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Rename all “.pdf” files to “_0.pdf” [duplicate]

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Closed 3 years ago.

I want to copy all files *.pdf to *_0.pdf

How can I do it?

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edited Aug 7 '17 at 13:02

heemayl

79.4k ● 16 ● 176 ● 242

asked Aug 7 '17 at 12:51

Jonas

111 ● 1 ● 6

- 1
- Don't forget to inspect for collisions. The suggested scripts so far work but, if you run some of them with two files `abc.pdf` and `abc_0.pdf` then the renamed `abc.pdf` may overwrite `abc_0.pdf` before the latter gets renamed. – Denis de Bernardy Aug 7 '17 at 14:05

add a comment

5 Answers

Active Oldest Votes

A simple way would be to use the `mmv` command:

16

```
mmv '*.pdf' '#1_0.pdf'
```

You might need to install it first (available in the Universe repository):

```
sudo apt-get install mmv
```

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edited Aug 8 '17 at 4:49

heemayl

79.4k ● 16 ● 176 ● 242

answered Aug 7 '17 at 13:05

sempaiscuba

1,387 ● 6 ● 14 ● 25

- 4
- To save you an `apt-cache show mmv`: *mmv is a program to move/copy/append/link multiple files according to a set of wildcard patterns. This multiple action is performed safely, i.e. without any unexpected deletion of files due to collisions of target names with existing filenames or with other target names.* – user1717828 Aug 7 '17 at 14:58

add a comment

With `rename` (`prename`):

10

```
rename -n 's/\.pdf$/_0$&/' *.pdf
```

- `\.pdf$` matches `.pdf` at the end of the filename
- in the replacement, the match is prepended by `_0`: `_0$&`
- drop `-n` for actual action

With `bash` parameter expansion:

```
for f in *.pdf; do pre="${f%.pdf}"; echo mv -- "$f" "${pre}_0.pdf"; done
```

- `pre="${f%.pdf}"` saves the portion of the filename before `.pdf` as variable `pre`
- while `mv -ing _0.pdf` is appended to `$pre`: `${pre}_0.pdf`
- drop `echo` for actual action

Example:

```
% rename -n 's/\.pdf$/_0$&/' *.pdf
rename(egg.pdf, egg_0.pdf)
rename(spam.pdf, spam_0.pdf)

% for f in *.pdf; do pre="${f%.pdf}"; echo mv -- "$f" "${pre}_0.pdf"; done
mv -- egg.pdf egg_0.pdf
mv -- spam.pdf spam_0.pdf
```

share improve this answer follow

edited Aug 8 '17 at 16:20

wjandrea

12k ● 4 ● 39 ● 78

answered Aug 7 '17 at 12:57

heemayl

79.4k ● 16 ● 176 ● 242

with `rename.ul` it is even more simple ;) – Rinzwind Aug 7 '17 at 13:07

@Rinzwind `rename.ul` which comes with `util-linux`, does not give enough flexibility to me while the `prename` (`perl` script) let me do all the `perl` capabilities. So `prename` is my way to deal with these stuffs. – heemayl Aug 7 '17 at 13:12

```
echo abc > abc.pdf; echo abc_0 > abc_0.pdf; for f in *.pdf; do pre="${f%.pdf}";
echo mv -- "$f" "${pre}_0.pdf"; done (The rename version will skip instead of overwriting.) – Denis de Bernardy Aug 7 '17 at 14:11
```

add a comment

Do you want to rename or copy?

To rename, you can use emacs:

- 3
1. Open the parent directory as a dired buffer
 2. Type `M-x wdired-change-to-wdired-mode`
 3. Use `M-x query-replace` to replace `.pdf` with `_0.pdf`
 4. Type `C-x C-s` to save the buffer

share improve this answer follow

answered Aug 7 '17 at 17:18

asshaerhauer

31 ● 1

add a comment

Do you want to rename or copy the files? For both, you can simply use a for loop and `mv` (move, also renames) or `cp` (copy):

2

```
for i in *.pdf; do mv "$i" "${i%.pdf/_0.pdf}"; done
```

or rather

```
for i in *.pdf; do cp "$i" "${i%.pdf/_0.pdf}"; done
```

The quotation marks are only needed if (one of) your files contains spaces.

Quick explanation: `${i%.pdf/_0.pdf}` takes variable `i` and substitutes `.pdf` by `_0.pdf` if it is found at the end of the string (hence `%`). Read more about bash's amazing superpowers [here](#).

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answered Aug 7 '17 at 19:26

dessert

33.5k ● 8 ● 96 ● 138

Considering what *Denis de Bernardy* wrote in his comment to the question: This solution will overwrite a file `abc_0.pdf` with the content of `abc.pdf`, but only after moving/copying `abc_0.pdf` to `abc_0_0.pdf` first, because `abc_0.pdf` comes before `abc.pdf` for the bash (with my localisation). When in doubt, just check the file order first with `` for i in *.pdf; do echo $i; done``. – dessert Aug 9 '17 at 11:30

add a comment

Simple solution files on same directory

On `sh` shell, `rename` will help you:

```
rename .pdf _0.pdf *.pdf
```

Execute the comand on directory with the pdf files.

Files inside directory recursive

If you have the files inside directories and want to find all of then and replace:

```
find . -iname "*.pdf" | fgrep -v _0.pdf | xargs -n1 echo rename .pdf _0.pdf
```

share improve this answer follow

answered Aug 7 '17 at 22:16

Psycho

1

- 1
- For the `rename` command, I got an error: `syntax error at (eval 1) line 1, near ".,"` – wjandrea Aug 8 '17 at 0:22
- A bit stranger... What shell you run the command? – Psycho Aug 8 '17 at 4:22
- `sh`, and `bash` for that matter – wjandrea Aug 8 '17 at 4:25
- Though I can't see why that would make a difference, since it's `rename` reporting the syntax error, not the shell. – wjandrea Aug 8 '17 at 4:27
- 1
- @wjandrea I think this refers to `rename` from `util-linux`, not `perl-rename`: [manpages.ubuntu.com/manpages/trusty/man1/rename.ul.1.html](#) – muru Aug 8 '17 at 5:36

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