

**NAME**

PerlIO::scalar - in-memory IO, scalar IO

**SYNOPSIS**

```
my $scalar = '';  
...  
open my $fh, "<", \$scalar or die;  
open my $fh, ">", \$scalar or die;  
open my $fh, ">>", \$scalar or die;
```

or

```
my $scalar = '';  
...  
open my $fh, "<:scalar", \$scalar or die;  
open my $fh, ">:scalar", \$scalar or die;  
open my $fh, ">>:scalar", \$scalar or die;
```

**DESCRIPTION**

A filehandle is opened but the file operations are performed "in-memory" on a scalar variable. All the normal file operations can be performed on the handle. The scalar is considered a stream of bytes. Currently `fileno($fh)` returns -1.

**IMPLEMENTATION NOTE**

`PerlIO::scalar` only exists to use XSLoader to load C code that provides support for treating a scalar as an "in memory" file. One does not need to explicitly use `PerlIO::scalar`.