**Topic 73: CSV Files: Appending Rows to Them**

**What**  
You can append new rows of data to an existing CSV file without overwriting the current data by using the append mode ("a") when opening the file.

**Why**  
To add new data to an existing CSV file without losing the current data. This is useful when you need to continuously update a file with new information, such as appending log entries, adding records, or updating a dataset.

**How**

1. **Open the file in append mode**:  
   To avoid overwriting the existing data in the file, open the file using "a" (append mode):

python

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with open("whatever.csv", "a", newline="") as f:

This ensures new data is added to the end of the file rather than replacing the existing contents.

1. **Create a CSV writer object**:  
   Use csv.writer() to set up the writer object with the file handle:

python

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data\_handler = csv.writer(f, delimiter=",")

This allows you to write rows into the file with the specified delimiter (comma in this case).

1. **Append new rows**:  
   Use writerow() to append new rows to the file:

python

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data\_handler.writerow(["2006", "World Cup", "Burkina Faso"])

data\_handler.writerow(["2011", "Butter Cup", "France"])

data\_handler.writerow(["2012", "Coffee Cup", "Brazil"])

Each writerow() call adds a new row at the end of the CSV file.

**Things to Remember**

* **Append mode ("a")**: This is essential for adding new data without overwriting the existing file contents. Always use "a" for appending data.
* **Delimiter**: Be sure to specify the correct delimiter, usually a comma (,), but it can be another character like a tab, semicolon, or pipe.
* **No file creation**: Unlike the "w" mode, which creates a new file if it doesn’t exist, the "a" mode does not overwrite the file; it appends to it.
* **Row appending**: The writerow() method is used to add each new row of data. Each row should be passed as a list.