

Windows environment variable

%VAR% style Windows environment variable.

```
%([A-Za-z_][A-Za-z0-9_]*)%
```

Token-by-token breakdown

Token	Meaning
%	literal text "%"
(	start of a capturing group
[A-Za-z_]	any of: uppercase letters, lowercase letters, "_"
[A-Za-z0-9_]*	zero or more: any of: uppercase letters, lowercase letters, digits, "_"
)	end of group
%	literal text "%"

Quick usage in 7 languages

JavaScript	<pre>const re = /%([A-Za-z_][A-Za-z0-9_]*)%/; re.test(value);</pre>
Python	<pre>import re re.match(r"%([A-Za-z_][A-Za-z0-9_]*)%", value)</pre>
Java	<pre>Pattern.compile("%([A-Za-z_][A-Za-z0-9_]*)%").matcher(value).matches();</pre>
C# / .NET	<pre>Regex.IsMatch(value, @"%([A-Za-z_][A-Za-z0-9_]*)%");</pre>
Go	<pre>regexp.MustCompile(`%([A-Za-z_][A-Za-z0-9_]*)%`).MatchString(value)</pre>
Ruby	<pre>/%([A-Za-z_][A-Za-z0-9_]*)%/.match?(value)</pre>
PHP	<pre>preg_match('~%([A-Za-z_][A-Za-z0-9_]*)%~', \$value);</pre>

Common pitfalls

- **Not anchored.** Without `^` and `$` this can match a substring anywhere in the input — add anchors if you need the whole value to conform.
- **ASCII letters only.** `[a-zA-Z]` excludes accented and non-Latin letters (é, ü, ß, ñ, and non-Latin scripts). For international input use Unicode properties like `\p{L}` with the `u` flag.
- **Validate beyond format.** Matching the format doesn't guarantee the value is real. Confirm the windows environment variable against a source of truth (database, API, or checksum) where it matters.