

# Tutorial on how to create, write and read file in Ionic the easy way



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So I've looked over online tutorials and couldn't find any quick guides to read and write files on devices in Ionic. Most will shows how to use DirectoryEntry object and etc. to parse through the filesystem. So I am writing a noob experience in reading and writing files in Ionic the easiest way. Just some codes and you will be on your way....

First and foremost we have to install and import File:

To install run the following commands on the ionic root folder:

```
ionic cordova platform add android
```

```
cordova plugin add cordova-plugin-file
```

```
npm install @ionic-native/file
```

Inject the File in your app.module.ts. The whole code should include an import and the provider should include a File inside. The whole code for app.module.ts should look like this:-

```
import { NgModule } from '@angular/core';
```

```
import { BrowserModule } from '@angular/platform-browser';
```

```
import { RouteReuseStrategy } from '@angular/router';
```

```
import { IonicModule, IonicRouteStrategy } from '@ionic/angular';
```

```
import { SplashScreen } from '@ionic-native/splash-screen/ngx';
```

```
import { StatusBar } from '@ionic-native/status-bar/ngx';
```

```

import { AppComponent } from './app.component';

import { AppRoutingModuleModule } from './app-routing.module';

import { File } from '@ionic-native/file/ngx';

@NgModule({
  declarations: [AppComponent],
  entryComponents: [],
  imports: [BrowserModule, IonicModule.forRoot(), AppRoutingModuleModule],
  providers: [
    StatusBar,
    SplashScreen,
    File,
    { provide: RouteReuseStrategy, useClass: IonicRouteStrategy }
  ],
  bootstrap: [AppComponent]
})

export class AppModule {}

```

Then you can use the File object in your individual pages. To import in your page ts file:

```

import { File } from '@ionic-native/file/ngx';

```

Then we have to reference an object in the constructor

```

constructor(

....

private file: File,

```

```
...
```

```
) {
```

Next starts the coding....I'll just highlight codes you need to create, read and write. But before that, we have to know that the app path is accessed like this

```
this.file.dataDirectory
```

This will give us the path where your app will store the file.

And so to create and read files...here it is:

```
this.file.createFile(this.file.dataDirectory, 'filename', true);
```

```
this.file.readAsText(this.file.dataDirectory, 'filename');
```

To write file, convert your text into blob using the following:-

```
this.stringToInsert = 'I learned this from Medium';
```

```
this.blob = new Blob([this.stringToInsert], { type: 'text/plain' });
```

And finally to write to the file:

```
this.file.writeFile(this.file.dataDirectory, 'filename', this.blob, {replace: true, append: false});
```

So we are done.....To make things easy...let's assemble all this together to create, read, and write in a function. Note that the read function returns a promise, but it's handled in the code below:-

```
import { Component } from '@angular/core';
```

```
import { File } from '@ionic-native/file/ngx';
```

```
import { Platform } from '@ionic/angular';
```

```
@Component({
```

```
  templateUrl: 'forms.page.html',
```

```
styleUrls: ['forms.page.scss'],

}

)

export class FormsPage {

  private promise: Promise<string>;

  private stringToWrite: string;

  private blob: Blob;

  constructor(

    private platform: Platform,

    private file: File,

  ) {

    this.platform.ready().then(() => {

    });

  }

  createFile() {

    this.file.createFile(this.file.dataDirectory, 'filename', true);

  }

  async readFile() {

    this.promise = this.file.readAsText(this.file.dataDirectory, 'filename');

    await this.promise.then(value => {

      console.log(value);

    });

  }

}
```

```
}  
  
writeFile() {  
  
  this.stringToWrite = 'I learned this from Medium';  
  
  this.blob = new Blob([this.stringToWrite], { type: 'text/plain' });  
  
  this.file.writeFile(this.file.dataDirectory, 'filename', this.blob, {replace: true, append:  
false});  
  
}  
  
}
```

There you go...I hope this will be the easiest guide you've ever read on files in Ionic.

Thanks and looking forward to writing more....

by Chua Kok Seng

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