i18n & L10n

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Internationalization (i18n)

"Internationalization is the process of designing a software application so that it can be adapted to various languages and regions without engineering changes."

Wikipedia

➡ **Make an application language agnostic**

Localization (L10n)

"Localization is the process of adapting internationalized software for a specific region or language by adding locale-specific components and translating text."
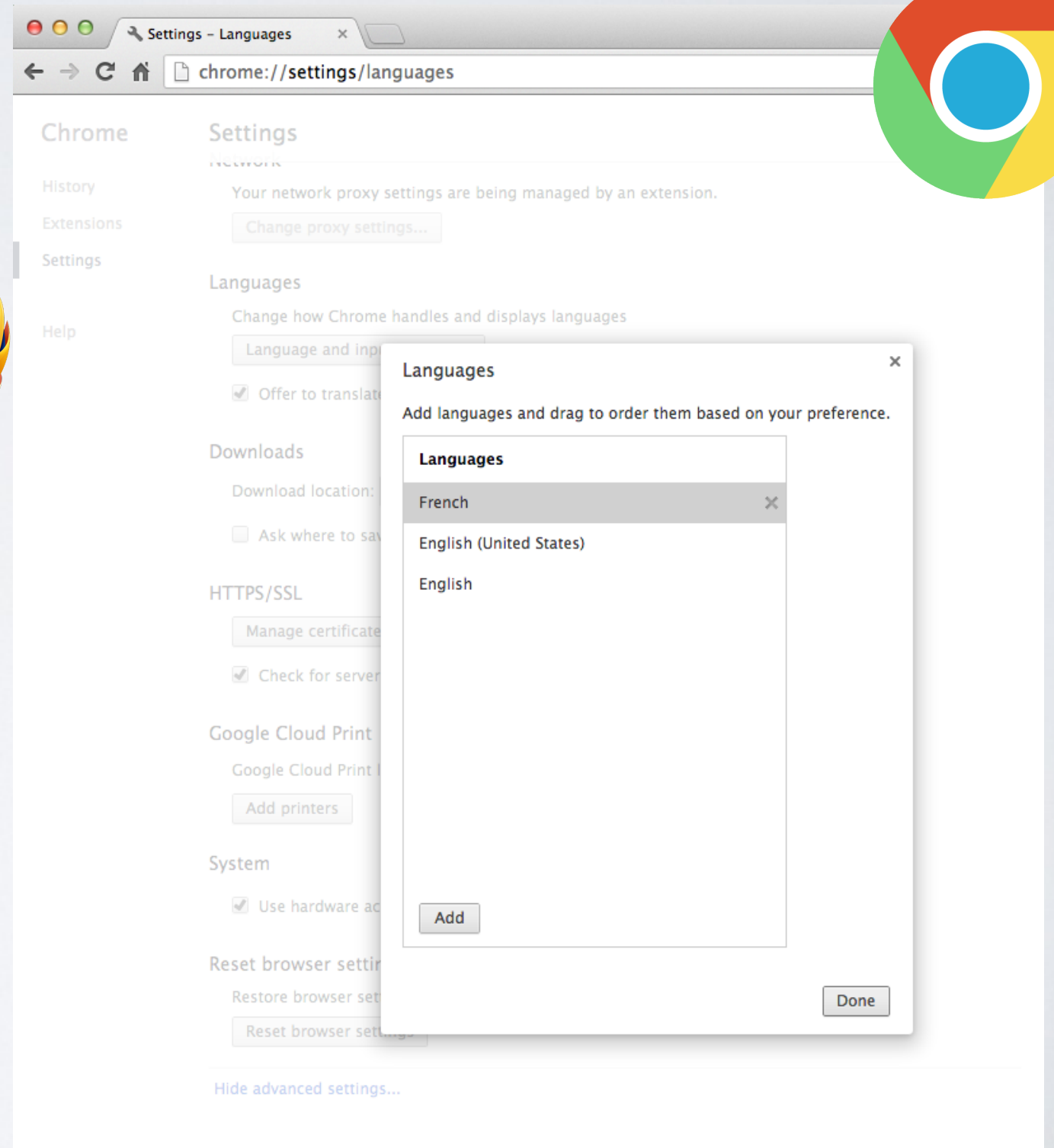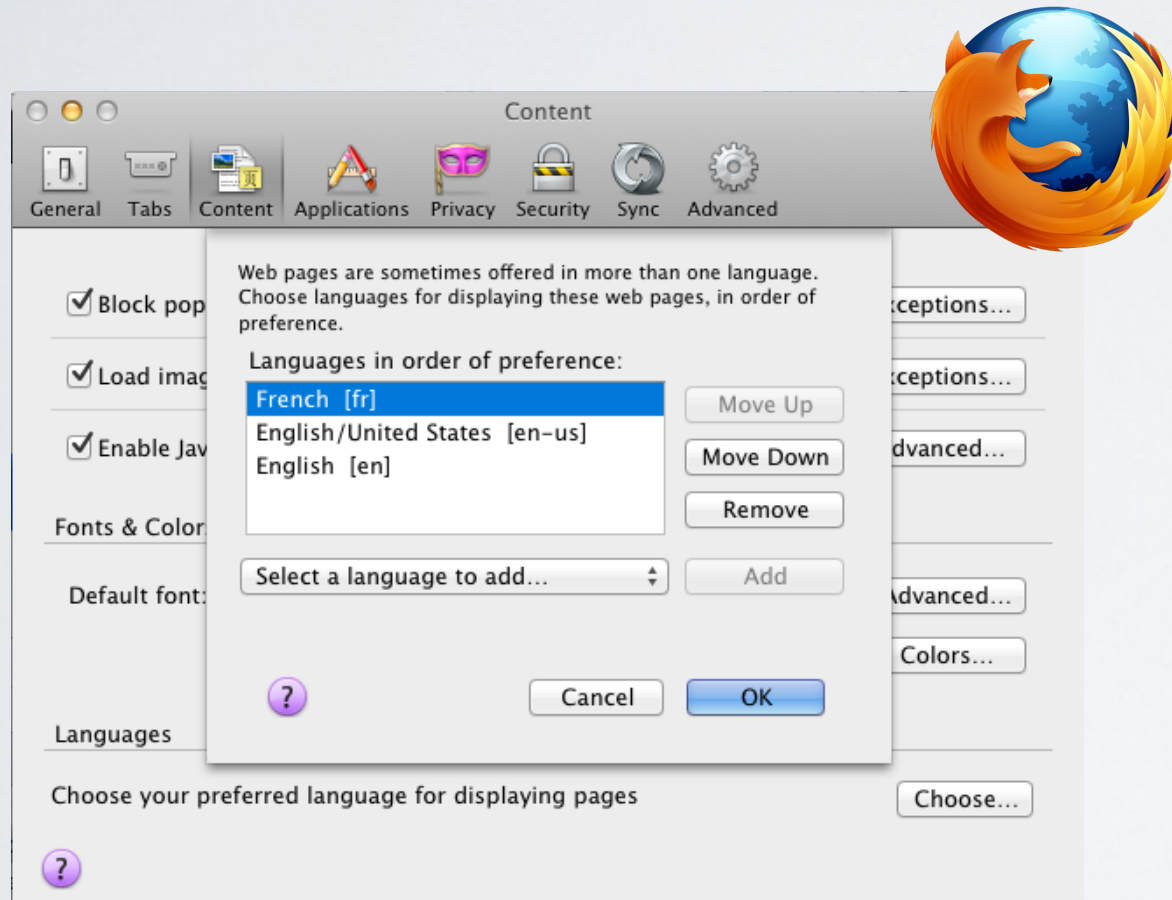
Wikipedia

