

Regex Lookarounds

Computing

Zero-width assertions — matching by what surrounds a thing, without consuming it.

None of these consume characters, so they can stack.

Syntax	Name	Matches when
(?=x)	Lookahead	x follows
(?!x)	Negative lookahead	x does not follow
(?<=x)	Lookbehind	x precedes
(?<!x)	Negative lookbehind	x does not precede

Password rules are the classic use: `^(?=.*\d)(?=.*[a-z]).{8,}$` requires a digit and a letter without consuming either.