an integer matrix, and re2\_locate\_all returns a list of integer matrices.

### See Also

[re2\\_regexp](#) for options to regular expression, [re2\\_syntax](#) for regular expression syntax.

### Examples

```
color <- c("yellowgreen", "steelblue", "goldenrod", "forestgreen")

re2_locate(color, "$")
re2_locate(color, "l")
re2_locate(color, "e")

# String length can be a multiple of pattern length
re2_locate(color, c("l(l|d)?", "st"))

# Locate all occurrences
re2_locate_all(color, "l")
re2_locate_all(color, "e")

# Locate all characters
re2_locate_all(color, ".")
```

---

re2_match	<i>Extract matched groups from a string</i>
-----------	---

---

## Description

Vectorized over string and pattern. Match against a string using a regular expression and extract matched substrings. `re2_match` extracts first matched substring, and `re2_match_all` extracts all matches.

Matching regexp "(foo)(bar)baz" on "barbazbla" will return submatches ``.0` = "barbaz"`, ``.1` = NA`, and ``.2` = "bar"`. ``.0`` is the entire matching text. ``.1`` is the first group, and so on. Groups can also be named.

## Usage

```
re2_match(string, pattern, simplify = TRUE)
```

```
re2_match_all(string, pattern)
```

## Arguments

string	A character vector, or an object which can be coerced to one.
pattern	Character string containing a regular expression, or a pre-compiled regular expression (or a vector of character strings and pre-compiled regular expressions). See <a href="#">re2_regexp</a> for available options. See <a href="#">re2_syntax</a> for regular expression syntax.
simplify	If TRUE, the default, returns a character matrix. If FALSE, returns a list. Not applicable to <code>re2_match_all</code> .

## Value

In case of `re2_match` a character matrix. First column is the entire matching text, followed by one column for each capture group. If `simplify` is FALSE, returns a list of named character vectors. In case of `re2_match_all`, returns a list of character matrices.

## See Also

[re2\\_regexp](#) for options to regular expression, [re2\\_syntax](#) for regular expression syntax.

## Examples

```
## Substring extraction
strings <- c("barbazbla", "foobar")
pattern <- "(foo)|(P<TestGroup>bar)baz"

re2_match(strings, pattern)
result <- re2_match(strings, pattern)
```

```

is.matrix(result)

re2_match(strings, pattern, simplify = FALSE)
result <- re2_match(strings, pattern, simplify = FALSE)
is.list(result)

## Compile regexp
re <- re2_regexp("(foo)|(BaR)baz", case_sensitive = FALSE)
re2_match(strings, re)

strings <- c(
  "Home: 743 733 5365", "373-733-5753 ", "foobar",
  "733.335.3457 and Work: 573-433-7577 "
)
re <- re2_regexp("[0-9]{3}[- .][0-9]{3}[- .][0-9]{4}")
re2_match(strings, re)

## Vectorized over patterns
re2_match(strings, c(re, "53 $", "^foo", re))

## Match all occurrences, not just the first
re2_match_all(strings, re)
re2_match_all("ruby:1234 68 red:92 blue:", "(\\w+):(\\d+)")

## Vectorized over patterns (matching all occurrences)
re2_match_all(strings, c(re, "53 $", "^foo", re))

```

---

re2\_regexp

*Compile regular expression pattern*


---

## Description

re2\_regexp compiles a character string containing a regular expression and returns a pointer to the object.

## Usage

```
re2_regexp(pattern, ...)
```

## Arguments

pattern	Character string containing a regular expression.
...	Options, which are (defaults in parentheses):
encoding	("UTF8") String and pattern are UTF-8; Otherwise "Latin1".
posix_syntax	(FALSE) Restrict regexps to POSIX egrep syntax.
longest_match	(FALSE) Search for longest match, not first match.
max_mem	(see below) Approx. max memory footprint of RE2 C++ object.
literal	(FALSE) Interpret pattern as literal, not regexp.



never_nl	(FALSE) Never match \n, even if it is in regexp.
dot_nl	(FALSE) Dot matches everything including new line.
never_capture	(FALSE) Parse all parens as non-capturing.
case_sensitive	(TRUE) Match is case-sensitive (regexp can override with (?i) unless in posix_syntax mode).

