

Ordinal number

Ordinals like 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 21st.

```
^\d+(st|nd|rd|th)$
```

Token-by-token breakdown

Token	Meaning
^	start of string (or line in multiline mode)
\d+	one or more: digit (0–9)
(	start of a capturing group
st	literal text "st"
	OR — try the alternative
nd	literal text "nd"
	OR — try the alternative
rd	literal text "rd"
	OR — try the alternative
th	literal text "th"
)	end of group
\$	end of string (or line in multiline mode)

Quick usage in 7 languages

JavaScript	<pre>const re = /^\d+(st nd rd th)\$/; re.test(value);</pre>
Python	<pre>import re re.match(r"^\d+(st nd rd th)\$", value)</pre>
Java	<pre>Pattern.compile("^\\d+(st nd rd th)\$").matcher(value).matches();</pre>
C# / .NET	<pre>Regex.IsMatch(value, @"^\d+(st nd rd th)\$");</pre>
Go	<pre>regexp.MustCompile(`^\d+(st nd rd th)\$`).MatchString(value)</pre>
Ruby	<pre>/^\d+(st nd rd th)\$/ .match?(value)</pre>
PHP	<pre>preg_match('~^\d+(st nd rd th)\$~', \$value);</pre>

Common pitfalls

- **Anchored to the whole string.** This pattern uses ^ and \$, so it requires the entire input to match. To find it inside a longer text, drop the anchors and use the global (g) flag.
- **Escape it correctly per language.** In Java and JavaScript strings each backslash must be doubled (\\d); in Python, Go, and C# use raw/verbatim strings so the backslashes survive.
- **Validate beyond format.** Matching the format doesn't guarantee the value is real. Confirm the ordinal number against a source of truth (database, API, or checksum) where it matters.