

## dir() — File list

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## Description

`dir(dirname, filetype, pattern)` returns a column vector containing the names of the files in *dirname* that match *pattern*.

`dir(dirname, filetype, pattern, prefix)` does the same thing but allows you to specify whether you want a simple list of files (*prefix* = 0) or a list of filenames prefixed with *dirname* (*prefix* ≠ 0). `dir(dirname, filetype, pattern)` is equivalent to `dir(dirname, filetype, pattern, 0)`.

*pattern* is interpreted by [M-5] [strmatch\(\)](#).

## Syntax

*string colvector* `dir(dirname, filetype, pattern)`

*string colvector* `dir(dirname, filetype, pattern, prefix)`

where

*dirname*: *string scalar* containing directory name

*filetype*: *string scalar* containing "files", "dirs", or "other"

*pattern*: *string scalar* containing match pattern

*prefix*: *real scalar* containing 0 or 1

## Remarks and examples

Examples:

```
dir(".", "dirs", "*")
```

returns a list of all directories in the current directory.

```
dir(".", "files", "*")
```

returns a list of all regular files in the current directory.

```
dir(".", "files", "*.sthlp")
```

returns a list of all \*.sthlp files found in the current directory.

## Conformability

`dir(dirname, filetype, pattern, prefix)`:

<i>dirname</i> :	1 × 1	
<i>filetype</i> :	1 × 1	
<i>pattern</i> :	1 × 1	
<i>prefix</i> :	1 × 1	(optional)
<i>result</i> :	$k \times 1$ ,	$k$ number of files matching pattern

## Diagnostics

`dir(dirname, filetype, pattern, prefix)` returns  $J(0,1, "")$  if

1. no files matching *pattern* are found,
2. directory *dirname* does not exist, or
3. *filetype* is misspecified (is not equal to "files", "dirs", or "others").

*dirname* may be specified with or without the directory separator on the end.

*dirname* = "" is interpreted the same as *dirname* = "."; the current directory is searched.

## Also see

[\[M-4\] IO](#) — I/O functions