RxFind

%RxFind function

Function

The function searches for the first substring that matches the specified regular expression and returns the index where the substring starts. Search is case-sensitive.

Declaration

```
INT %RxFind(
   TEXT in Text,
   TEXT in regExp,
   INT        in from := 1,
   INT        out endIndex
 )
```

Parameters

text	Text, which is to be searched.
regExp	A regular expression that will be searched in the input parameter *text.*
from	Index, from where the input parameter *text* will be searched (optional input parameter).
endIndex	Index in *text*, where the substring matching the specified regular expression ends (optional output parameter).

Example

The function returns the index, where the substring matching the specified regular expression starts. Optional parameter is *endIndex*. If this parameter is entered, it is used for storing the ending index of the substring that matches the specified regular expression.

If the searching is unsuccessful, or if the *from* parameter exceeds the total length of input *text*, the function returns 0.

If the parameter *regExp* is not a valid regular expression, the function returns the value of -1.

If any of the input parameters is invalid, the function returns an undefined value.

```
;looking for an expression "some"
%RxFind("text some text", "some")                                ;returns 6

;looking for an expression "some" at the beginning
%RxFind("text some text", "^some")                                ;returns
0 - expression "some" is not at the beginning

;looking for an expression "text" at the beginning
%RxFind("text some text", "^text")                                ;returns
1 - expression "text" is at the beginning

;looking for an expression "text" at the end
%RxFind("text some text", "text$")                                ;returns
13 - expression "text" is at the end (starts at the position of 13)

;looking for an expression "xt" or an expression "so"
%RxFind("text some text", "xt | so")                          ;returns 3 -
expression "xt" was found first and starts at the position of 3

;looking for an expression "some" at the beginning or the expression
"text" at the end
%RxFind("text some text", "^some| text$")                ;returns 12 - the
entered string ends with an expression "text" and starts at the position
of 12

;looking for a character in range "a-d"
%RxFind("text some text", "[a-d]")                                ;returns
9 - character 'a' is located on that position

;looking for a character out of range "a-d"
%RxFind("text some text", "[^a-d]")                               ;
returns 1 - character 'a' is located on that position

;looking for 'o' character sequence 2 times in a row
%RxFind("text soome text", "e{2}")                                ;returns
7

;looking for an expression "oper.tor", ("." means one occurrence of any
character)
%RxFind("operator operaaaator", "oper.tor")               ;returns 1 -
matching expression starts at this position

;looking for an expression "oper.*tor", (".*" means 0 or more occurrences
of any character), while the entered string is searched from the position
of 10
%RxFind("operator operaaaator", "oper.*tor", 10, _last)               ;
returns 10 - matching expression starts at this position, parameter _last
= 20

;looking for an expression "oper.+tor", (".+" means 1 or more occurrences
of any character), while the entered string is searched from the position
of 10
%RxFind("operator operaaaator", "oper.+tor", 10, _last)               ;
returns 10 - matching expression starts at this position, parameter _last
= 20
```

Examples of regular expressions

Regular expression	Meaning
expression	Searches for the specified expression in a string.
^expression	Searches for the specified expression at the beginning of the string.
expression$	Searches for the specified expression at the end of the string.
expression1 | expression2	Searches for one of the entered expressions.

^expression | expression $	Searches for an expression at the beginning or end of the string.
[a-d]	Searches for characters in the specified range (in this case, characters a,b,c,d).
[^a-d]	Searches for all characters except the characters in the specified range (in this case, all characters except a,b,c,d).
a{5}	Searches for 'a' character sequence 5 times in a row.
oper.tor	Searches for "oper**.**tor", where **.** is replaced with occurrence of any single character (finds expressions like oper**a**tor, oper**x**tor, ...).
oper.*tor	Searches for "oper**.***tor", where **.*** is replaced with 0 or more occurrences of any character (finds expressions like opertor, operator, operaaaaator, ...).
oper.+tor	Searches for "oper**.+**tor", where **.+** is replaced with 1 or more occurrences of any character (**does not find expression opertor**).

Related pages:

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