



**Note: This API call is for DOS and Win16 personality only. Use [Family API](#) for portability.**

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# Int 21H, AH=56H

## Version

2 and higher

## Brief

“RENAME” - RENAME FILE

## Family API

## Input

```
AH = 56h
DS:DX -> ASCIZ filename of existing file (no wildcards, but see below)
ES:DI -> ASCIZ new filename (no wildcards)
CL = attribute mask (server call only, see below)
```

## Return

```
CF clear if successful
CF set on error
  AX = error code (02h,03h,05h,11h) (see #01680)
```

## Notes

```
Notes: allows move between directories on same logical volume
this function does not set the archive attribute
  (see #01420 at AX=4301h), which results in incremental backups not
  backing up the file under its new name
open files should not be renamed
```

(DOS 2.x only) this function renames file by creating a new directory entry with the new name, then marking the old entry deleted

(DOS 3.0+) allows renaming of directories

(DOS 3.1+) wildcards are allowed if invoked via AX=5D00h, in which case error 12h (no more files) is returned on success, and both source and destination specs must be canonical (as returned by AH=60h). Wildcards in the destination are replaced by the corresponding char of each source file being renamed. Under DOS 3.x, the call will fail if the destination wildcard is \*.\* or equivalent; under DR DOS 5.0, the call will fail with error code 03h if any wildcards are used. When invoked via AX=5D00h, only those files matching the attribute mask in CL are renamed.

under the FlashTek X-32 DOS extender, the old-name pointer is in DS:EDX and the new-name pointer is in ES:EDI (DS must equal ES)

BUG: (DR DOS 3.41) when invoked via AX=5D00h, this function will generate a new directory entry with the new name (including any wildcards) which can only be removed with a sector editor

## See also

AH=17h, AX=4301h, AX=43FFh/BP=5053h, AX=5D00h, AH=60h, AX=7156h, AX=F257h/SF=04h

## Note

Text based on [Ralf Brown Interrupt List Release 61](#)

DOS API	
Process manager	INT 20H, <b>INT 21H</b> : 00H, 25H, 26H, 31H, 34H, 35H, 4BH, 4CH, 4DH, 50H, 51H, 52H, 55H, 62H, INT 22H, INT 27H, INT 28H
File manager	INT 25H, INT 26H, <b>INT 21H</b> : 0DH, 0EH, 0FH, 10H, 11H, 12H, 13H, 14H, 15H, 16H, 17H, 19H, 1AH, 1BH, 1CH, 21H, 22H, 23H, 24H, 27H, 28H, 29H, 2EH, 2FH, 32H, 3305H, 36H, 39H, 3AH, 3BH, 3CH, 3DH, 3EH, 3FH, 40H, 41H, 42H, 4300H, 4301H, 45H, 45H, 46H, 4EH, 4FH, 54H, 56H, 5700H, 5701H, 5AH, 5BH, 5c00H, 5c01H, 60H, 67H, 68H, 6900H, 6901H, 6AH, 6CH
Character Device I/O	INT 29H, <b>INT 21H</b> : 01H, 02H, 03H, 04H, 05H, 06H, 07H, 08H, 09H, 0AH, 0BH, 0AH, 0CH, 5D07H, 5D08H, 5D09H, 5D0AH
Signals	INT 23H, INT 24H, <b>INT 21H</b> : 3300H, 3301H, 3302H
Memory manager	<b>INT 21H</b> : 48H, 49H, 4AH, 5800H, 5801H, 5802H, 5803H
Date and Time	<b>INT 21H</b> : 2AH, 2BH, 2CH, 2DH
Misc	<b>INT 21H</b> : 30H, 3306H, 3700H, 3701H, 3702H, 3703H, 59H
NLS	<b>INT 21H</b> : 3303H, 3304H, 3800H, 3801H, 6300H, 6301H, 6301H, 6500H, 6501H, 6502H, 6503H, 6504H, 6505H, 6506H, 6507H, 6520H, 6521H, 6522H, 6523H, 65A0H, 65A1H, 65A2H, 6601H, 6602H
Devices	<b>INT 21H</b> : 4400H, 4401H, 4402H, 4403H, 4404H, 4405H, 4406H, 4407H, 4408H, 4409H, 440AH, 440BH, 440CH, 440DH, 440EH, 440FH, 4410H, 4411H, 53H

