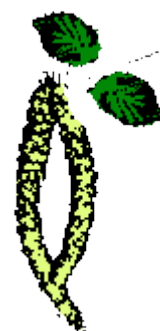


# **docoll Ruby coding standards**



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# 1 Introduction

This document defines the coding and file name standards used in the Ruby scripts in the docoll system.

## 1.1 Related documentation

- "docoll collating and indexing scripts developer's guide"

## 2 Coding style and standards

Largely inspired by: <http://www.pathf.com/blogs/ruby-and-rails-style-guide/>

### 2.1 Order of sections

1. shebang line
2. header block with author's name, Perforce Id tag and a brief description of what the program or library is for.
3. require statements
4. include statements
5. class and module definitions
6. main program section
7. testing code

#### 2.1.1 Shebang line

Don't use env (found was unable to use -w with it and it makes the version of ruby dependent on the value of the PATH environment variable).

Do use -wEUTF-8:UTF-8

#### 2.1.2 require statements

require English (to ensure greater readability)

### 2.2 Blank lines

Two blank lines between each class and module definition. A single blank line between each method definition

### 2.3 Block style

do-end preferred over { } except for single line blocks.

### 2.4 Conditionals

Use "if" rather than the ternary operator.

"if": omit "then" except for one-liners.

Don't use "if as modifier"s.

Don't use "unless".

In case statements, use one-liner "when"s when following code is short.

## **2.5 Continuation lines**

Use \ at end of line even when it is not required (for clarity)

## **2.6 Exceptions**

Consider subclassing one of the base exception classes.

Use "ensure".

## **2.7 External commands**

Use Ruby libraries instead, whenever practicable.

## **2.8 Indentation**

Multiples of two, no tabs.

case-when-else-end: same indentation for each, intermediate lines indented further.

begin-rescue-end and def-rescue-end: same indentation for each, intermediate lines indented further.

private and protected: no extra indentation for following lines.

## **2.9 Initialisation statements**

One per line (that is not like "I = j = 0").

Do not use { ... } for initialising hashes' use Hash.new and then array-like assignment.

## **2.10 Line length**

80 columns maximum.

## **2.11 Method parameter lists**

Do not omit parentheses.

## **2.12 Method protection**

Use private or protected, as appropriate

## **2.13 Names**

Class names: CamelCase (same as module names); nouns

Constant names: upper-case characters and underscores; nouns.

Method names: lower-case characters and underscores; verbs.

Module names: CamelCase (same as class names).

Variable names:

- Local: begin with [a-z\_]. All lower case, words separated by \_. Single character for counters and iterators.
- Global: begin with \$ (language feature).
- Class: begin with @ (language feature).

## 2.14 Operators

Use && instead of "and", || instead of "or" and ! instead of "not" because the lower precedence of "and", "or" and "not" can result in subtle bugs.

## 2.15 Whitespace

Token(s)	Whitespace
=	space both sides except when assigning default values in method argument lists.
( and )	space both sides except when "(" encloses a method's argument list in which case no space before
,	no space before, one space after

## 3 Files

File names: Class definition file names in CamelCase, others all lower case, with words separated by \_. Both ending with .rb

Permissions: minimum required, that is read and execute for files that are executed directly and read only for those that are accessed via Ruby include statements.

## 4 Appendix – GNU Free Documentation License

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