File commands

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## Typical operations

* Determine if a file exists
* Get basic information about a file
* Delete a file or directory
* Copy a file
* Move a file
* Create a new file

## OS differences:

* Windows favors the backslash: "/"
* \*nix(which includes MacOS) use forward slash: ""
* When using 'file.exists' and the like, cannot put a trailing slash under Windows.
* Unix/Linux may use 'symlinks'.

## Constructing the filename

file.path works faster than paste. Also takes care of OS differences.

file.path()

## character(0)

## Determine if a file exists

Returns a logical vector to May use wildcards or regular expressions.

```

A 'file' may also mean a directory.

## file.info

Returns information as a data frame.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Column | Type |
| size | double |
| isdir | logical |
| mode | integer |
| mtime | POSIXct |
| ctime | POSIXct |
| atime | POSIXct |
| uid | integer |
| gid | integer |
| uname | uname |
| grname | grname |

## 

getwd() setwd() list.files() file.info() copy delete create a directory

## file.create

myNewFilename = "MyFile.txt"  
if(!file.exists(myNewFilename)) {  
 # Very dangerous!   
 unlink(myNewFilename)  
 }  
  
file.create("MyNewFile.txt")

This document took inspiration from "Advanced R" by Hadley Wickham.