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19.13. binhex — Encode and decode binhex4 files¶

This module encodes and decodes files in binhex4 format, a format allowing representation of Macintosh files in ASCII. On the Macintosh, both forks of a file and the finder information are encoded (or decoded), on other platforms only the data fork is handled.

Note

In Python 3.x, special Macintosh support has been removed.

The `binhex` module defines the following functions:

`binhex.binhex(input, output)`¶

Convert a binary file with filename `input` to binhex file `output`. The `output` parameter can either be a filename or a file-like object (any object supporting a `write()` and `close()` method).

`binhex.hexbin(input[, output])`¶

Decode a binhex file `input`. `input` may be a filename or a file-like object supporting `read()` and `close()` methods. The resulting file is written to a file named `output`, unless the argument is omitted in which case the output filename is read from the binhex file.

The following exception is also defined:

exception `binhex.Error`¶

Exception raised when something can't be encoded using the binhex format (for example, a filename is too long to fit in the filename field), or when input is not properly encoded binhex data.

See also

Module [binascii](#)

Support module containing ASCII-to-binary and binary-to-ASCII conversions.

19.13.1. Notes¶

There is an alternative, more powerful interface to the coder and decoder, see the source for details.

If you code or decode textfiles on non-Macintosh platforms they will still use the old Macintosh newline convention (carriage-return as end of line).

As of this writing, [hexbin\(\)](#) appears to not work in all cases.

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