# Package 'brio'

July 22, 2025

Title Basic R Input Output

Version 1.1.5

**Description** Functions to handle basic input output, these functions always read and write UTF-8 (8-bit Unicode Transformation Format) files and provide more explicit control over line endings.

**License** MIT + file LICENSE

URL https://brio.r-lib.org, https://github.com/r-lib/brio

BugReports https://github.com/r-lib/brio/issues

**Depends** R (>= 3.6)

**Suggests** covr, testthat (>= 3.0.0)

Config/Needs/website tidyverse/tidytemplate

**Config/testthat/edition** 3

Encoding UTF-8

RoxygenNote 7.2.3

NeedsCompilation yes

Author Jim Hester [aut] (ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2739-7082>),

Gábor Csárdi [aut, cre], Posit Software, PBC [cph, fnd]

Maintainer Gábor Csárdi < csardi.gabor@gmail.com>

**Repository** CRAN

Date/Publication 2024-04-24 19:20:07 UTC

# Contents

file_line_endings	2
readLines	3
read_file	4
read_lines	5
writeLines	5
write_file	5
write_file_raw	7
write_lines	8

2

9

file\_line\_endings Retrieve the type of line endings used by a file

# Description

Retrieve the type of line endings used by a file

#### Usage

file\_line\_endings(path)

#### Arguments

path A character string of the path to the file to read.

#### Value

The line endings used, one of

- '\n' if the file uses Unix line endings
- '\r\n' if the file uses Windows line endings
- NA if it cannot be determined

```
tf1 <- tempfile()
tf2 <- tempfile()
write_lines("foo", tf1, eol = "\n")
write_lines("bar", tf2, eol = "\r\n")
file_line_endings(tf1)
file_line_endings(tf2)
unlink(c(tf1, tf2))</pre>
```

readLines

#### Description

This is a drop in replacement for base::readLines() with restricted functionality. Compared to base::readLines() it:

- Only works with file paths, not connections.
- Assumes the files are always UTF-8 encoded.
- Does not warn or skip embedded nulls, they will likely crash R.
- Does not warn if the file is missing the end of line character.
- The arguments ok, warn, encoding and skipNul are ignored, with a warning.

#### Usage

readLines(con, n = -1, ok, warn, encoding, skipNul)

#### Arguments

con	A character string of the path to a file. Throws an error if a connection object is passed.
n	integer. The number of lines to read. A negative number means read all the lines in the file.
ok	Ignored, with a warning.
warn	Ignored, with a warning.
encoding	Ignored, with a warning.
skipNul	Ignored, with a warning.

#### Value

A UTF-8 encoded character vector of the lines in the file.

#### See Also

writeLines()

```
authors_file <- file.path(R.home("doc"), "AUTHORS")
data <- readLines(authors_file)
# Trying to use connections throws an error
con <- file(authors_file)
try(readLines(con))
close(con)</pre>
```

```
# Trying to use unsupported args throws a warning
data <- readLines(authors_file, encoding = "UTF-16")</pre>
```

read\_file

Read an entire file

#### Description

read\_file() reads an entire file into a single character vector. read\_file\_raw() reads an entire file into a raw vector.

#### Usage

```
read_file(path)
```

read\_file\_raw(path)

#### Arguments

path A character string of the path to the file to read.

#### Details

read\_file() assumes the file has a UTF-8 encoding.

#### Value

- read\_file(): A length 1 character vector.
- read\_file\_raw(): A raw vector.

#### Examples

```
authors_file <- file.path(R.home("doc"), "AUTHORS")
data <- read_file(authors_file)
data_raw <- read_file_raw(authors_file)
identical(data, rawToChar(data_raw))</pre>
```

4

read\_lines

#### Description

The file is assumed to be UTF-8 and the resulting text has its encoding set as such.

#### Usage

read\_lines(path, n = -1)

#### Arguments

path	A character string of the path to the file to read.
n	integer. The number of lines to read. A negative number means read all the lines
	in the file.

#### Details

Both '\r\n' and '\n' are treated as a newline.

#### Value

A UTF-8 encoded character vector of the lines in the file.

#### Examples

```
authors_file <- file.path(R.home("doc"), "AUTHORS")
data <- read_lines(authors_file)</pre>
```

writeLines

Write lines to a file

#### Description

This is a drop in replacement for base::writeLines() with restricted functionality. Compared to base::writeLines() it:

- Only works with file paths, not connections.
- Uses enc2utf8() to convert text() to UTF-8 before writing.
- Uses sep unconditionally as the line ending, regardless of platform.
- The useBytes argument is ignored, with a warning.

#### Usage

```
writeLines(text, con, sep = "\n", useBytes)
```

#### Arguments

text	A character vector to write
con	A character string of the path to a file. Throws an error if a connection object is passed.
sep	The end of line characters to use between lines.
useBytes	Ignored, with a warning.

#### Value

The UTF-8 encoded input text (invisibly).

#### See Also

readLines()

#### Examples

```
tf <- tempfile()
writeLines(rownames(mtcars), tf)
# Trying to use connections throws an error
con <- file(tf)
try(writeLines(con))
close(con)
# Trying to use unsupported args throws a warning
writeLines(rownames(mtcars), tf, useBytes = TRUE)
unlink(tf)</pre>
```

write\_file Write data to a file

#### Description

This function differs from write\_lines() in that it writes the data in text directly, without any checking or adding any newlines.

#### Usage

```
write_file(text, path)
```

#### Arguments

text	A character vector of length 1 with data to write.
path	A character string giving the file path to write to.

write\_file\_raw

## Value

The UTF-8 encoded input text (invisibly).

#### Examples

```
tf <- tempfile()
write_file("some data\n", tf)
unlink(tf)</pre>
```

write\_file\_raw Write data to a file

# Description

This function differs from write\_lines() in that it writes the data in text directly, without any checking or adding any newlines.

#### Usage

write\_file\_raw(raw, path)

#### Arguments

raw	A raw vector with data to write.
path	A character string giving the file path to write to.

```
tf <- tempfile()
write_file_raw(as.raw(c(0x66, 0x6f, 0x6f, 0x0, 0x62, 0x61, 0x72)), tf)
unlink(tf)</pre>
```

write\_lines

#### Description

The text is converted to UTF-8 encoding before writing.

#### Usage

write\_lines(text, path, eol = "\n")

#### Arguments

text	A character vector to write
path	A character string giving the file path to write to.
eol	The end of line characters to use between lines.

#### Details

The files are opened in binary mode, so they always use exactly the string given in eol as the line separator.

To write a file with windows line endings use write\_lines(eol = "\r\n")

#### Value

The UTF-8 encoded input text (invisibly).

```
tf <- tempfile()
write_lines(rownames(mtcars), tf)
# Write with Windows style line endings
write_lines(rownames(mtcars), tf, eol = "\r\n")
unlink(tf)</pre>
```

# Index

base::readLines(), 3 base::writeLines(),5 enc2utf8(), 5 $\texttt{file\_line\_endings, 2}$ read\_file,4 read\_file(),4 read\_file\_raw(read\_file), 4 read\_file\_raw(), 4 read\_lines, 5 readLines, 3 readLines(),6 write\_file, 6 write\_file\_raw,7 write\_lines, 8 write\_lines(), 6, 7 writeLines, 5 writeLines(), 3