

## how to check if a file is a directory or regular file in python? [duplicate]

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48

### Possible Duplicate:

[How to identify whether a file is normal file or directory using python](#)

How do you check if a path is a directory or file in python?

python

edited May 23 '17 at 11:47



Community ♦

1 1

asked Jul 8 '10 at 14:45



[duhhunjonn](#)

20.2k 11 22 15

**marked as duplicate by**  
[Matt Ellen](#),  
[Junuxx](#), [Kate Gregory](#), [Jon Gauthier](#), [I Hate Lazy](#) Dec 2 '12 at 20:20

This question has been asked before and already has an answer. If those answers do not

## 4 Answers



```
os.path.isfile("bob.mp4")
os.path.isdir("bob.mp4")
```

492

answered Jul 8 '10 at 14:48



[Jesse Jashinsky](#)

7,404 5 32 58

7 if you are not using absolute paths, like in the example, it would only check for "bob"s existence in the script directory (or where python is currently situated in the filesystem) – [Matthias](#) Jun 21 '16 at 14:08

os.path.isfile("1.mp4") gives me false! Why is that? – [Jay Patel](#) Jan 15 at 6:23

that's because you aren't using full path there. use  
os.path.isfile("/path/to/1.mp4") – [Manoj](#) Jan 29 at 7:32

What if the file paths don't exist yet? Both functions return False. – [cs95](#) Mar 25 at 4:14

114 th)



more info here

<http://docs.python.org/library/os.path.html>

answered Jul 8 '10 at 14:50



Jordan

3,213 4 19 36

1 If I use this to determine if something is a *file*, what if the thing at `path` is a symbolic link?  
– alex Aug 15 '17 at 18:19

This doesn't appear to work with file descriptors when using process substitution. –  
CMCDragonkai May 30 '18 at 5:26



56

Many of the Python directory functions are in the [os.path module](#).



```
import os
os.path.isdir(d)
```

answered Jul 8 '10 at 14:48



Chris B.

48.7k 21 81 120



21

An educational example from the [stat](#) documentation:



```
import os, sys
from stat import *
```

```
... ..
```

```

    pathname :
    mode = os
    if S_ISDI
        # It's
        walkt
    elif S_IS
        # It's
        callb
    else:
        # Unk
        print

def visitfile(file
    print 'visiti

if __name__ == '__
    walktree(sys.

```

ited Jul 18 '16 at 9:28

answered Jul 8 '10 at 14:50



**YuppieNetworking**

**6,148** 6 35 61

- 
- 2 Not the prettiest solution, but if you've already got a stat structure, this allows you to avoid making an extra system call / disk seek via os.path.isfile or friends. — [Joshua Richardso](#)  
May 12 '14 at 18:39
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