

us-zip

```
^\d{5}(-\d{4})?$
```

Token-by-token breakdown

Token	Meaning
^	start of string (or line in multiline mode)
\d{5}	exactly 5 times: digit (0–9)
(	start of a capturing group
-	literal text “-”
\d{4}	exactly 4 times: digit (0–9)
)?	end of group, optional (zero or one)
\$	end of string (or line in multiline mode)

Quick usage in 7 languages

JavaScript	<pre>const re = /^\d{5}(-\d{4})?\$/; re.test(value);</pre>
Python	<pre>import re re.match(r"^\d{5}(-\d{4})?\$", value)</pre>
Java	<pre>Pattern.compile("^\d{5}(-\d{4})?\$").matcher(value).matches();</pre>
C# / .NET	<pre>Regex.IsMatch(value, @"^\d{5}(-\d{4})?\$");</pre>
Go	<pre>regexp.MustCompile(`^\d{5}(-\d{4})?\$`).MatchString(value)</pre>
Ruby	<pre>/^\d{5}(-\d{4})?\$/ .match?(value)</pre>
PHP	<pre>preg_match('~^\d{5}(-\d{4})?\$~', \$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 us-zip against a source of truth (database, API, or checksum) where it matters.