The following options are only consulted when `posix_syntax=TRUE`. When `posix_syntax=FALSE`, these features are always enabled and cannot be turned off; to perform multi-line matching in that case, begin the regexp with (?m).

perl_classes	(FALSE) Allow Perl's \d \s \w \D \S \W.
word_boundary	(FALSE) Allow Perl's \b \B (word boundary and not).
one_line	(FALSE) ^ and \$ only match beginning and end of text.

The `max_mem` option controls how much memory can be used to hold the compiled form of the regexp and its cached DFA graphs (DFA: The execution engine that implements Deterministic Finite Automaton search). Default is 8MB.

## Value

Compiled regular expression.

## Regexp Syntax

RE2 regular expression syntax is similar to Perl's with some of the more complicated things thrown away. In particular, backreferences and generalized assertions are not available, nor is \Z.

See [re2\\_syntax](#) for the syntax supported by RE2, and a comparison with PCRE and PERL regexps.

For those not familiar with Perl's regular expressions, here are some examples of the most commonly used extensions:

"hello (\w+) world"	– \w matches a "word" character.
"version (\d+)"	– \d matches a digit.
"hello\s+world"	– \s matches any whitespace character.
"\b(\w+)\b"	– \b matches non-empty string at word boundary.
"(?i)hello"	– (?i) turns on case-insensitive matching.
"/\*(.*?)\*/"	– .*? matches . minimum no. of times possible.

The double backslashes are needed when writing R string literals. However, they should NOT be used when writing raw string literals:

r"(hello (\w+) world)"	– \w matches a "word" character.
r"(version (\d+))"	– \d matches a digit.
r"(hello\s+world)"	– \s matches any whitespace character.
r"(\b(\w+)\b)"	– \b matches non-empty string at word boundary.
r"((?i)hello)"	– (?i) turns on case-insensitive matching.
r"/\*(.*?)\*/"	– .*? matches . minimum no. of times possible.

When using UTF-8 encoding, case-insensitive matching will perform simple case folding, not full case folding.

**See Also**

[re2\\_syntax](#) has regular expression syntax.

**Examples**

```
re2p <- re2_regexp("hello world")
stopifnot(mode(re2p) == "externalptr")

## UTF-8 and matching interface
# By default, pattern and input text are interpreted as UTF-8.
# The Latin1 option causes them to be interpreted as Latin-1.
x <- "fa\xE7ile"
Encoding(x) <- "latin1"
re2_detect(x, re2_regexp("fa\xE7", encoding = "Latin1"))

## Case insensitive
re2_detect("f0obar ", re2_regexp("Foo", case_sensitive = FALSE))

## Literal string (as opposed to regular expression)
## Matches only when 'literal' option is TRUE
re2_detect("foo\\$bar", re2_regexp("foo\\$b", literal = TRUE))
re2_detect("foo\\$bar", re2_regexp("foo\\$b", literal = FALSE))

## Use of never_nl
re <- re2_regexp("(abc(\\.|\n)*def)", never_nl = FALSE)
re2_match("abc\ndef\n", re)
re <- re2_regexp("(abc(\\.|\n)*def)", never_nl = TRUE)
re2_match("abc\ndef\n", re)
```

---

re2\_replace

*Replace matched pattern in string*


---

**Description**

re2\_replace replaces the first match of "pattern" in "string" with "rewrite" string.

```
re2_replace("yabba dabba doo", "b+", "d")
```

will result in "yada dabba doo".

re2\_replace\_all replaces successive non-overlapping occurrences of "pattern" in "text" with "rewrite" string, or performs multiple replacements on each element of string.

```
re2_replace_all("yabba dabba doo", "b+", "d")
re2_replace_all(c("one", "two"), c("one" = "1", "1" = "2", "two" = "2"))
```

will result in "yada dada doo".

Replacements are not subject to re-matching. Because re2\_replace\_all only replaces non-overlapping matches, replacing "ana" within "banana" makes only one replacement, not two.

Vectorized over string and pattern.

**Usage**

```
re2_replace(string, pattern, rewrite)

re2_replace_all(string, pattern, rewrite = "")
```

**Arguments**

string	A character vector, or an object which can be coerced to one.
pattern	Character string containing a regular expression, or a pre-compiled regular expression (or a vector of character strings and pre-compiled regular expressions). For <code>re2_replace_all</code> this can also be a named vector ( <code>c(pattern1 = rewrite1)</code> ), in order to perform multiple replacements in each element of string. See <a href="#">re2_regexp</a> for available options. See <a href="#">re2_syntax</a> for regular expression syntax.
rewrite	Rewrite string. Backslash-escaped digits ( <code>\1</code> to <code>\9</code> ) can be used to insert text matching corresponding parenthesized group from the pattern. <code>\0</code> refers to the entire matching text.

