

**NAME**

File::Spec::Unix - File::Spec for Unix, base for other File::Spec modules

**SYNOPSIS**

```
require File::Spec::Unix; # Done automatically by File::Spec
```

**DESCRIPTION**

Methods for manipulating file specifications. Other [File::Spec](#) modules, such as [File::Spec::Mac](#), inherit from [File::Spec::Unix](#) and override specific methods.

**METHODS***canonpath()*

No physical check on the filesystem, but a logical cleanup of a path. On UNIX eliminates successive slashes and successive “/.”.

```
$cpath = File::Spec->canonpath( $path ) ;
```

Note that this does *\*not\** collapse *x/./y* sections into *y*. This is by design. If */foo* on your system is a symlink to */bar/baz*, then */foo/./quux* is actually */bar/quux*, not */quux* as a naive *./-removal* would give you. If you want to do this kind of processing, you probably want `Cwd`'s `realpath()` function to actually traverse the filesystem cleaning up paths like this.

*catdir()*

Concatenate two or more directory names to form a complete path ending with a directory. But remove the trailing slash from the resulting string, because it doesn't look good, isn't necessary and confuses OS2. Of course, if this is the root directory, don't cut off the trailing slash :-)

*catfile*

Concatenate one or more directory names and a filename to form a complete path ending with a filename

*curdir*

Returns a string representation of the current directory. “.” on UNIX.

*devnull*

Returns a string representation of the null device. “/dev/null” on UNIX.

*rootdir*

Returns a string representation of the root directory. “/” on UNIX.

*tmpdir*

Returns a string representation of the first writable directory from the following list or the current directory if none from the list are writable:

```
$ENV{TMPDIR}
/tmp
```

If running under taint mode, and if `$ENV{TMPDIR}` is tainted, it is not used.

*updir*

Returns a string representation of the parent directory. “..” on UNIX.

*no\_upwards*

Given a list of file names, strip out those that refer to a parent directory. (Does not strip symlinks, only '.', '..', and equivalents.)

*case\_tolerant*

Returns a true or false value indicating, respectively, that alphabetic is not or is significant when comparing file specifications.

*file\_name\_is\_absolute*

Takes as argument a path and returns true if it is an absolute path.

This does not consult the local filesystem on Unix, Win32, OS/2 or Mac OS (Classic). It does consult the working environment for VMS (see “file\_name\_is\_absolute” in [File::Spec::VMS](#)).

**path**

Takes no argument, returns the environment variable PATH as an array.

**join**

join is the same as catfile.

**splitpath**

```
($volume,$directories,$file) = File::Spec->splitpath( $path );
($volume,$directories,$file) = File::Spec->splitpath( $path,
$no_file );
```

Splits a path into volume, directory, and filename portions. On systems with no concept of volume, returns "" for volume.

For systems with no syntax differentiating filenames from directories, assumes that the last file is a path unless `$no_file` is true or a trailing separator or `/.` or `/. .` is present. On Unix this means that `$no_file` true makes this return ( "", `$path`, "" ).

The directory portion may or may not be returned with a trailing `'/'`.

The results can be passed to `"catpath()"` to get back a path equivalent to (usually identical to) the original path.

**splitdir**

The opposite of `"catdir()"`.

```
@dirs = File::Spec->splitdir( $directories );
```

`$directories` must be only the directory portion of the path on systems that have the concept of a volume or that have path syntax that differentiates files from directories.

Unlike just splitting the directories on the separator, empty directory names ( `'` ) can be returned, because these are significant on some OSs.

On Unix,

```
File::Spec->splitdir( "/a/b//c/" );
```

Yields:

```
( '', 'a', 'b', '', 'c', '' )
```

**catpath()**

Takes volume, directory and file portions and returns an entire path. Under Unix, `$volume` is ignored, and directory and file are concatenated. A `'/'` is inserted if needed (though if the directory portion doesn't start with `'/'` it is not added). On other OSs, `$volume` is significant.

**abs2rel**

Takes a destination path and an optional base path returns a relative path from the base path to the destination path:

```
$rel_path = File::Spec->abs2rel( $path ) ;
$rel_path = File::Spec->abs2rel( $path, $base ) ;
```

If `$base` is not present or "", then `cwd()` is used. If `$base` is relative, then it is converted to absolute form using `"rel2abs()"`. This means that it is taken to be relative to `cwd()`.

On systems that have a grammar that indicates filenames, this ignores the `$base` filename. Otherwise all path components are assumed to be directories.

If `$path` is relative, it is converted to absolute form using `"rel2abs()"`. This means that it is taken to be relative to `cwd()`.

No checks against the filesystem are made, so the result may not be correct if `$base` contains symbolic links. (Apply `Cwd::abs_path()` beforehand if that is a concern.) On VMS, there is

interaction with the working environment, as logicals and macros are expanded.

Based on code written by Shigio Yamaguchi.

#### *rel2abs()*

Converts a relative path to an absolute path.

```
$abs_path = File::Spec->rel2abs( $path ) ;  
$abs_path = File::Spec->rel2abs( $path, $base ) ;
```

If `$base` is not present or "", then `cwd()` is used. If `$base` is relative, then it is converted to absolute form using "`rel2abs()`". This means that it is taken to be relative to `cwd()`.

On systems that have a grammar that indicates filenames, this ignores the `$base` filename. Otherwise all path components are assumed to be directories.

If `$path` is absolute, it is cleaned up and returned using "`canonpath()`".

No checks against the filesystem are made. On VMS, there is interaction with the working environment, as logicals and macros are expanded.

Based on code written by Shigio Yamaguchi.

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### **SEE ALSO**

[File::Spec](#)