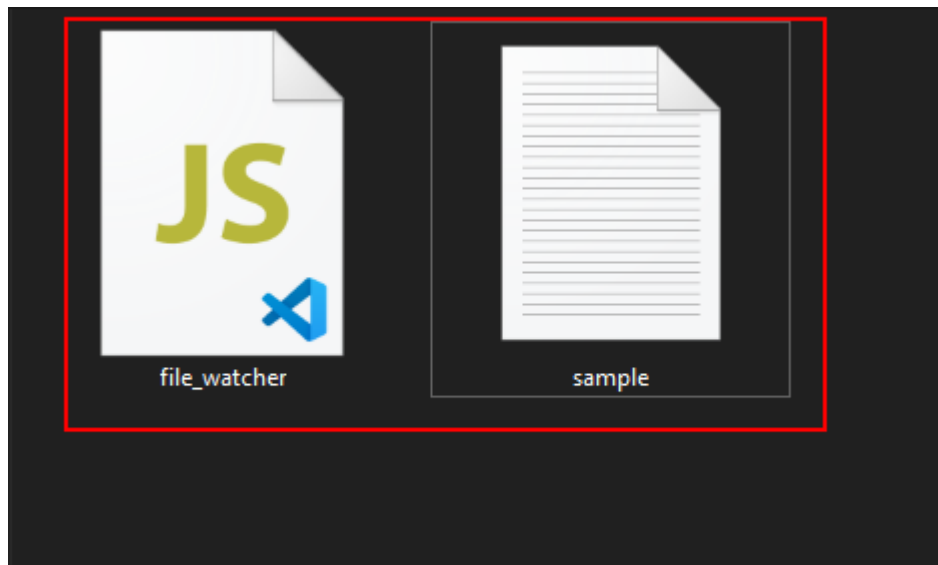


NodeJS Module 3: Hands-On:5

Monitor File and Log Changes to the Console

Step 1: Create files named `file_watcher.js` and `sample.txt`



Step 2: Open 'file_watcher' in any text editor

Step 3: Type the following code:

```
JS file_watcher.js x
C: > Users > Intellipaat-Team > Desktop > fs > demo > JS file_watcher.js > ...

1  const fs = require('fs');
2
3  fs.watchFile('sample.txt', (current) => {
4    console.log('File was changed at ' + current.atime)
5  });
6
```

Step 3.1: Import the file system module using the 'require' keyword

```
JS file_watcher.js x
C: > Users > Intellipaat-Team > Desktop > fs > demo > JS file_watcher.js > ...

1  const fs = require('fs');
2
3  fs.watchFile('sample.txt', (current) => {
4    console.log('File was changed at ' + current.atime)
5  });
6
```

Step 3.2: On the fs module, call the watchFile method with the filename 'sample.txt' and a callback that accepts the info about the file in its current state (after change)

```
JS file_watcher.js X
C: > Users > Intellipaat-Team > Desktop > fs > demo > JS file_watcher.js > ...

1  const fs = require('fs');
2
3  fs.watchFile('sample.txt', (current) => {
4    console.log('File was changed at ' + current.atime)
5  });
6
```

Step 3.3: In the callback, log the message that the file is changed with the timestamp to indicate when the file is modified

```
JS file_watcher.js X
C: > Users > Intellipaat-Team > Desktop > fs > demo > JS file_watcher.js > ...

1  const fs = require('fs');
2
3  fs.watchFile('sample.txt', (current) => {
4    console.log('File was changed at ' + current.atime)
5  });
6
```

Step 4: Open the command prompt in the same directory as the file

```
C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.18362.476]
(c) 2019 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\Intellipaat-Team\Desktop\fs\demo>
```

Step 5: Run the file using the command 'node file_watcher.js'

```
C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe - node file_watcher.js
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.18362.476]
(c) 2019 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
C:\Users\Intellipaat-Team\Desktop\fs\demo>node file_watcher.js
```

Step 6: Open the file 'sample.txt' in a text editor, make some changes, and save it

```
sample - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
This is a sample data file. Some Changes
```

Step 7: Look at the console and observe the log message

```
C:\Windows\System32\cmd.exe - node file_watcher.js
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.18362.476]
(c) 2019 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.
C:\Users\Intellipaat-Team\Desktop\fs\demo>node file_watcher.js
File was changed at Mon Nov 25 2019 17:59:26 GMT+0530 (India Standard Time)
```