

NAME

locale - Perl pragma to use or avoid POSIX locales for built-in operations

WARNING

DO NOT USE this pragma in scripts that have multiple *threads* active. The locale is not local to a single thread. Another thread may change the locale at any time, which could cause at a minimum that a given thread is operating in a locale it isn't expecting to be in. On some platforms, segfaults can also occur. The locale change need not be explicit; some operations cause perl to change the locale itself. You are vulnerable simply by having done a "use locale".

SYNOPSIS

```
@x = sort @y;      # Native-platform/Unicode code point sort order
{
    use locale;
    @x = sort @y;   # Locale-defined sort order
}
@x = sort @y;      # Native-platform/Unicode code point sort order
                  # again
```

DESCRIPTION

This pragma tells the compiler to enable (or disable) the use of POSIX locales for built-in operations (for example, LC_CTYPE for regular expressions, LC_COLLATE for string comparison, and LC_NUMERIC for number formatting). Each "use locale" or "no locale" affects statements to the end of the enclosing BLOCK.

See *perllocale* for more detailed information on how Perl supports locales.

On systems that don't have locales, this pragma will cause your operations to behave as if in the "C" locale; attempts to change the locale will fail.