**Value**

A character vector with replacements.

**See Also**

[re2\\_regexp](#) for options to regular expression, [re2\\_syntax](#) for regular expression syntax.

**Examples**

```
string <- c("yabba dabba doo", "famabbb sb")
re2_replace(string, "b+", "d")
re2_replace_all(string, "b+", "d")

# Rearrange matching groups in replaced string
re2_replace(
  "boris@kremvax.ru",
  "(.*)@([^.]*)", "\\2!\\1"
)

# Use compiled pattern
string <- "the quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dogs."
re <- re2_regexp("(qu|[b-df-hj-np-tv-z]*)([a-z]+)")
rewrite <- "\\2\\1ay"
re2_replace(string, re, rewrite)
re2_replace_all(string, re, rewrite)

string <- "abcd.efghi@google.com"
re <- re2_regexp("\\w+")
rewrite <- "\\0-NOSPAM"
re2_replace(string, re, rewrite)
```

```

re2_replace_all(string, re, rewrite)

string <- "aba\naba"
re <- re2_regexp("a.*a")
rewrite <- "(\\0)"
re2_replace(string, re, rewrite)
re2_replace_all(string, re, rewrite)

# Vectorize string and pattern
string <- c("abababab", "bbbbbb", "bbbbbb", "aaaaa")
pattern <- c("b", "b+", "b*", "b*")
rewrite <- "bb"
re2_replace(string, pattern, rewrite)
re2_replace_all(string, pattern, rewrite)

```

---

re2\_split

*Split string based on pattern*


---

### Description

Vectorized over string and pattern.

### Usage

```
re2_split(string, pattern, simplify = FALSE, n = Inf)
```

### Arguments

string	A character vector, or an object which can be coerced to one.
pattern	Character string containing a regular expression, or a pre-compiled regular expression (or a vector of character strings and pre-compiled regular expressions). See <a href="#">re2_regexp</a> for available options. See <a href="#">re2_syntax</a> for regular expression syntax.
simplify	If FALSE, the default, return a list of string vectors. If TRUE, return a string matrix.
n	Number of string pieces to return. Default (Inf) returns all.

### Value

A list of string vectors or a string matrix. See option.

### See Also

[re2\\_regexp](#) for options to regular expression, [re2\\_syntax](#) for regular expression syntax, and [re2\\_match](#) to extract matched groups.

**Examples**

```

panagram <- c(
  "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog",
  "How vexingly quick daft zebras jump!"
)

re2_split(panagram, " quick | over | zebras ")
re2_split(panagram, " quick | over | zebras ", simplify = TRUE)

# Use compiled regexp
re <- re2_regexp("quick | over |how ", case_sensitive = FALSE)
re2_split(panagram, re)
re2_split(panagram, re, simplify = TRUE)

# Restrict number of matches
re2_split(panagram, " quick | over | zebras ", n = 2)

```

re2\_syntax

*RE2 Regular Expression Syntax***Description**

The simplest regular expression is a single literal character. Except for the metacharacters like `*+?()`, characters match themselves. To match a metacharacter, escape it with a backslash: `\+` matches a literal plus character.

Two regular expressions can be alternated or concatenated to form a new regular expression: if `e_1` matches `s` and `e_2` matches `t`, then `e_1|e_2` matches `s` or `t`, and `e_1e_2` matches `st`.

The metacharacters `*`, `+`, and `?` are repetition operators: `e_1*` matches a sequence of zero or more (possibly different) strings, each of which match `e_1`; `e_1+` matches one or more; `e_1?` matches zero or one.

The operator precedence, from weakest to strongest binding, is first alternation, then concatenation, and finally the repetition operators. Explicit parentheses can be used to force different meanings, just as in arithmetic expressions. Some examples: `abcd` is equivalent to `(ab)(cd)`; `ab*` is equivalent to `a(b*)`.

