

## File/Directory manipulation

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## Opening a File

- To read from a file, must use a file handle.
  - by convention, all caps
- open a file (for reading):
  - `open FILE, "myfile.txt";`
- open file for writing:
  - `open OUTFILE, ">output.txt";`
- open file for appending:
  - `open APPFILE, ">>append.txt";`

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## Reading from a file

- `open FILE, "myfile.txt";`
- `$one_line = <FILE>;`
- `@all_lines = <FILE>;`
  - @all\_lines get all remaining lines from myfile.txt
  - puts each line of file into one member of array
- remember chomp!

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## printing to a file

- `open OUTFILE, ">output.txt";`
- `print OUTFILE, "Hello World!\n";`
- this can be tedious if all outputs are to same output file.
- `select OUTFILE;`
  - make OUTFILE the default file handle for all print statements.

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## Close your files!

- `open FILE, "myfile.txt";`
- `@all_lines = <FILE>;`
- `close FILE;`
- opening another file to the same filehandle will implicitly close the first one.
  - don't rely on this. It's not Good Programming Practice.™

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## File Test Operators

- Test to see if something is true about a file
  - full list on page 98 of Prog. Perl.
- ```
if (-e "myfile.txt"){  
    print "file exists, now opening\n";  
    open FILE, myfile.txt;  
}
```
- can operate on filename or already existing filehandle

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## Directory manipulation

- directories can be opened, read, created, deleted, much like files.
- take care when doing these operations: you're affecting your directory structure
- many of the functions' success will depend on what permissions you have on the specified directories.

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## open, read, close

```
opendir DIR "public_html";  
$nextfile = readdir DIR;  
@remaining_files = readdir DIR;  
closedir DIR;
```

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## Rewind

```
opendir DIR ".";  
$firstfile = readdir DIR;  
$secondfile = readdir DIR;  
rewinddir DIR;  
@allfiles = readdir DIR;
```

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## Change, Create, and Delete

- `chdir` → change working directory.
- `mkdir` → create directory (like unix call)
- `rmdir` → remove directory (like unix call)
  - works if and only if directory is empty

```
chdir "public_html";
```

```
mkdir "images"
```

```
rmdir "temp";
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