

Description

rename changes the name of an existing variable *old_varname* to *new_varname*; the contents of the variable are unchanged. Also see [D] [rename group](#) for renaming groups of variables.

Quick start

Change the name of v1 to var1

```
rename v1 var1
```

Also change the name of v2 to var2

```
rename v2 var2
```

Menu

Data > Data utilities > Rename groups of variables

Syntax

```
rename old_varname new_varname
```

collect is allowed; see [U] [11.1.10 Prefix commands](#).

Remarks and examples

► Example 1

rename allows you to change variable names. Say that we have labor market data for siblings.

```
. use https://www.stata-press.com/data/r19/renamexmpl
. describe
Contains data from https://www.stata-press.com/data/r19/renamexmpl.dta
Observations:      277
Variables:         6                      9 Jan 2024 11:57
```

Variable name	Storage type	Display format	Value label	Variable label
famid	float	%9.0g		
edu	float	%9.0g		
exp	float	%9.0g		
promo	float	%9.0g		
sex	float	%9.0g	sex	
inc	float	%9.0g		

Sorted by: famid

We decide to rename the exp and inc variables.

```
. rename exp experience
. rename inc income
. describe

Contains data from https://www.stata-press.com/data/r19/renameexpl.dta
Observations:      277
Variables:         6                               9 Jan 2024 11:57
```

Variable name	Storage type	Display format	Value label	Variable label
famid	float	%9.0g		
edu	float	%9.0g		
experience	float	%9.0g		
promo	float	%9.0g		
sex	float	%9.0g	sex	
income	float	%9.0g		

Sorted by: famid
Note: Dataset has changed since last saved.

The exp variable is now called experience, and the inc variable is now called income.



Also see

- [D] **rename group** — Rename groups of variables
- [D] **generate** — Create or change contents of variable
- [D] **varmanage** — Manage variable labels, formats, and other properties

