

**NAME**

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

**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\(1\)](#) 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.