**Perl special variables - Quick Reference**

#Generic

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$\_        The default or implicit variable.

@\_        Subroutine parameters.

$a,$b        sort comparison routine variables.

#Regular Expressions

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$<digit>        Regexp parenthetical capture holders.

$&        Last successful match (degrades performance).

$`        Prematch for last successful match string (degrades performance).

$'        Postmatch for last successful match string (degrades performance).

$+        Last paren match.

$^N        Last closed paren match.

@+        Offsets of ends of successful submatches in scope.

@-        Offsets of starts of successful submatches in scope.

$\*        Boolean for multi-line matching. Deprecated. Use /s and /m.

$^R        Last regexp (?{code}) result.

#IO and Separators

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$.        Current line number (or record number) of most recent filehandle.

$/        Input record separator.

$|        Output autoflush. 1=autoflush, 0=default

$,        Output field separator (lists)

$\        Output record separator.

$"        Output list separator. (interpolated lists)

$;        Subscript separator. (Use a real multidimensional array instead.)

#Formats

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$#        Output format for printed numbers (deprecated).

$%        Page number for currently selected output channel.

$=        Current page length.

$-        Number of lines left on page.

$~        Format name.

$^        Name of top-of-page format.

$:        Format line break characters

$^L        Form feed (default "\f").

$^A        Format Accumulator

#Status Reporting

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$?        Child error. Status code of most recent system call or pipe.

$!        Operating System Error. (What just went 'bang'?)

%!        Error number hash

$^E        Extended Operating System Error (Extra error explanation).

$@        Eval error.

#ID's and Process Information

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$$        Process ID

$<        Real user id of process.

$>        Effective user id of process.

$(        Real group id of process.

$)        Effective group id of process.

$0        Program name.

$^O        Operating System name.

#Perl Status Info

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$]        Version and patch number of perl interpreter.

$^C        Current value of flag associated with -c switch.

$^D        Current value of debugging flags

$^F        Maximum file descriptor.

$^I        Value of the -i (inplace edit) switch.

$^M        Emergency Memory pool.

$^P        Internal variable for debugging support.

$^R        Last regexp (?{code}) result.

$^S        Exceptions being caught. (eval)

$^T        Base time of program start.

$^V        Perl version.

$^W        Status of -w switch

$^X        Perl executable name.

#Command Line Args

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ARGV         Filehandle iterates over files from command line (see also <>).

$ARGV          Name of current file when reading <>

@ARGV List of command line args.

ARGVOUT Output filehandle for -i switch

#Miscellaneous

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@F        Autosplit (-a mode) recipient.

@INC        List of library paths.

%INC        Keys are filenames, values are paths to modules included via use, require, or do.

%ENV        Hash containing current environment variables

%SIG        Signal handlers.

$[        Array and substr first element (Deprecated!).