

```
C:\>
```

When your command prompt appears similar to this---that is, when it does not contain the name of a directory---you are in the root directory.

## Creating a Directory

In this section, you will create two directories. Creating a directory is helpful if you want to organize related files into groups to make them easy to find. Before you begin this section, make sure the command prompt looks like the following:

```
C:\>
```

To create a directory, you will use the **md** command. The **md** command stands for "make directory."

- **To create and change to a directory named FRUIT**

1. Type the following at the command prompt:

```
md fruit
```

You have now created a directory named FRUIT. You won't see the new FRUIT directory until you carry out the **dir** command in the next step.

2. To confirm that you successfully created the FRUIT directory, type the following at the command prompt:

```
dir
```

or

```
dir /p
```

Look through the directory list. A new entry somewhere in the list should look similar to the following:

```
FRUIT <DIR> 09-25-93 12:09p
```

3. To change to the new FRUIT directory, type the following at the command prompt:

```
cd fruit
```

The command prompt should now look like the following:

```
C:\FRUIT>
```

You will now create a directory within the FRUIT directory, named GRAPES.

- **To create and work with a directory named GRAPES**

1. Type the following at the command prompt:

```
md grapes
```

You will not see the new GRAPES directory until you carry out the **dir** command in the next step.

2. To confirm that you successfully created the GRAPES directory, type the following at the command prompt:

```
dir
```

A list similar to the following appears:

```
Volume in drive C is MS-DOS-6
Volume Serial Number is 1E49-15E2
Directory of C:\FRUIT

.                <DIR>          09-25-93 12:08p
..               <DIR>          09-25-93 12:08p
GRAPES           <DIR>          09-25-93 12:10p
                 3 file(s) 0 bytes
                 11534336 bytes free
```

Note that there are three entries in the FRUIT directory. One is the GRAPES directory that you just created. There are two other entries--one looks like a single period (.) and the other looks like a double period (..). These directory entries are important to MS-DOS, but you can ignore them. They appear in every directory and contain information related to the directory structure.

The GRAPES directory is a *subdirectory* of the FRUIT directory. A subdirectory is a directory within another directory. Subdirectories are useful if you want to further subdivide information.

3. To change to the GRAPES directory, type the following at the command prompt:

```
cd grapes
```

The command prompt should now look like the following:

```
C:\FRUIT\GRAPES>
```

4. To switch back to the FRUIT directory, type the following:

```
cd ..
```

The command prompt should now look like the following:

```
C:\FRUIT>
```