

NAME

rename - rename files

SYNOPSIS

rename [options] *expression replacement file...*

DESCRIPTION

rename will rename the specified files by replacing the first occurrence of *expression* in their name by *replacement*.

OPTIONS

-s, --symlink

Do not rename a symlink but its target.

-v, --verbose

Show which files were renamed, if any.

-V, --version

Display version information and exit.

-h, --help

Display help text and exit.

EXAMPLES

Given the files *foo1*, ..., *foo9*, *foo10*, ..., *foo278*, the commands

```
rename foo foo0 foo?  
rename foo foo0 foo??
```

will turn them into *foo001*, ..., *foo009*, *foo010*, ..., *foo278*. And

```
rename .htm .html *.htm
```

will fix the extension of your html files. Provide an empty string for shortening:

```
rename '_with_long_name' '' file_with_long_name.*
```

will remove the substring in the filenames.

WARNING

The renaming has no safeguards. If the user has permission to rewrite file names, the command will perform the action without any questions. For example, the result can be quite drastic when the command is run as root in the */lib* directory. Always make a backup before running the command, unless you truly know what you are doing.

EXIT STATUS

0	all requested rename operations were successful
1	all rename operations failed
2	some rename operations failed
4	nothing was renamed
64	unanticipated error occurred

SEE ALSO

[mv\(1\)](#)

AVAILABILITY

The `rename` command is part of the `util-linux` package and is available from <ftp://ftp.kernel.org/pub/linux/utils/util-linux/>.