

Using Different Character Sets

To use and have **non-english** character sets within our software will require possibly a couple different changes. Our auction and classified software comes to you using **UTF-8** character encoding. This character encoding is fine if all of your pages and clients will use only the english language. But once you or your clients use other character types you will need to reset the character set to one that is used by you and your clients.

In config.php, look for a line similar to this:

```
define ('CHARSET','ISO-8859-1');
```

If you do not see that line, then you may need to add it. This setting controls **filtering** of inputs from php into the auction and classified software for use.

You will need to change the character encoding set within the admin tool to set the character encoding used in the admin tool here:

SITE CONFIGURATION > GENERAL > "character encoding"

If you do not have this setting we recommend updating to the latest version which will have it. Changing the setting here will allow you to insert characters directly into the browser and those characters displayed properly without translation. This will affect all text controlled by the system and administered through the admin tool like the page templates, html modules and text.

Once the change is made in the admin tool directly you will need to make the necessary change in all of your page templates. The default character set is set to "iso-8859-1". All you need do is search for this text within your templates and replace with the character encoding you use within the admin tool.

<tip c n>Tip: Most browsers can read the charset out of the xml declaration at the very top of the template, but Internet Explorer cannot. To allow IE users to see non-English characters, you must add the following meta tag to your templates. It works best when placed directly after the <head> tag:

```
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=iso-8859-1" />
```

where **iso-8859-1** is replaced with whichever charset works for your language.</tip>

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