The syntax described so far is most of the traditional Unix `egrep` regular expression syntax. This subset suffices to describe all regular languages: loosely speaking, a regular language is a set of strings that can be matched in a single pass through the text using only a fixed amount of memory. Newer regular expression facilities (notably Perl and those that have copied it) have added many new operators and escape sequences, which make the regular expressions more concise, and sometimes more cryptic, but usually not more powerful.

This page lists the regular expression syntax accepted by RE2. It also lists some syntax accepted by PCRE, PERL, and VIM.

**kinds of single-character expressions**

any character, possibly including newline (`s=true`)  
 character class

**examples**

`.`  
`[xyz]`

negated character class	[^xyz]
Perl character class (see below)(link)	\d
negated Perl character class	\D
ASCII character class (see below)(link)	[:alpha:]
negated ASCII character class	[[:^alpha:]]
Unicode character class (one-letter name)	\pN
Unicode character class	\p{Greek}
negated Unicode character class (one-letter name)	\PN
negated Unicode character class	\P{Greek}

### Composites

xy	x followed by y
xly	x or y (prefer x)

### Repetitions

x*	zero or more x, prefer more
x+	one or more x, prefer more
x?	zero or one x, prefer one
x{n,m}	n or n+1 or ... or m x, prefer more
x{n,}	n or more x, prefer more
x{n}	exactly n x
x*?	zero or more x, prefer fewer
x+?	one or more x, prefer fewer
x??	zero or one x, prefer zero
x{n,m}?	n or n+1 or ... or m x, prefer fewer
x{n,}?	n or more x, prefer fewer
x{n}?	exactly n x
x{ }	(= x*) (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
x{-}	(= x*?) (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
x{-n}	(= x{n}?) (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
x=	(= x?) (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM

Implementation restriction: The counting forms  $x\{n,m\}$ ,  $x\{n,\}$ , and  $x\{n\}$  reject forms that create a minimum or maximum repetition count above 1000. Unlimited repetitions are not subject to this restriction.

### Possessive repetitions

x*+	zero or more x, possessive (NOT SUPPORTED)
x++	one or more x, possessive (NOT SUPPORTED)
x?+	zero or one x, possessive (NOT SUPPORTED)
x{n,m}+	n or ... or m x, possessive (NOT SUPPORTED)
x{n,}+	n or more x, possessive (NOT SUPPORTED)
x{n}+	exactly n x, possessive (NOT SUPPORTED)

**Grouping**

(re)	numbered capturing group (submatch)
(?P<name>re)	named & numbered capturing group (submatch)
(?<name>re)	named & numbered capturing group (submatch) (NOT SUPPORTED)
(?'name're)	named & numbered capturing group (submatch) (NOT SUPPORTED)
(?:re)	non-capturing group
(?flags)	set flags within current group; non-capturing
(?flags:re)	set flags during re; non-capturing
(?#text)	comment (NOT SUPPORTED)
(?lxlylz)	branch numbering reset (NOT SUPPORTED)
(?>re)	possessive match of re (NOT SUPPORTED)
re@>	possessive match of re (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
%(re)	non-capturing group (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM

**Flags**

i	case-insensitive (default false)
m	multi-line mode: ^ and \$ match begin/end line in addition to begin/end text (default false)
s	let . match \n (default false)
U	ungreedy: swap meaning of x* and x*?, x+ and x+?, etc (default false)

Flag syntax is xyz (set) or -xyz (clear) or xy-z (set xy, clear z).

**Empty strings**

^	at beginning of text or line (m=true)
\$	at end of text (like \z not \Z) or line (m=true)
\A	at beginning of text
\b	at ASCII word boundary (\w on one side and \W, \A, or \z on the other)
\B	not at ASCII word boundary
\g	at beginning of subtext being searched (NOT SUPPORTED) PCRE
\G	at end of last match (NOT SUPPORTED) PERL
\Z	at end of text, or before newline at end of text (NOT SUPPORTED)
\z	at end of text
(?=re)	before text matching re (NOT SUPPORTED)
(?!re)	before text not matching re (NOT SUPPORTED)
(?<=re)	after text matching re (NOT SUPPORTED)
(?<!re)	after text not matching re (NOT SUPPORTED)
re&	before text matching re (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
re@=	before text matching re (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
re@!	before text not matching re (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
re@<=	after text matching re (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
re@<!	after text not matching re (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
\zs	sets start of match (= \K) (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM

