

Node.js provides multiple methods for handling files, primarily through the built-in `fs` (file system) module. Here's an overview of common file-handling tasks and examples:

## 1. Reading a File

- **Using `fs.readFile`:** Reads the entire content of a file asynchronously.

javascript

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```
const fs = require('fs');
fs.readFile('example.txt', 'utf8', (err, data) => {
  if (err) {
    console.error('Error reading file:', err);
    return;
  }
  console.log('File content:', data);
});
```

- **Using `fs.createReadStream`:** Reads a file in chunks, which is useful for large files to prevent memory overload.

javascript

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```
const fs = require('fs');
const readStream = fs.createReadStream('example.txt', 'utf8');
readStream.on('data', (chunk) => {
  console.log('Received chunk:', chunk);
});
readStream.on('end', () => {
  console.log('File read completed');
});
readStream.on('error', (err) => {
  console.error('Error reading file:', err);
});
```

## 2. Writing to a File

- **Using `fs.writeFile`:** Writes data to a file asynchronously. If the file does not exist, it will create it; if it exists, it will overwrite it.

javascript

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```
const fs = require('fs');
fs.writeFile('output.txt', 'Hello, Node.js!', (err) => {
  if (err) {
    console.error('Error writing to file:', err);
    return;
  }
  console.log('File written successfully');
});
```

- **Using `fs.createWriteStream`:** Writes data in chunks. This is efficient for large data writes or streams.

javascript

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```
const fs = require('fs');
const writeStream = fs.createWriteStream('output.txt');
writeStream.write('Hello, ');
writeStream.write('Node.js!\n');
writeStream.end();
writeStream.on('finish', () => {
  console.log('File written successfully');
});
writeStream.on('error', (err) => {
  console.error('Error writing to file:', err);
});
```

## 3. Appending Data to a File

- **Using `fs.appendFile`:** Adds data to the end of an existing file. If the file does not exist, it will create it.

javascript

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```
const fs = require('fs');
fs.appendFile('output.txt', 'This is an appended line.\n', (err) => {
  if (err) {
    console.error('Error appending to file:', err);
    return;
  }
  console.log('Data appended to file');
});
```

#### 4. Deleting a File

- **Using `fs.unlink`:** Deletes a specified file.

javascript

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```
const fs = require('fs');
fs.unlink('output.txt', (err) => {
  if (err) {
    console.error('Error deleting file:', err);
    return;
  }
  console.log('File deleted successfully');
});
```

#### 5. Renaming a File

- **Using `fs.rename`:** Renames or moves a file.

javascript

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```
const fs = require('fs');
fs.rename('output.txt', 'newOutput.txt', (err) => {
  if (err) {
    console.error('Error renaming file:', err);
    return;
  }
  console.log('File renamed successfully');
});
```

## 6. Checking File Existence

- **Using `fs.existsSync`:** Checks if a file exists synchronously.

javascript

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```
const fs = require('fs');

if (fs.existsSync('example.txt')) {
  console.log('File exists');
} else {
  console.log('File does not exist');
}
```

## 7. Opening a File Descriptor

- **Using `fs.open`:** Opens a file and returns a file descriptor for lower-level operations.

javascript

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```
fs.open('example.txt', 'r', (err, fd) => {
  if (err) {
    console.error('Error opening file:', err);
    return;
  }
  console.log('File descriptor:', fd);
  fs.close(fd, (err) => {
    if (err) console.error('Error closing file:', err);
  });
});
```

## 8. Reading a File Asynchronously in Chunks

This approach is useful when you want to read a file progressively, especially if the file size is large.

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```
const fs = require('fs');
fs.open('example.txt', 'r', (err, fd) => {
  if (err) {
    console.error('Error opening file:', err);
    return;
  }
  const buffer = Buffer.alloc(1024); // Allocate a buffer of 1 KB
  fs.read(fd, buffer, 0, buffer.length, 0, (err, bytesRead, buffer) => {
    if (err) {
      console.error('Error reading file:', err);
      return;
    }
    console.log('Bytes read:', bytesRead);
    console.log('File content:', buffer.toString('utf8', 0, bytesRead));
    fs.close(fd, (err) => {
      if (err) console.error('Error closing file:', err);
    });
  });
});
```

## Summary

Task	Method	Description
Read File	fs.readFile	Reads the file content asynchronously
Read in Chunks	fs.createReadStream	Reads large files in chunks
Write File	fs.writeFile	Writes data, creating or overwriting a file
Write in Chunks	fs.createWriteStream	Writes data in chunks
Append File	fs.appendFile	Adds data to the end of an existing file
Delete File	fs.unlink	Deletes the file

<b>Rename File</b>	<code>fs.rename</code>	Renames or moves the file
<b>Check Existence</b>	<code>fs.existsSync</code>	Checks if a file exists synchronously
<b>Open File</b>	<code>fs.open</code>	Opens a file for low-level operations

These examples demonstrate core file handling tasks in Node.js, making it easy to manage files in applications.