The great thing about regular expression languages is that there are so many to choose from!

October 21, 2014

Raymond Chen

Before you ask a question about regular expressions, you should make sure you and your audience agree on *which* regular expression language you are talking about.

Here is a handy table of which features are supported by which regular expression language.

You can use that table to solve this customer's problem:

> I have a regular expression that works just fine when I test it in ⟨*insert regular expression testing tool, like RegExr or RegexPlanet*⟩, but I can't get it to work in real life.
>
> ```
> C:\> findstr /r /c:"a(?!.*b)" file.txt
> (prints no results!)
> C:\>
> ```
>
> My goal is to find all lines that contain an `a` not followed anywhere by a `b`.

Raymond Chen

Follow