<div style="border:1px solid">

dir — Display filenames

</div>

Also see

Description

dir and ls — they work the same way — list the names of files in the specified directory; the names of the commands come from names popular on Unix and Windows computers.

Quick start

List the names of all files in the current directory using Stata for Windows

```
dir
```

Same as above, but for Mac or Unix

```
ls
```

List Stata datasets in the current directory using Stata for Windows

```
dir *.dta
```

Same as above, but for Mac or Unix

```
ls *.dta
```

List dataset name for all .dta files in the C:\ directory using Stata for Windows

```
dir C:\*.dta
```

List dataset name for all .dta files in the home directory using Stata for Windows

```
dir ~\*.dta
```

Same as above, but for Mac or Unix

```
ls ~/*.dta
```

Syntax

{dir | ls} ["][*filespec*]["] [, <u>w</u>ide]

filespec is any valid Mac, Unix, or Windows file path or file specification (see [U] **11.6 Filenaming conventions**) and may include "*" to indicate any string of characters.

Note: Double quotes must be used to enclose *filespec* if the name contains spaces.

Option

wide under Mac and Windows produces an effect similar to specifying /W with the DOS dir com-
mand—it compresses the resulting listing by placing more than one filename on a line. Under Unix,
it produces the same effect as typing ls -F -C. Without the wide option, ls is equivalent to typing
ls -F -l.

Remarks and examples

Mac and Unix: The only difference between the Stata and Unix ls commands is that piping through
the more(1) or pg(1) filter is unnecessary—Stata always pauses when the screen is full.

Windows: Other than minor differences in presentation format, there is only one difference between
the Stata and DOS dir commands: the DOS /P option is unnecessary, because Stata always pauses when
the screen is full.

▷ Example 1

If you use Stata for Windows and wish to obtain a list of all your Stata-format data files, type

```
. dir *.dta
   3.9k   7/07/15 13:51   auto.dta
   0.6k   8/04/15 10:40   cancer.dta
   3.5k   7/06/08 17:06   census.dta
   3.4k   1/25/08  9:20   hsng.dta
   0.3k   1/26/08 16:54   kva.dta
   0.7k   4/27/11 11:39   sysage.dta
   0.5k   5/09/07  2:56   systolic.dta
  10.3k   7/13/08  8:37   Household Survey.dta
```

You could also include the wide option:

```
. dir *.dta, wide
   3.9k auto.dta            0.6k cancer.dta         3.5k census.dta
   3.4k hsng.dta            0.3k kva.dta            0.7k sysage.dta
   0.5k systolic.dta       10.3k Household Survey.dta
```

Unix users will find it more natural to type

```
. ls *.dta
-rw-r-----  1 roger     2868 Mar  4 15:34 highway.dta
-rw-r-----  1 roger      941 Apr  5 09:43 hoyle.dta
-rw-r-----  1 roger    19312 May 14 10:36 p1.dta
-rw-r-----  1 roger    11838 Apr 11 13:26 p2.dta
```

but they could type dir if they preferred. Mac users may also type either command.

```
. dir *.dta
-rw-r-----  1 roger     2868 Mar  4 15:34 highway.dta
-rw-r-----  1 roger      941 Apr  5 09:43 hoyle.dta
-rw-r-----  1 roger    19312 May 14 10:36 p1.dta
-rw-r-----  1 roger    11838 Apr 11 13:26 p2.dta
```

◁

❏ Technical note

There is a macro function named dir that allows you to obtain a list of files in a macro for later processing. See *Macro functions for filenames and file paths* in [P] **macro**.

❏

Also see

[D] **cd** — Change directory

[D] **copy** — Copy file from disk or URL

[D] **erase** — Erase a disk file

[D] **mkdir** — Create directory

[D] **rmdir** — Remove directory

[D] **shell** — Temporarily invoke operating system

[D] **type** — Display contents of a file

[U] **11.6 Filenaming conventions**