

Python – Delete File

Delete File in Python

To delete a file in Python, you can import `os` package and use `remove()` function of the `os` package.

In this tutorial, we will learn how to delete a file using Python programming.

First we shall look into the syntax of `os.remove()` function. Secondly, we shall look into examples, where we actually delete a file. The examples cover scenarios: delete file without checking if it is actually present; delete file with a prior check if the file is present.

Syntax

The syntax of `os.remove()` function is:

```
os.remove(file_path)
```

`os.remove()` deletes the file present at the location provided by String value `file_path`.

`os.remove()` deletes the file if it is present. If the file is not present, nothing happens, not even an error occurs. The execution continues with subsequent program statements. So, it is recommended that you check if the file is present, if you would like to be sure if you have actually deleted the file.

Example 1 – Delete File in Python

In the following Python program, we are deleting a file present at the location `D:/data.txt`.

example.py

```
import os

#delete the file
os.remove("D:/data.txt")

print('The file is deleted.')
```

Output

```
The file is deleted.
```

Example 2 – Delete File in Python if Present

You can make a check if file is present, prior to the deletion and make sure, if you have actually deleted the file.

To check if the file is present, use `os.path.isfile()` function. `os.path.isfile()` function returns true if file is present

in the storage. Else the function returns false.

Once we are sure that the file is present, then we can call the function `os.remove()` to delete the file.

example.py

```
import os

file_path = "D:/data.txt"

#check if file is present
if(os.path.isfile(file_path)):
    #delete the file
    os.remove(file_path)
    print('The file is deleted.')
else:
    print('The file is not present.')
```

Output

If the file is present and deleted, you would get the following output.

```
The file is deleted.
```

If the file is not present, and you try to delete, you get the following output.

```
The file is not present.
```

Conclusion

In this [Python Tutorial](#), we learned how to delete a file programmatically using Python.

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