

# Convert latin1 MySQL db to utf8

Export db, change charset, convert and import again:

```
mysqldump -u username -p --add-drop-table database-name | replace
CHARSET=latin1 CHARSET=utf8 | iconv -f latin1 -t utf8 | mysql -u username -p
-D database-name
```

Directly via mysql, note utf8 charset is not fully compatible with UTF-8, so better use utf8mb4:

```
#change default only
ALTER TABLE tablename CHARACTER SET utf8mb4 COLLATE utf8mb4_unicode_ci;
#convert charset of data
ALTER TABLE tablename convert to character set utf8mb4 COLLATE
utf8mb4_unicode_ci;

#changes for whole database
ALTER DATABASE databasename CHARACTER SET utf8mb4 COLLATE
utf8mb4_unicode_ci;
ALTER DATABASE databasename convert to character set utf8mb4 COLLATE
utf8mb4_unicode_ci;
```

For websites, ensure that the header and document type are set correctly:

```
header('Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF8');
```

```
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=UTF-8" />
```

php.ini should have:

```
; PHP's built-in default is text/html
default_mimetype = "text/html"
default_charset = "utf-8"
```

my.cnf should have:

```
[client]
default-character-set=utf8
[mysqld]
skip-character-set-client-handshake
collation_server=utf8_unicode_ci
character_set_server = utf8
```

alternatively, in php scripts set:

```
@mysql_query("SET NAMES utf8") or die ("Could not set character set to UTF8:
".mysql_error());
```

From:

<http://wuff.dyndns.org/> - **Wulf's Various Things**

Permanent link:

<http://wuff.dyndns.org/doku.php?id=howto:mysql-latin1-to-utf8>

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