

**NAME**

perl573delta - what's new for perl v5.7.3

**DESCRIPTION**

This document describes differences between the 5.7.2 release and the 5.7.3 release.

(To view the differences between the 5.6.0 release and the 5.7.0 release, see *perl570delta*. To view the differences between the 5.7.0 release and the 5.7.1 release, see *perl571delta*. To view the differences between the 5.7.1 release and the 5.7.2 release, see *perl572delta*.)

**Changes**

This is just a selected list of some of the more notable changes. The numbers refer to the Perl repository change numbers; see *Changes58* (or *Changes* in Perl 5.8.1). In addition to these changes, lots of work took place in integrating threads, PerlIO, and Unicode; general code cleanup; and last but not least porting to non-UNIX lands such as Win32, VMS, Cygwin, DJGPP, VOS, MacOS Classic, and EBCDIC.

- 11362 add LC\_MESSAGES to POSIX :locale\_h export tag
- 11371 add DEL to [:cntrl:]
- 11375 make h2ph understand constants like 1234L and 5678LL
- 11405 Win32: fix bugs in handling of the virtualized environment
- 11410 fix a bug in the security taint checking of open()
- 11423 make perl fork() safe even on platforms that don't have pthread\_atfork()
- 11459 make switching optimization and debugging levels during Perl builds easier via the OPTIMIZE environment variable
- 11475 make split()'s unused captures to be undef, not ""
- 11485 Search::Dict: allow transforming lines before comparing
- 11490 allow installing extra modules or bundles when building Perl
- 11516 add -Wall in cflags when compiling with gcc to weed out dubious C practices
- 11541 pluggable optimizer
- 11549 WinCE: integrate the port
- 11589 Win32: 4-arg select was broken
- 11594 introduce the perlivp utility for verifying the Perl installation (IVP = Installation Verification Procedure)
- 11623 rename lib/unicode to lib/unicore to avoid case-insensitivity problems with lib/Unicode
- 111631 remove Time::Piece
- 11643 document that use utf8 is not the right way most of the time
- 11656 allow building perl with -DUSE\_UTF8\_SCRIPTS which makes UTF-8 the default script encoding (not the default since that would break all scripts having legacy eight-bit data in them)
- 11725 division preserving 64-bit integers
- 11743 document the coderef-in-@INC feature

- 11794 modulo (%) preserving 64-bit integers
- 11825 update to Unicode 3.1.1
- 11865 add the `\[$@%&*]` prototype support
- 11874 `oct()` and `hex()` in glorious 64 bit
- 11877 `Class::Struct`: allow recursive classes
- 11993 fix `unpack U` to be the reverse of `pack U`
- 12056 VMS: `waitpid` enhancements
- 12180 `unpack("Z*Z*", pack("Z*Z*", ..))` was broken
- 12243 `Devel::Peek`: display UTF-8 SVs also also as `\x{...}`
- 12288 `Data::Dumper`: option to sort hashes
- 12542 add `perlpodspec`
- 12652 threadsafe `DynaLoader`, `re`, `Opcode`, `File::Glob`, and `B`
- 12756 support BeOS better
- 12874 read-only hashes (user-level interface is `Hash::Util`)
- 13162 add `Devel::PPPort`
- 13179 add the `sort` pragma
- 13326 VMS: fix `perl -P`
- 13358 add `perlpacktut`
- 13452 SUPER-UX: add hints file
- 13575 Win32: non-blocking `waitpid(-1,WNOHANG)`
- 13684 introduce the `-t` option for gentler taint checking
- 14694 add the `if` pragma
- 14832 implement `IV/UV/NV/long` double un/packing with `j/J/F/D`
- 14854 document the new taint behaviour of `exec LIST` and `system LIST`

## Reporting Bugs

If you find what you think is a bug, you might check the articles recently posted to the `comp.lang.perl.misc` newsgroup and the perl bug database at <http://bugs.perl.org>. There may also be information at <http://www.perl.com/>, the Perl Home Page.

If you believe you have an unreported bug, please run the **perlbug** program included with your release. Be sure to trim your bug down to a tiny but sufficient test case. Your bug report, along with the output of `perl -V`, will be sent off to `perlbug@perl.org` to be analysed by the Perl porting team.

## SEE ALSO

The *Changes* file for exhaustive details on what changed.

The *INSTALL* file for how to build Perl.

The *README* file for general stuff.

The *Artistic* and *Copying* files for copyright information.

## HISTORY

Written by Jarkko Hietaniemi <[jhi@iki.fi](mailto:jhi@iki.fi)>, with many contributions from The Perl Porters and Perl Users submitting feedback and patches.

Send omissions or corrections to <[perlbug@perl.org](mailto:perlbug@perl.org)>.