

Super User is a question and answer site for computer enthusiasts and power users. Join them; it only takes a minute:

[Sign up](#)

Here's how it works:

Anybody can ask a question

Anybody can answer

The best answers are voted up  
and rise to the top



## Find all files that are NOT of a specific type/extension in folder?

[Ask Question](#)



Windows 7 Ultimate 64bit:

35

I'm looking for a way to find all the files in a directory that are NOT of a specific file type or extension.



Example: I'd like to find every file that isn't an .mp3 in my music folder (and all sub folders).



By using our site, you acknowledge that you have read and understand our [Cookie Policy](#), [Privacy Policy](#), and our [Terms of Service](#).

[Home](#)[Questions](#)[Tags](#)[Users](#)[Unanswered](#)

asked Aug 26 '11 at 6:40



Jeff

305 1 4 6

Related: [superuser.com/questions/209231/...](#) – Lance Roberts  
Aug 26 '11 at 16:20

- 1 Related, sure, but *not* duplicate. This is asking about the syntax for the built-in search, not specifically about a third-party utility. – Synetech Aug 27 '11 at 1:57

Related: [How can I see the available Windows Search Filters?](#)  
– Scott Dec 30 '15 at 8:36

## 7 Answers



type this in the search box of the directory you want to search

51



NOT \*.mp3



answered Aug 26 '11 at 14:58



Terry

1,194 2 13 21

How to make this work in windows XP? – Pacerier Aug 27 '14 at 13:14

- 4 This was new to me, but brilliant! After testing it, I want to add you can do multiples, such as NOT \*.mp3, NOT \*.aiff, etc. You can even do "NOT folder" to exclude folders. – Jeff Jul 17 '15 at 20:01

But how to add several NOT conditions to a file type:folder search? Question here: [superuser.com/questions/1001163/...](#)  
linSnow Nov 16 '15 at 7:20

By using our site, you acknowledge that you have read and understand our [Cookie Policy](#), [Privacy Policy](#), and our [Terms of Service](#).

@Guillaume You can chain AND NOT after your initial arguments. – [avlu](#) Feb 27 '17 at 8:32

6

From a command prompt you can pipe the directory list into findstr, and use findstr's `v` switch to exclude lines like the filter (in this case, lines ending in `.mp3`), as well as the `i` switch to make the find procedure case-insensitive.

```
dir | findstr /vi "*.mp3"
```

answered Aug 26 '11 at 23:30



[TECHIE007](#)

100k 14 158 221

1

I just open the folder with Windows Explorer, add the Type column to the display, and sort on it.

answered Aug 26 '11 at 23:37



[Daniel R Hicks](#)

5,516 2 22 45

0

Step 1: Get [FindUtils](#).  
Step 2: `find some\dir -type f ! -name *.mp3`

answered Aug 26 '11 at 6:44



[Ignacio Vazquez-Abrams](#)

By using our site, you acknowledge that you have read and understand our [Cookie Policy](#), [Privacy Policy](#), and our [Terms of Service](#).



You could try

0

```
xcopy /L /EXCLUDE:.mp3 /S DIRNAME .
```



The /L flag forces xcopy to only list but not copy the /s runs through all subfolders and the exclude misses out mp3s

answered Aug 26 '11 at 6:51



Col

6,977 16 21



For a quick look I sort by clicking on the type column header in Explorer. There is a pull down option to tick boxes for only the files you want listed.

0



answered Aug 26 '11 at 7:13



BrianA

1,494 12 11



You can check a mime-type with:

0

```
file -i <YourFile> -F ":" | sed 's/.*:: //' | sed 's/;.*/
```



and then write a script.

answered Aug 26 '11 at 7:23



Adobe

1,358 1 18 32

By using our site, you acknowledge that you have read and understand our [Cookie Policy](#), [Privacy Policy](#), and our [Terms of Service](#).

By using our site, you acknowledge that you have read and understand our [Cookie Policy](#), [Privacy Policy](#), and our [Terms of Service](#).