

# Manipulating Filenames

The following functions can be used to manipulate filenames in a portable way over multiple platforms.

## `paths.filep(path)`

Return a boolean indicating whether `path` refers to an existing file.

## `paths.dirp(path)`

Return a boolean indicating whether `path` refers to an existing directory.

## `paths.basename(path,[suffix])`

Return the last path component of `path` and optionally strip the suffix `suffix`. This is similar to the well know shell command `"basename"`.

## `paths.dirname(path)`

Return the name of directory containing file `path`. This is similar to the well known shell command `"dirname"`.

## `paths.extname(path)`

Return the extension of the `path` or nil if none is found.

## `paths.concat([path1,...,pathn])`

Concatenates relative filenames.

First this function computes the full filename of `path1` relative to the current directory. Then it successively computes the full filenames of arguments `path2` to `pathn` relative to the filename returned for the previous argument. Finally the last result is returned.

Calling this function without argument returns the full name of the current directory.

## `paths.cwd()`

Return the full path of the current working directory.

## `paths.execdir()`

Return the name of the directory containing the current Lua executable.

When the module `paths` is first loaded, this information is used to relocate the variables indicating the location of the various Torch components.

## `paths.tmpname()`

Return the name of a temporary file.

All the temporary files whose name was obtained in this way are removed when Lua exits.

This function should be preferred over `os.tmpname()` because it makes sure that the files are removed on exit. In addition, `os.tmpname()` under windows often returns filenames for which the user has no permission to write.

