

## 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/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		
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

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