Python File Open

Open a File on the Server

Assume we have the following file, located in the same folder as Python:

demofile.txt

```
Hello! Welcome to demofile.txt
This file is for testing purposes.
Good Luck!
```

To open the file, use the built-in `open()` function.

The `open()` function returns a file object, which has a `read()` method for reading the content of the file:

Example

```python
f = open("demofile.txt", "r")
print(f.read())
```

Run Example »

If the file is located in a different location, you will have to specify the file path, like this:

Example

Open a file on a different location:

```python
f = open("D:\\myfiles\welcome.txt", "r")
print(f.read())
```

Run Example »

Read Only Parts of the File

By default the `read()` method returns the whole text, but you can also specify how many characters you want to return:

Example

Return the 5 first characters of the file:

```
f = open("demofile.txt", "r")
print(f.read(5))
```

Run Example »

Read Lines

You can return one line by using the `readline()` method:

Example

Read one line of the file:

```
f = open("demofile.txt", "r")
print(f.readline())
```

By calling `readline()` two times, you can read the two first lines:

Example

Read two lines of the file:

```python
f = open("demofile.txt", "r")
print(f.readline())
print(f.readline())
```

By looping through the lines of the file, you can read the whole file, line by line:

Example

Loop through the file line by line:

```python
f = open("demofile.txt", "r")
for x in f:
  print(x)
```

Close Files

It is a good practice to always close the file when you are done with it.

Example

Close the file when you are finish with it:

```
f = open("demofile.txt", "r")
print(f.readline())
f.close()
```

Run Example »

Note: You should always close your files, in some cases, due to buffering, changes made to a file may not show until you close the file.

❮ Previous

Next ❯

Top Tutorials   Top References   Top Examples   Web Courses

HTML Tutorial	HTML Reference	HTML Examples	HTML Course
CSS Tutorial	CSS Reference	CSS Examples	CSS Course
JavaScript Tutorial	JavaScript Reference	JavaScript Examples	JavaScript Course
How To Tutorial	SQL Reference	How To Examples	Front End Course
SQL Tutorial	Python Reference	SQL Examples	SQL Course
Python Tutorial	W3.CSS Reference	Python Examples	Python Course
W3.CSS Tutorial	Bootstrap Reference	W3.CSS Examples	PHP Course
Bootstrap Tutorial	PHP Reference	Bootstrap Examples	jQuery Course
PHP Tutorial	HTML Colors	PHP Examples	Java Course
Java Tutorial	Java Reference	Java Examples	C++ Course
C++ Tutorial	Angular Reference	XML Examples	C# Course
jQuery Tutorial	jQuery Reference	jQuery Examples	XML Course

Get Certified »

w3schools