

Portable File Names and Sizes

Category: Storage Best Practices

Portable File Names

Use portable file names. A name is portable if it contains only ASCII letters and digits, '.', '_', and '-'. Do not use spaces or wildcard characters or start with a '-' or '/', or contain '/'. Avoid deep directory nesting.

If you intend to have `tar` archives to be read under MSDOS, you should not rely on case distinction for file names, and you might use the GNU `doschk` program for helping you further diagnose illegal MSDOS names, which are even more limited than Unix like operating system.

Portable File Sizes

Even though Lou's archive filesystem will allow a file size to be greater than several hundred gigabytes, not all operating systems or filesystems can manage this much data in a single file. If you plan to transfer files to an old Mac or PC desktop you may want to verify the maximum filesize it will support. Likely a single file will need to be less than 4 GB before it will transfer successfully.

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