

## BNF Syntax of Ruby

Based on <http://docs.huihoo.com/ruby/ruby-man-1.4/yacc.html> with some editing. I have found other websites attesting that Ruby version 1.4.6 is the latest with a reference manual in English, <http://docs.huihoo.com/ruby/ruby-man-1.4/index.html>, though Ruby exists up to v1.9 in Japanese.

ALL-CAPS are used for nonterminals, and all-lowercase for literal keywords. Literal ( ) [ ] { } are quoted to distinguish them from BNF syntax.

```
PROGRAM      : COMPSTMT
T            : ";" | "\n" //a newline can terminate a statement

COMPSTMT     : STMT {T EXPR} [T]

STMT         : CALL do ["|" [BLOCK_VAR] "|"] COMPSTMT end
              | undef FNAME
              | alias FNAME FNAME
              | STMT if EXPR
              | STMT while EXPR
              | STMT unless EXPR
              | STMT until EXPR
              | "BEGIN" "{" COMPSTMT "}" //object initializer
              | "END" "{" COMPSTMT "}" //object finalizer
              | LHS = COMMAND [do ["|" [BLOCK_VAR] "|"] COMPSTMT end]
              | EXPR

EXPR         : MLHS = MRHS
              | return CALL_ARGS
              | yield CALL_ARGS
              | EXPR and EXPR
              | EXPR or EXPR
              | not EXPR
              | COMMAND
              | ! COMMAND
              | ARG

CALL         : FUNCTION
              | COMMAND

COMMAND      : OPERATION CALL_ARGS
              | PRIMARY.OPERATION CALL_ARGS
              | PRIMARY :: OPERATION CALL_ARGS
              | super CALL_ARGS

FUNCTION     : OPERATION ["(" [CALL_ARGS] ")"]
              | PRIMARY.OPERATION "(" [CALL_ARGS] ")"
              | PRIMARY :: OPERATION "(" [CALL_ARGS] ")"
              | PRIMARY.OPERATION
              | PRIMARY :: OPERATION
              | super "(" [CALL_ARGS] ")"
              | super
```

```
ARG         : LHS = ARG
              | LHS OP_ASGN ARG
              | ARG .. ARG | ARG ... ARG
              | ARG + ARG | ARG - ARG | ARG * ARG | ARG / ARG
              | ARG % ARG | ARG ** ARG
              | + ARG | - ARG
              | ARG "|" ARG
              | ARG ^ ARG | ARG & ARG
              | ARG <=> ARG
              | ARG > ARG | ARG >= ARG | ARG < ARG | ARG <= ARG
              | ARG == ARG | ARG === ARG | ARG != ARG
              | ARG =~ ARG | ARG !~ ARG
              | ! ARG | ~ ARG
              | ARG << ARG | ARG >> ARG
              | ARG && ARG | ARG || ARG
              | defined? ARG
              | PRIMARY

PRIMARY: "(" COMPSTMT ")"
        | LITERAL
        | VARIABLE
        | PRIMARY :: IDENTIFIER
        | :: IDENTIFIER
        | PRIMARY "[" [ARGS] "]"
        | "[" [ARGS [,]] "]"
        | "{" [ARGS | ASSOCS [,]] "}"
        | return ["(" [CALL_ARGS] ")"]
        | yield ["(" [CALL_ARGS] ")"]
        | defined? "(" ARG ")"
        | FUNCTION
        | FUNCTION "{" ["|" [BLOCK_VAR] "|"] COMPSTMT "}"
        | if EXPR THEN
          COMPSTMT
        {elseif EXPR THEN
          COMPSTMT}
        [else
          COMPSTMT]
        end
        | unless EXPR THEN
          COMPSTMT
        [else
          COMPSTMT]
        end
        | while EXPR DO COMPSTMT end
        | until EXPR DO COMPSTMT end
        | case COMPSTMT
          when WHEN_ARGS THEN COMPSTMT
          {when WHEN_ARGS THEN COMPSTMT}
        [else
          COMPSTMT]
        end
```

```

| for BLOCK_VAR in EXPR DO
    COMPSTMT
end
| begin
    COMPSTMT
{rescue [ARGS] DO
    COMPSTMT}
[else
    COMPSTMT]
[ensure
    COMPSTMT]
end
| class IDENTIFIER [< IDENTIFIER]
    COMPSTMT
end
| module IDENTIFIER
    COMPSTMT
end
| def FNAME ARGDECL
    COMPSTMT
end
| def SINGLETON (. | ::) FNAME ARGDECL
    COMPSTMT
end

WHEN_ARGS : ARGS [, * ARG] | * ARG

THEN      : T | then | T then // "then" and "do" can go on next line
DO        : T | do | T do

BLOCK_VAR : LHS | MLHS

MLHS      : MLHS_ITEM , [MLHS_ITEM (, MLHS_ITEM)*] [* [LHS]]
           | * LHS

MLHS_ITEM : LHS | "(" MLHS ")"

LHS       : VARIABLE
           | PRIMARY "[" [ARGS] "]"
           | PRIMARY.IDENTIFIER

MRHS      : ARGS [, * ARG] | * ARG

CALL_ARGS : ARGS
           | ARGS [, ASSOCS] [, * ARG] [, & ARG]
           | ASSOCS [, * ARG] [, & ARG]
           | * ARG [, & ARG] | & ARG
           | COMMAND

ARGS      : ARG (, ARG)*

```

```

ARGDECL   : "(" ARGLIST ")"
           | ARGLIST T

ARGLIST   : IDENTIFIER(, IDENTIFIER)*[, * [IDENTIFIER]][, &IDENTIFIER]
           | *IDENTIFIER[, &IDENTIFIER]
           | [&IDENTIFIER]

SINGLETON  : VARIABLE
           | "(" EXPR ")"

ASSOCS     : ASSOC {, ASSOC}

ASSOC     : ARG => ARG

VARIABLE  : VARNAME | nil | self

LITERAL   : numeric | SYMBOL | STRING | STRING2 | HERE_DOC | REGEXP

The following are recognized by the lexical analyzer.

OP_ASGN   : += | -= | *= | /= | %= | **=
           | &= | |= | ^= | <<= | >>=
           | &&= | ||=

SYMBOL    : :FNAME | :VARNAME

FNAME     : IDENTIFIER | .. | "|" | ^ | & | <=> | == | === | =~
           | > | >= | < | <= | + | - | * | / | % | **
           | << | >> | ~ | +@ | -@ | [] | []=

OPERATION : IDENTIFIER [! | ?]

VARNAME   : GLOBAL | @IDENTIFIER | IDENTIFIER

GLOBAL    : $IDENTIFIER | $any_char | $-any_char

STRING    : " {any_char} "
           | ' {any_char} '
           | ` {any_char} `

STRING2   : %(Q|q|x)char {any_char} char

HERE_DOC  : <<(IDENTIFIER | STRING)
           {any_char}
           IDENTIFIER

REGEXP    : / {any_char} / [i|o|p]
           | %r char {any_char} char

IDENTIFIER : sequence in /[a-zA-Z_]{a-zA-Z0-9}_/.

```