

Re: os.system question

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Python/comp.lang.python/2007-12/msg03163.html>

- *From:* stanleyxu <no_reply@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 28 Dec 2007 20:32:44 +0100
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kyosohma@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

On Dec 28, 12:57 pm, stanleyxu <no_re...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

To note this problem occurs when debugging script in IDLE editor.
When I double click on my_script.py, all outputs will be printed in one console.

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```

Why are you using `os.system` for these commands in the first place? You should be using the `os` and `shutil` modules instead as they would be more cross-platform friendly.

Something like this:

```
# untested  
for new_folder, old_folder in folder_array:  
    os.mkdir(new_folder)  
    shutil.copytree(old_folder, new_folder)
```

Adjust the path as needed in the `mkdir` call.

See `shutil`'s docs for more info:
<http://docs.python.org/lib/module-shutil.html>

And here's some folder manipulation docs:
<http://effbot.org/librarybook/os.htm>

By the by, the `subprocess` module is supposed to be used in place of the `os.system` and `os.popen*` calls: <http://docs.python.org/lib/module-subprocess.html>

Re: os.system question

Mike

Thanks Mike,

you have provided another option.

But my question has not been answered yet. The reason, why I use `os.system()`, is that I want to avoid accident file deletion by writing a script. My real script looks like:

```
# 1. Funtion to execute a command in DOS-console
def execCommand(cmd):
if DEBUG_MODE:
print 'DOS> ' + cmd;
else:
os.system(cmd);

# 2.1 Creates temp folder. Removes it first, if it exists.
if os.path.exists(tmp_folder):
execCommand('RD "' + tmp_folder + '" /S /Q');
execCommand('MD "' + tmp_folder + '"');

# 2.2 Copies all files to the temp folder, that are going to be put in package.
for source_folder, dest_folder in folders_array:
if not os.path.exists(dest_folder):
execCommand('MD "' + dest_folder + '"');
execCommand('XCOPY "' + source_folder + '" "' + dest_folder + '" /Y');
```

The benefit is that, when I set `DEBUG_MODE=True`, I can see what will be executed. So that I can make sure that my script will not delete any other important files by accident.

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