

**CharConv**

**COLLABORATORS**

	<i>TITLE :</i> CharConv		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
WRITTEN BY		February 1, 2023	

**REVISION HISTORY**

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

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# Chapter 1

## CharConv

### 1.1 CharConv.guide

CharConv v1.5  
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Purpose

Disclaimer and License Agreement

Usage

Future of CharConv

Acknowledgements

How to contact the author

Program history

### 1.2 Purpose of this program

Purpose of this program

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This program converts plain textfiles between different charsets. I know that several of these programs already exists, but most of them do not convert all characters. SvTkn for example only converted our national swedish characters (åäö).

### 1.3 Disclaimer and License Agreement

Disclaimer and License Agreement

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Well, I do not guarantee that this stuff will work or that it won't

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make your HD go berzerk. Don't blame me! But that should not be the case, the program seems quite reliable. It is quite impossible for plenty of bugs to sneak into a short program like this.

Now to the License Agreement... This program is released as FreeWare. Use it, give it to your friends, upload it to any BBS, but DO NOT SELL IT FOR PROFIT! This is the programmer's wish and you really should respect it!

## 1.4 Usage

Usage

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CharConv <from> <to> <fromchrs> <tochrs> [CR/LF/CRLF/NOANSI]

Well, this is quite simple. With the CR, LF and CRLF switches, you can decide what the End of Line character(s) will be. If you don't enter anything here, the EOL will not be changed.

If you specify NOANSI, CharConv will try to remove all ANSI sequences from the text.

In this version there are four built-in charsets:

AMIGA, ISO Normal Amiga character set according to the chart in my AmigaBASIC-manual (ISO Latin-1)

IBM, PC IBM PC Character set according to "IBM International 1" in the manual to my MPS 1230 printer.

MAC Macintosh 8-bit character set

SF7, SIS Swedish 7-bit character set. This character set is based on the chart in my printer manual, but lots of things are changed to suit my personal needs.

All characters in this charset have an ASCII value <128. If you convert from this charset and the characters are >127, some characters are taken from the IBM character set and some are taken from AMIGA.

If you specify a charset that CharConv doesn't know, it tries to load the \*.crossdos file in L:FileSystem\_Trans with that name. If you for some reason want to use the external charset instead of the built-in, just write '#' in front of the charset name ("#MAC", for example).

Is the charset you need missing? Please send me some information so that I can add it to CharConv.

Is there an error in some of the charsets? Please tell me! When entering all that boring charset data, one easily hits the wrong key!

Please note that all text first is converted to Latin-1 and then converted to the destination charset. If a character exists in both the destination charset and the charset you are converting from, but not in

the Amiga charset, it will appear as a question mark.

## 1.5 Future of CharConv

Future of CharConv  
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I don't intend to make a GUI as I believe that it is quite useless for this program. If you think it would be good, feel free to contact me.

I plan to add support for other IBM Codepages than 437 in future versions. I have the specifications for Codepage 865 (Danish/Norwegian) and 850, if you need support for another Codepage, please mail me the specifications.

(As you might know, IBM is not just one charset)

## 1.6 Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements  
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I wish to thank the following persons:

Johannes Nilsson for beta-testing. He has had several crashes, but that is a beta-tester's life... :-)

Jesper Bröndum and Mikael Ståldal for sending me ASCII tables and specifications of the Macintosh-charset.

Jesper Bröndum, Roger Nordin and Kenth Rosenqvist for supplying me with FidoNet and UseNet. I also want to thank Håkan Dennersten for importing Amiga-related FidoNet echos and AmigaNet to Sweden.

Nico François and Raymond Penners for letting me beta-test their great programs.

Matt Dillon for providing the Amiga community with the cheap and good C-compiler I compiled CharConv with: DICE!

## 1.7 How to contact the author

How to contact the author  
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FidoNet: Johan Billing@2:200/207.6  
InterNet: johan.billing@kcc.ct.se

SnailMail: Johan Billing  
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260 60 Kvidinge

If you send me specifications on new charsets, please also send me an example text so that I can try CharConv before releasing a new version.

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If you can, please send charset data in electronic form. Typing in ASCII tables is booring... :-/

## 1.8 Program History

History

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- 1.00 - First release
  - 1.01 - Corrected some mistakes in the translation tables
    - Removed EOL feature. It did not work very well and I had no idea how to fix it.. :(
  - 1.10 - Release 2 Version string added
    - CharConv is now three times faster than old versions! I replaced the fgetc() routine in Dice with my own buffered I/O routines.
  - 1.11 - Small changes in the translation tables. When converting to SF7, "é" is now converted to "e" instead of "'".
  - 1.12 - When converting to SF7, all characters with an ASCII value below 0x9B (127) are not changed. This caused problems with UUEncode and UUDecode in older versions.
  - 1.2 - Now CharConv doesn't crash all the time... :-) There is a bug in my version of Dice that crashed my betatester's A1200. The bug disappeared when I made "UBYTE buf[BUFSIZE]" a global variable.
  - 1.3 - New version of Dice, and the bug mentioned above will hopefully never appear again. If it really was a bug in Dice... :-)
    - Now also supports the character set used by Macintosh computers
    - EOL feature is back! CharConv can now also change the End of Line character in a textfile to CR, LF or CRLF.
    - AmigaGuide manual
  - 1.4 - CharConv can now use the \*.crossdos files in L:FileSystem\_Trans. If you specify a charset that CharConv doesn't know, it tries to load the \*.crossdos file with that name. If you for some reason want to use the external charset instead of the built-in, just write '#' in front of the charset name ("#MAC", for example).
  - 1.5 - CharConv can now also strip ANSI sequences in the file it converts. Check out the option NOANSI. If CharConv fails to strip any sequences, please e-mail me and tell me.  
(Suggested by Marcus Sommarmyr)
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