<code>\ze</code>	sets end of match (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
<code>\%^</code>	beginning of file (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
<code>\%\$</code>	end of file (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
<code>\%V</code>	on screen (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
<code>\%#</code>	cursor position (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
<code>\%'m</code>	mark m position (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
<code>\%23l</code>	in line 23 (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
<code>\%23c</code>	in column 23 (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
<code>\%23v</code>	in virtual column 23 (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM

### Escape sequences

<code>\a</code>	bell (= \007)
<code>\f</code>	form feed (= \014)
<code>\t</code>	horizontal tab (= \011)
<code>\n</code>	newline (= \012)
<code>\r</code>	carriage return (= \015)
<code>\v</code>	vertical tab character (= \013)
<code>\*</code>	literal *, for any punctuation character *
<code>\123</code>	octal character code (up to three digits)
<code>\x7F</code>	hex character code (exactly two digits)
<code>\x{10FFFF}</code>	hex character code
<code>\C</code>	match a single byte even in UTF-8 mode
<code>\Q...E</code>	literal text ... even if ... has punctuation
<code>\I</code>	backreference (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\b</code>	backspace (NOT SUPPORTED) (use \010)
<code>\cK</code>	control char ^K (NOT SUPPORTED) (use \001 etc)
<code>\e</code>	escape (NOT SUPPORTED) (use \033)
<code>\g1</code>	backreference (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\g{1}</code>	backreference (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\g{+1}</code>	backreference (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\g{-1}</code>	backreference (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\g{name}</code>	named backreference (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\g&lt;name&gt;</code>	subroutine call (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\g'name'</code>	subroutine call (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\k&lt;name&gt;</code>	named backreference (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\k'name'</code>	named backreference (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\X</code>	lowercase X (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\ux</code>	uppercase x (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\L...E</code>	lowercase text ... (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\K</code>	reset beginning of \$0 (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\N{name}</code>	named Unicode character (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\R</code>	line break (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\U...E</code>	upper case text ... (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\X</code>	extended Unicode sequence (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\%d123</code>	decimal character 123 (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
<code>\%xFF</code>	hex character FF (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM



<code>\%o123</code>	octal character 123 (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
<code>\%u1234</code>	Unicode character 0x1234 (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM
<code>\%U12345678</code>	Unicode character 0x12345678 (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM

### Character class elements

<code>x</code>	single character
<code>A-Z</code>	character range (inclusive)
<code>\d</code>	Perl character class
<code>[:foo:]</code>	ASCII character class foo
<code>\p{Foo}</code>	Unicode character class Foo
<code>\pF</code>	Unicode character class F (one-letter name)

### Named character classes as character class elements

<code>[d]</code>	digits (= <code>\d</code> )
<code>[^d]</code>	not digits (= <code>\D</code> )
<code>[D]</code>	not digits (= <code>\D</code> )
<code>[^D]</code>	not not digits (= <code>\d</code> )
<code>[:name:]</code>	named ASCII class inside character class (= <code>[:name:]</code> )
<code>[^:name:]</code>	named ASCII class inside negated character class (= <code>[:^name:]</code> )
<code>\p{Name}</code>	named Unicode property inside character class (= <code>\p{Name}</code> )
<code>[^p{Name}]</code>	named Unicode property inside negated character class (= <code>\P{Name}</code> )

### Perl character classes (all ASCII-only)

<code>\d</code>	digits (= <code>[0-9]</code> )
<code>\D</code>	not digits (= <code>[^0-9]</code> )
<code>\s</code>	whitespace (= <code>[\t\n\r ]</code> )
<code>\S</code>	not whitespace (= <code>[^\t\n\r ]</code> )
<code>\w</code>	word characters (= <code>[0-9A-Za-z_]</code> )
<code>\W</code>	not word characters (= <code>[^0-9A-Za-z_]</code> )
<code>\h</code>	horizontal space (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\H</code>	not horizontal space (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\v</code>	vertical space (NOT SUPPORTED)
<code>\V</code>	not vertical space (NOT SUPPORTED)

### ASCII character classes

<code>[:alnum:]</code>	alphanumeric (= <code>[0-9A-Za-z]</code> )
<code>[:alpha:]</code>	alphabetic (= <code>[A-Za-z]</code> )
<code>[:ascii:]</code>	ASCII (= <code>[\x00-\x7F]</code> )
<code>[:blank:]</code>	blank (= <code>[\t ]</code> )
<code>[:cntrl:]</code>	control (= <code>[\x00-\x1F\x7F]</code> )

