Title

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rename — Rename variable

Description   Quick start   Menu   Syntax   Remarks and examples   Also see

Description

rename changes the name of an existing variable *old_varname* to *new_varname*; the contents of the variable are unchanged. Also see [D] **rename group** for renaming groups of variables.

Quick start

Change the name of v1 to var1
```
rename v1 var1
```

Also change the name of v2 to var2
```
rename v2 var2
```

Menu

Data > Data utilities > Rename groups of variables

Syntax

> <u>ren</u>ame *old_varname new_varname*

collect is allowed; see [U] **11.1.10 Prefix commands**.

Remarks and examples

▷ Example 1

rename allows you to change variable names. Say that we have labor market data for siblings.

```
. use https://www.stata-press.com/data/r18/renamexmpl
. describe
Contains data from https://www.stata-press.com/data/r18/renamexmpl.dta
 Observations:          277
    Variables:            6                       9 Jan 2022 11:57
```
Variable name	Storage type	Display format	Value label	Variable label
famid	float	%9.0g		
edu	float	%9.0g		
exp	float	%9.0g		
promo	float	%9.0g		
sex	float	%9.0g	sex	
inc	float	%9.0g		

```
Sorted by: famid
```

We decide to rename the exp and inc variables.

```
. rename exp experience

. rename inc income

. describe
```

Contains data from https://www.stata-press.com/data/r18/renamexmpl.dta

Observations:	277	
Variables:	6	9 Jan 2022 11:57

Variable name	Storage type	Display format	Value label	Variable label
famid	float	%9.0g		
edu	float	%9.0g		
experience	float	%9.0g		
promo	float	%9.0g		
sex	float	%9.0g	sex	
income	float	%9.0g		

Sorted by: famid
    Note: Dataset has changed since last saved.

The exp variable is now called experience, and the inc variable is now called income.

◁

Also see

[D] **rename group** — Rename groups of variables

[D] **generate** — Create or change contents of variable

[D] **varmanage** — Manage variable labels, formats, and other properties

For suggested citations, see the FAQ on [citing Stata documentation](#).