



Reading and writing files in javascript

One of the biggest drawbacks in Node, for me, is that it has taken me years to figure out how to open, read and write files using Node.js APIs.

Reading files

Async file read

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

fs.readFile('/Users/joe/test.txt', 'utf8', (err, data) => {
  if (err) {
    console.error(err);
    return;
  }
  console.log(data);
});
```

sync file read

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

try {
  const data = fs.readFileSync('/Users/joe/test.txt', 'utf8');
  console.log(data);
} catch (err) {
  console.error(err);
}
```

Promise-based file read

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

```

async function example() {
  try {
    const data = await fs.readFile('/Users/joe/test.txt', { encoding: 'utf-8' });
    console.log(data);
  } catch (err) {
    console.log(err);
  }
}
example();

```

Writing files

async write

```

const fs = require('fs');

const content = 'Some content!';

fs.writeFile('/Users/joe/test.txt', content, err => {
  if (err) {
    console.error(err);
  }
  // file written successfully
});

```

promise-based write

```

const fs = require('fs/promises');

async function example() {
  try {
    const content = 'Some content!';
    await fs.writeFile('/Users/joe/test.txt', content);
  } catch (err) {
    console.log(err);
  }
}

```

```
}  
}  
example();
```

Using streams

[Node.js streams](#)