[:digit:]	digits (= [0-9])
[:graph:]	graphical (= [!~] = [A-Za-z0-9!"#\$%&'()*+,-./:;<=>@[\\]^_`{ }~])
[:lower:]	lower case (= [a-z])
[:print:]	printable (= [ -~] = [ :graph:])
[:punct:]	punctuation (= [!-/:-@[-'{-~])
[:space:]	whitespace (= [\t\n\v\f\r ])
[:upper:]	upper case (= [A-Z])
[:word:]	word characters (= [0-9A-Za-z_])
[:xdigit:]	hex digit (= [0-9A-Fa-f])

### Unicode character class names—general category

C	other
Cc	control
Cf	format
Cn	unassigned code points (NOT SUPPORTED)
Co	private use
Cs	surrogate
L	letter
LC	cased letter (NOT SUPPORTED)
L&	cased letter (NOT SUPPORTED)
Ll	lowercase letter
Lm	modifier letter
Lo	other letter
Lt	titlecase letter
Lu	uppercase letter
M	mark
Mc	spacing mark
Me	enclosing mark
Mn	non-spacing mark
N	number
Nd	decimal number
Nl	letter number
No	other number
P	punctuation
Pc	connector punctuation
Pd	dash punctuation
Pe	close punctuation
Pf	final punctuation
Pi	initial punctuation
Po	other punctuation
Ps	open punctuation
S	symbol
Sc	currency symbol
Sk	modifier symbol
Sm	math symbol
So	other symbol

Z separator  
Zl line separator  
Zp paragraph separator  
Zs space separator

**Unicode character class names—scripts**

Adlam  
Ahom  
Anatolian\_Hieroglyphs  
Arabic  
Armenian  
Avestan  
Balinese  
Bamum  
Bassa\_Vah  
Batak  
Bengali  
Bhaiksuki  
Bopomofo  
Brahmi  
Braille  
Buginese  
Buhid  
Canadian\_Aboriginal  
Carian  
Caucasian\_Albanian  
Chakma  
Cham  
Cherokee  
Chorasmian  
Common  
Coptic  
Cuneiform  
Cypriot  
Cyrillic  
Deseret  
Devanagari  
Dives\_Akuru  
Dogra  
Duployan  
Egyptian\_Hieroglyphs  
Elbasan  
Elymaic  
Ethiopic  
Georgian  
Glagolitic

Gothic  
Grantha  
Greek  
Gujarati  
Gunjala\_Gondi  
Gurmukhi  
Han  
Hangul  
Hanifi\_Rohingya  
Hanunoo  
Hatran  
Hebrew  
Hiragana  
Imperial\_Aramaic  
Inherited  
Inscriptional\_Pahlavi  
Inscriptional\_Parthian  
Javanese  
Kaithi  
Kannada  
Katakana  
Kayah\_Li  
Kharoshthi  
Khitan\_Small\_Script  
Khmer  
Khojki  
Khudawadi  
Lao  
Latin  
Lepcha  
Limbu  
Linear\_A  
Linear\_B  
Lisu  
Lycian  
Lydian  
Mahajani  
Makasar  
Malayalam  
Mandaic  
Manichaean  
Marchen  
Masaram\_Gondi  
Medefaidrin  
Meetei\_Mayek  
Mende\_Kikakui  
Meroitic\_Cursive  
Meroitic\_Hieroglyphs

Miao  
Modi  
Mongolian  
Mro  
Multani  
Myanmar  
Nabataean  
Nandinagari  
New\_Tai\_Lue  
Newa  
Nko  
Nushu  
Nyiakeng\_Puachue\_Hmong  
Ogham  
Ol\_Chiki  
Old\_Hungarian  
Old\_Italic  
Old\_North\_Arabian  
Old\_Permic  
Old\_Persian  
Old\_Sogdian  
Old\_South\_Arabian  
Old\_Turkic  
Oriya  
Osage  
Osmanya  
Pahawh\_Hmong  
Palmyrene  
Pau\_Cin\_Hau  
Phags\_Pa  
Phoenician  
Psalter\_Pahlavi  
Rejang  
Runic  
Samaritan  
Saurashtra  
Sharada  
Shavian  
Siddham  
SignWriting  
Sinhala  
Sogdian  
Sora\_Sompeng  
Soyombo  
Sundanese  
Syloti\_Nagri  
Syriac  
Tagalog

