Help and Documentation Utilities

Version 9.4.0.5

November 10, 2026

This section describes utilities designed to connect to documentation and to support bug reports. See also `scribble/xref`.

1 Searching in the Documentation

```
(require help)
```
package: racket-index

Added in version 1.4 of package racket-index.

```
(send-main-page [#:sub sub
                 #:notify notify
                 #:fragment fragment
                 #:query query
                 #:query-table query-table]) → any
  sub : path-string? = "index.html"
  notify : (-> (or/c path? string?) void) = void
  fragment : (or/c #f string?) = #f
  query : (or/c #f string?) = #f
  query-table : (hash/c symbol? string? #:immutable #t) = (hash)
```

Visits the documentation file indicated by *sub*. If *sub* is not an absolute path, it is relative to a documentation directory in (get-doc-search-dirs).

When get-doc-open-url returns #f, send-main-page builds a URL that points into the main collection documentation or into the user-specific documentation, depending on the *sub* argument. Once it finds the path, send-main-page passes the path to *notify*. The *fragment* and *query* arguments are passed to send-url/file, along with the URL. The keys and values in *query-table* are used as additional query parameters.

When get-doc-open-url returns a URL string, send-main-page appends *sub* to the URL and passes it to *notify*. It then appends *fragment* and *query* to the URL and passes it on to send-url.

```
(send-language-family-page [language-family]) → void?
  language-family : (or/c #f string?) = #f
```

Calls send-main-page. If *language-family* is the name of a language family that is registered by a definition of language-family in some collection's "info.rkt", then a starting point and search and navigation configuration for the language family are incoprorated into the call. Otherwise, send-main-page is called with no arguments.

```
(perform-search  str
                [context
                 #:language-family language-family]) → void?
  str : string?
  context : (or/c #f                          = #f
                  string?
                  (list/c string? string?))
  language-family : (or/c #f string?) = #f
```

Searches for *str* in the documentation. The *context* argument supplies a context for the search or, if it is two strings, a context for the search and a label for that context. The search involves visiting a URL that performs the search.

If *language-family* is the name of a language family that is registered by a definition of `language-family` in some collection's `"info.rkt"`, then search and navigation configuration for the language family are incoprorated into the search request.

2 Connecting to `racket`

```
(require help/help-utils)
```
package: `racket-index`

The `help/help-utils` library is dynamically loaded by the `help` form that is available by default in `racket`.

```
(search-for strs) → void?
  strs : (listof string?)
```

Calls `perform-search` after concatenating the elements of *strs* and adding spaces between them.

```
(find-help/lib id lib) → void?
  id : symbol?
  lib : module-path?
```

Visits the documentation page for *id* as an export of *lib*.

```
(find-help id) → void?
  id : identifier?
```

Visits the documentation for *id*.

```
(go-to-main-page) → void?
```

Visits the main entry page for the documentation.

3 Compatibility Library

`(require help/search)` package: `scribble-lib`

The `help/search` module reexports the bindings of `help`.

`send-main-page` : `procedure?`

See `send-main-page`.

Changed in version 1.2 of package `scribble-lib`: Added `get-doc-open-url` support.
Changed in version 1.60: Added the `query-table` argument.

`send-language-family-page` : `procedure?`

See `send-language-family-page`.

Added in version 1.60 of package `scribble-lib`.

`perform-search` : `procedure?`

See `main-perform-search`.

Changed in version 1.60 of package `scribble-lib`: Added the `language-family` argument.