

Unix newlines to Windows newlines (on Windows)

Asked 14 years, 8 months ago Modified 2 years, 8 months ago Viewed 37k times



Is there a way (say PowerShell, or a tool) in Windows that can recurse over a directory and convert any Unix files to Windows files.

37



I'd be perfectly happy with a way in PowerShell to at least detect a Unix file.

It's easy do this for one single file, but I'm after something a bit more scalable (hence leaning towards a PowerShellish solution).



[powershell](#) [newline](#) [line-breaks](#)

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edited Aug 29, 2020 at 11:47



[Peter Mortensen](#)

30.8k 22 106 131

asked Apr 7, 2009 at 3:57



[Eddie Groves](#)

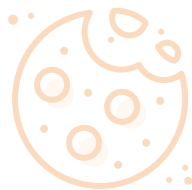
34.1k 14 48 48

1 [superuser.com/questions/27060/...](#) – [Michael Maddox](#) Jul 8, 2010 at 11:33

For people thinking they need to do this because of a screwed up git repo, you may not. It's possible to fix this issue with git in other ways, like: [stackoverflow.com/questions/1510798/...](#) – [Michael Maddox](#) Jul 9, 2010 at 11:34

11 Answers

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Here is the pure PowerShell way if you are interested.

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Finding files with at least one Unix line ending (PowerShell v1):



```
dir * -inc *.txt | %{ if (gc $_.FullName -delim "`0" | Select-String "[^`r]`n")
{$_} }
```



Here is how you find and covert Unix line endings to Windows line endings. One important thing to note is that an extra line ending (\r\n) will be added to the end of the file if there isn't already a line ending at the end. If you really don't want that, I'll post an example of how you can avoid it (it is a bit more complex).

```
Get-ChildItem * -Include *.txt | ForEach-Object {
    ## If contains UNIX line endings, replace with Windows line endings
    if (Get-Content $_.FullName -Delimiter "`0" | Select-String "[^`r]`n")
    {
        $content = Get-Content $_.FullName
        $content | Set-Content $_.FullName
    }
}
```

The above works because PowerShell will automatically split the contents on \n (dropping \r if they exist) and then add \r\n when it writes each thing (in this case a line) to the file. That is why you always end up with a line ending at the end of the file.

Also, I wrote the above code so that it only modifies files that it needs to. If you don't care about that you can remove the `if` statement. Oh, make sure that only files get to the [ForEach-Object](#). Other than that, you can do whatever filtering you want at the start of that pipeline.

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edited Apr 8, 2009 at 12:17

answered Apr 7, 2009 at 20:02



JasonMArcher

31

14.4k 22 56 52



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ext encoding, but I haven't run into
set an encoding for the Get-Content
Get-Help Get-Content -Parameter

parameter that can be used to set the file

parameters as well. I.e. Get-ChildItem -Path .\



There is dos2unix and unix2dos in [Cygwin](#).

14

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answered Apr 7, 2009 at 4:05



[Miserable Variable](#)

28.5k 15 74 135



2 I'd recommend this technique as the unix utils will do a better job maintaining the original file encoding (UTF-8, ASCII, etc). I've had problems with PS in the past when I intended to keep ASCII files ASCII. – [Peter Seale](#) Apr 8, 2009 at 19:56

or msys and then you can use the utilities from cmd. – [Pod](#) Jun 24, 2009 at 12:12

3 I use powershell to list the files and then pipe it to dos2unix.exe like this: `dir -Recurse -File -Exclude .git | % { dos2unix --u2d --skipbin $_ }` – [orad](#) Feb 7, 2014 at 3:42

@orad if you are already using the unix command dos2unix why not use unix find as well? – [Miserable Variable](#) Feb 8, 2014 at 9:55

Or download Win32 binary [here](#) and run it directly in `cmd.exe /PowerShell!` – [Franklin Yu](#) Mar 14, 2018 at 20:40



This seems to work for me.

14

Get-Content Unix.txt | Out-File Dos.txt



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edited Apr 8, 2021 at 13:07



[Peter Mortensen](#)

answered Sep 19, 2016 at 14:26



[Keith G.](#)

149 1 2

31



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[s2010](#) Aug 28, 2018 at 15:56

d Set-Content instead in PS 5. – [js2010](#)

estination. I had to go through a

!.txt – [js2010](#) Jun 27, 2019 at 16:32



Download [Vim](#), open your file, and issue

7

```
:se fileformat=dos|up
```



Batch for multiple files (all *.txt files in C:\tmp - recursive):



```
:args C:\tmp\**\*.txt
```

```
:argdo se fileformat=dos|up
```

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edited Apr 8, 2021 at 12:50



[Peter Mortensen](#)

30.8k 22 106 131

answered Apr 7, 2009 at 4:31



[soulmerge](#)

74.4k 19 119 156

can you do this for a folder or as a batch job? – [ninesided](#) Apr 7, 2009 at 4:48

Or download Eclipse, open the file and convert line delimiters to Unix. vim is no doubt a great tool and I use it every day. But don't you think it is a bit of overkill to use for converting endofline?

