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## FileNotFoundError: [Errno 2] No such file or directory



I am trying to open a CSV file but for some reason python cannot locate it.

Here is my code (it's just a simple code but I cannot solve the problem):

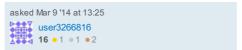
```
import csv
with open('address.csv','r') as f:
    reader = csv.reader(f)
    for row in reader:
        print row

python file find
```

edited Mar 9 '14 at 13:28



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2 Is address.csv in the same folder as your python (.py) code? You are using a relative path. If it's not you need to provide a full path like C:\folder\folder\address.csv - CoryKramer Mar 9 '14 at 13:29

if you could post the exact error, it would be easy to answer. – The Predator  $\mbox{Mar}\ 9\ \mbox{'}14\ \mbox{at}\ 13:33$ 

1 @Cyber The file is not relative to the dir containing the source code. It is relative to the working directory. By coincidence those directories may be the same, but it's important to be precise. – David Heffernan Mar 9 '14 at 13:35

## 3 Answers

You are using a relative path, which means that the program looks for the file in the working directory. The error is telling you that there is no file of that name in the working directory.

Try using the exact, or absolute, path.







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Use the exact path.

```
import csv
with open('C:\path\address.csv','r') as f:
    reader = csv.reader(f)
    for row in reader:
        print row
```

answered Mar 9 '14 at 13:43



Are you saying that absolute paths should always be used and relative paths should not be used? – David Heffeman Mar 9 '14 at 13:57

NO. I am saying it is better to use absolute path. If the script and the input file both are in same directory then relative should work. – Dinesh Mar 10 '14 at 12:44

It is not better if you want the path to be relative. What's more, it is relative to the **working directory** and the script directory. - David Heffernan Mar 10 '14 at 12:50

When you open a file with the name <code>address.csv</code> , you are telling the <code>open()</code> function that your file is in the current working directory. This is called a relative path.

To give you an idea of what that means, add this to your code:

```
import os

cwd = os.getcwd() # Get the current working directory (cwd)
files = os.listdir(cwd) # Get all the files in that directory
print("Files in '%s': %s" % (cwd, files))
```

That will print the current working directory along with all the files in it.

Another way to tell the <code>open()</code> function where your file is located is by using an absolute path, e.g.:

```
f = open("/Users/foo/address.csv")

edited Mar 9 '14 at 14:20

answered Mar 9 '14 at 13:43

tsroten
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```