rename — Rename variable

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
```

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/r16/renamexmpl
.describe
```

Contains data from `https://www.stata-press.com/data/r16/renamexmpl.dta`

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>variable name</th>
<th>storage</th>
<th>display</th>
<th>value</th>
<th>variable label</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>famid</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td>label</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>edu</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>exp</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>promo</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sex</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td>sex</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inc</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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/r16/renamexmpl.dta
    obs:        277   9 Jan 2018 11:57
    vars:       6

              variable name type format 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`.

References


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