Tagbanwa  
 Tai\_Le  
 Tai\_Tham  
 Tai\_Viet  
 Takri  
 Tamil  
 Tangut  
 Telugu  
 Thaana  
 Thai  
 Tibetan  
 Tifinagh  
 Tirhuta  
 Ugaritic  
 Vai  
 Wancho  
 Warang\_Citi  
 Yezidi  
 Yi  
 Zanabazar\_Square

#### **Vim character classes**

\i identifier character (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \I \i except digits (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \k keyword character (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \K \k except digits (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \f file name character (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \F \f except digits (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \p printable character (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \P \p except digits (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \s whitespace character (= [\t]) (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \S non-white space character (= [^\t]) (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \d digits (= [0-9]) VIM  
 \D not \d VIM  
 \x hex digits (= [0-9A-Fa-f]) (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \X not \x (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \o octal digits (= [0-7]) (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \O not \o (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \w word character VIM  
 \W not \w VIM  
 \h head of word character (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \H not \h (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \a alphabetic (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \A not \a (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \l lowercase (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \L not lowercase (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM

\u uppercase (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \U not uppercase (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \\_x \x plus newline, for any x (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \c ignore case (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \C match case (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \m magic (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \M nomagic (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \v verymagic (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \V verynomagic (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM  
 \Z ignore differences in Unicode combining characters (NOT SUPPORTED) VIM

### Magic

(?{code}) arbitrary Perl code (NOT SUPPORTED) PERL  
 (??{code}) postponed arbitrary Perl code (NOT SUPPORTED) PERL  
 (?n) recursive call to regexp capturing group n (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (?+n) recursive call to relative group +n (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (?-n) recursive call to relative group -n (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (?C) PCRE callout (NOT SUPPORTED) PCRE  
 (?R) recursive call to entire regexp (= (?0)) (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (?&name) recursive call to named group (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (?P=name) named backreference (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (?P>name) recursive call to named group (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (? (cond)true|false) conditional branch (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (? (cond>true) conditional branch (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (\*ACCEPT) make regexps more like Prolog (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (\*COMMIT) (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (\*F) (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (\*FAIL) (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (\*MARK) (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (\*PRUNE) (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (\*SKIP) (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (\*THEN) (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (\*ANY) set newline convention (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (\*ANYCRLF) (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (\*CR) (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (\*CRLF) (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (\*LF) (NOT SUPPORTED)  
 (\*BSR\_ANYCRLF) set \R convention (NOT SUPPORTED) PCRE  
 (\*BSR\_UNICODE) (NOT SUPPORTED) PCRE

**Description**

re2\_subset returns strings that match a pattern. re2\_which is equivalent to grep(pattern, x). It returns position of string that match a pattern. Vectorized over string and pattern. For the equivalent of grepl(pattern, x) see [re2\\_detect](#).

**Usage**

```
re2_which(string, pattern)
```

```
re2_subset(string, pattern)
```

**Arguments**

string	A character vector, or an object which can be coerced to one.
pattern	Character string containing a regular expression, or a pre-compiled regular expression (or a vector of character strings and pre-compiled regular expressions). See <a href="#">re2_regexp</a> for available options. See <a href="#">re2_syntax</a> for regular expression syntax.

**Value**

re2\_subset returns a character vector, and re2\_which returns an integer vector.

**See Also**

[re2\\_regexp](#) for options to regular expression, [re2\\_syntax](#) for regular expression syntax, and [re2\\_detect](#) to find presence of a pattern (grep).

**Examples**

```
color <- c("yellowgreen", "steelblue", "GOLDENROD", "forestgreen")
re2_which(color, "o")
re2_subset(color, "o")

re2_which(c("x", "y", NA, "foo", ""), ".")
re2_subset(c("x", "y", NA, "foo", ""), ".")

# Use precompiled regexp
re <- re2_regexp("[a-z]")
re2_which(color, re)
re2_subset(color, re)

re <- re2_regexp("[a-z]", case_sensitive = FALSE)
re2_which(color, re)
re2_subset(color, re)

# Vector of patterns
re2_which(color, c("^o", "bl.e$", re, "$"))
```



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