

# Extended Parent Directory Names

**CMD.EXE** allows you to extend the traditional syntax for naming the parent directory, by adding additional [.] characters. Each additional [.] represents an additional directory level above the current directory. For example, `.FILE.DAT` refers to a file in the current directory, `..FILE.DAT` refers to a file one level up (in the parent directory), and `...FILE.DAT` refers to a file two levels up (in the parent of the parent directory). If you are in the `C:\DATA\FINANCE\JANUARY` directory and want to copy the file `LETTERS.DAT` from the directory `C:\DATA` to drive A:

```
[C:\DATA\FINANCE\JANUARY] copy ...\\LETTERS.DAT A:
```

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