– [Miserable Variable](#) Apr 7, 2009 at 13:58

- 4 It's just the first thing that came to my mind, it's on every box I own/administer. Btw: are you actually suggesting using eclipse (85MB) and doing it file-by-file instead of using vim (8.5MB) and doing it all at once? – [soulmerge](#) Apr 7, 2009 at 14:44



You can use [Visual Studio](#). Menu *File* → *Advanced Save Options....*

2

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edited Apr 8, 2021 at 12:51



[Peter Mortensen](#)

30.8k 22 106 131

answered Apr 7, 2009 at 4:35



[i_am_jorf](#)

53.9k 15 133 223



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Converting to Windows text could be as simple as:

2

(Get-Content file) | Set-Content file



Use the following (with negative lookbehind). Without `-nonewline`, `set-content` puts an extra ``r`n` at the bottom. With the parentheses, you can modify the same file. This should be safe on doing to the same file twice accidentally.



```
function unix2dos ($infile, $outfile) {  
    (Get-Content -raw $infile) -replace "(?<!\`r)\`n","`r`n" |  
    Set-Content -nonewline $outfile  
}
```

The reverse would be this, Windows to Unix text:

```
function dos2unix ($infile, $outfile) {  
    (Get-Content -raw $infile) -replace "`r`n","`n" |  
    Set-Content -nonewline $outfile  
}
```

Here's another version for use with huge files that can't fit in memory. But the output file has to be different.

```
Function Dos2Unix ($infile, $outfile) {  
    Get-Content $infile -ReadCount 1000 | % { $_ -replace '$','`n' } |  
    Set-Content -NoNewline $outfile  
}
```

Examples (input and output file can be the same):



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e . Notepad won't display Unix text
the path for `set-content`, because

answered Oct 1, 2018 at 14:21



js2010

31

24k

6

67

68



1

If Cygwin isn't for you, there are numerous stand-alone executables for *unix2dos* under Windows if you google around, or you could write one yourself. See my similar (opposite direction for conversion) question [here](#).



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edited Apr 8, 2021 at 12:48



Peter Mortensen

30.8k 22 106 131

answered Apr 7, 2009 at 4:13



ninesided

23.1k 16 83 107



1

The result of testing the code given in a previous answer in a loop with 10,000 files, many of them more than 50 KB in size:



The bottom line is the PowerShell code is very inefficient/slow/unusable for large files and large number of files. It also does not preserve [BOM](#) bytes. I found unix2dos 7.2.3 to be the fastest and most practical solution.



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edited Apr 8, 2021 at 12:59



Peter Mortensen

30.8k 22 106 131

answered Aug 1, 2015 at 1:21



Arvind

93 8

This has to do with the fact that Get-Content is very slow (and inefficient), especially on larger files.
– [bluuf](#) Jan 4, 2018 at 11:47

This ought to be converted to a comment (for the appropriate or closest matching answer) - this does not answer the question. – [Peter Mortensen](#) Apr 8, 2021 at 13:00



It works for me:

```
ent $_; $tmp | Out-File "$_"
```



answered Nov 13, 2018 at 1:44



Dmitri

1 2

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Building on [js2010's answer](#) I've created this script:

0

```
$excludeFolders = "node_modules|dist|.vs";
$excludeFiles = ".*\.(map|.*\.(zip|.*\.(png|.*\.(ps1"

Function Dos2Unix {
    [CmdletBinding()]
    Param([Parameter(ValueFromPipeline)] $fileName)

    Write-Host -Nonewline "."

    $fileContents = Get-Content -raw $fileName
    $containsCrLf = $fileContents | %{$_ -match "\r\n"}
    If($containsCrLf -contains $true)
    {
        Write-Host "`r`nCleaing file: $fileName"
        Set-Content -Nonewline -Encoding utf8 $fileName ($fileContents -replace
            "`r`n", "`n")
    }
}

Get-Childitem -File "." -Recurse |
Where-Object {$_.PSParentPath -notmatch $excludeFolders} |
Where-Object {$_.PSPath -notmatch $excludeFiles} |
foreach { $_.PSPath | Dos2Unix }
```

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edited Apr 8, 2021 at 13:23

answered Apr 22, 2020 at 10:44

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Peter Mortensen

30.8k 22 106 131



GeekyMonkey

12.6k 6 34 39

Why is there a semicolon in the first line of the script? – [Peter Mortensen](#) Apr 8, 2021 at 13:24



Opening a file with Unix line endings in [WordPad](#) and saving it will rewrite all the line endings as DOS. It is a bit laborious for large numbers of files, but it works well enough for



answered Dec 5, 2014 at 23:14



31

11k 4 44 42

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