➡ **Adapting an application for a specific language (aka *locale*)**

It is is not only about language translation

- Number format
- Date/Time
- Punctuation
- Sort orders
- Units and conversion
- Currency
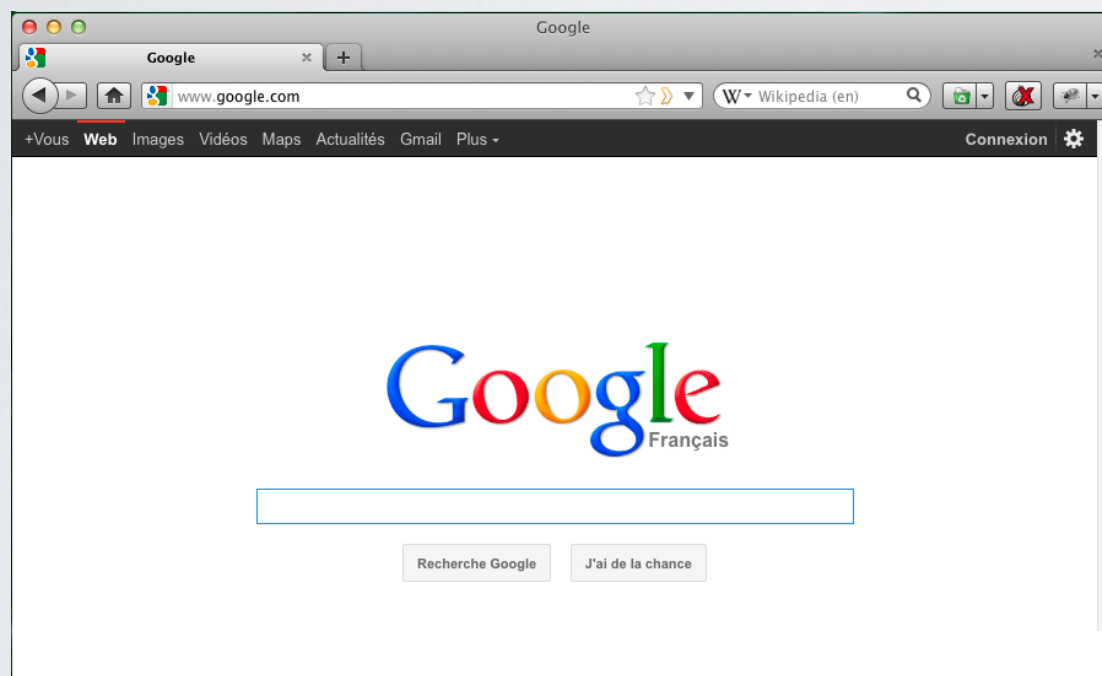- Paper size
- Page layout

Configure your locale preference

Request Headers view source

```
          Host  www.google.com
    User-Agent  Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10.7; rv:7.0.1) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/7.0.1
        Accept  */*
Accept-Language  fr,en-us;q=0.7,en;q=0.3
```

GET index.html

Google Français

What are the difference locales?

http://www.i18nguy.com/unicode/language-identifiers.html

Alternative options

- Store the language preference in <u>the URL</u>

- Store the language preference in <u>the user's profile</u>

- Store the language preference in <u>a cookie</u>