<b>DOS API</b>	
Network	<a href="#">INT 21H: 5E00H, 5E01H, 5E02H, 5E03H, 5E04H, 5E05H, 5F00H, 5F01H, 5F02H, 5F03H, 5F04H, 5F05H, 5F07H, 5F08H</a>

<b>osFree Macro Library</b>	
Video I/O	<a href="#">@SetMode @SetCurSz @SetCurPos @GetCur @SetPage @ScrollUp @ScrollDn @Scroll @GetChAtr @PutChAtr @PutCh @SetPalet @SetColor @SetDot @GetDot @WrtTTY @VideoState @GetMode @GetDisplay @GetVideoState @GetEGAInfo @Cls</a>
Hardware info	<a href="#">@Equipment @MemSize</a>
Serial I/O	<a href="#">@AuxInit @AuxSendChar @AuxRecieveChar @AuxStatus</a>
Tape I/O	<a href="#">@TapeOn @TapeOff @TapeRead @TapeWrite</a>
Keyboard I/O	<a href="#">@KbdStatus @CharIn @CharPeek</a>
Printer I/O	<a href="#">@PrnPrint @PrnInit @PrnStatus</a>
Disk I/O	<a href="#">@DskReset @DskStatus @DskRead @DskWrite @DskVerify @DskFormat</a>
Date and Time	<a href="#">@SetTime @GetTime</a>
Mouse	<a href="#">@MouInit @MouShowPointer @MouStatus @MouSetPos @MouSetMickey @MouRegion</a>
Memory manager	<a href="#">@ModBlok SET_BLOCK</a>

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<b>Family API</b>		
DOS	Process Manager	<a href="#">DosBeep DosExit DosSleep DosExecPgm</a>
	File Manager	<a href="#">DosChDir DosChgFilePtr DosClose DosDelete DosDupHandle DosMkDir DosMove DosQCurDir DosQCurDisk DosSetFileMode DosOpen DosQFileInfo DosRead DosQFileMode DosQFSInfo DosQVerify DosRmdir DosSelectDisk DosFindClose DosFindFirst DosFindNext DosSetFileInfo DosSetVerify DosWrite DosFileLocks DosSetFHandState DosNewSize DosBufReset DosQFHandState DosSetFSinfo DosShutdown</a>
	Memory Manager	<a href="#">DosFreeSeg DosSubAlloc DosSubFree DosSubSet DosAllocHuge DosAllocSeg DosReallocHuge DosReallocSeg DosGetHugeShift DosCreateCSAlias</a>
	NLS	<a href="#">DosCaseMap DosGetCtryInfo DosGetDBCSEv DosSetCtryCode DosGetCollate DosGetMessage DosInsMessage DosPutMessage</a>
	Date and Time	<a href="#">DosSetDateTime DosGetDateTime</a>
	Devices	<a href="#">DosDevConfig DosDevIOct1 DosDevIOct2</a>
	Signals	<a href="#">DosHoldSignal DosSetSigHandler</a>
	Misc	<a href="#">BadDynLink DosGetEnv DosGetMachineMode DosGetVersion DosError DosErrClass DosSetVec</a>
KBD		<a href="#">KbdCharIn KbdFlushBuffer KbdGetStatus KbdSetStatus KbdStringIn KbdPeek</a>
VIO		<a href="#">VioGetBuf VioGetConfig VioGetCurPos VioGetCurType VioGetPhysBuf VioReadCellStr VioReadCharStr VioScrollUp VioScrollDn VioScrollLf VioScrollRt VioScrUnLock VioSetCurPos VioSetCurType VioSetMode VioGetMode VioShowBuf VioWrtCellStr VioWrtCharStr VioWrtCharStrAtt VioWrtNAttr VioWrtNCell VioWrtNChar VioWrtTTY VioScrLock VioPopUp</a>
Tools		<a href="#">BIND</a>
Modules		<a href="#">DOSCALLS.DLL VIOCALLS.DLL KBDCALLS.DLL MSG.DLL</a>
Libraries		<a href="#">API.LIB OS2386.LIB FAPI.LIB DOSCALLS.LIB SUBCALLS.LIB</a>

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