

Arabic, CJK & Indic fonts - Archived

Installing Arabic & Indic fonts - version 4.x

If you wish to use arabic or indic languages in mPDF, you will need to download the additional font packs. These should be unzipped, and the files copied to the `/unifont/` directory. The font packs include the necessary files to embed font subsets.

Note: Remember to edit the file `config_fonts.php` to make the fonts available to mPDF (you simply need to un-comment the appropriate lines).

Arabic fonts

Languages covered:

- arabic
- persian (farsi)
- urdu
- pashto
- sindhi

NB You can add additional arabic fonts to support arabic languages, but they must be Unicode font files and include characters for the Arabic Presentation Forms-B (FE70-FEFF).

Font name in mPDF	Language supported
ar_1_001 to ar_1_007 ar_2_001 to ar_2_004	Arabic
ar_k_001, ar_k_002	Arabic (Koranic)
fa_1_001, fa_1_002	Persian (Farsi)
ps_1_001	Pashto
sd_1_001, sd_1_002	Sindhi
ur_1_001	Urdu

The font is the name to use as the CSS font-family e.g. `<p style="font-family: ar_1_001;">العربية</p>`

The definitions in `config_cp.php` also mean that you can use: `<p lang="ar">العربية</p>`

Indic fonts

Languages/Scripts covered:

- devanagari/hindi
- bengali
- gujarati
- kannada
- malayalam
- oriya
- punjabi
- tamil
- telugu

NB You cannot add additional Indic fonts to use with mPDF. The conjunct forms needed to display indic languages are not encoded by Unicode, so the fonts use custom encoding in the font files to access these conjuncts. Support for these fonts is therefore font-specific.

Font name in mPDF	Language supported
ind_hi_1_001	Hindi / Devanagari
ind_bn_1_001	Bengali
ind_gu_1_001	Gujarati
ind_kn_1_001	Kannada

Font name in mPDF	Language supported
ind_ml_1_001	Malayalam
ind_or_1_001	Oriya
ind_pa_1_001	Punjabi
ind_ta_1_001	Tamil
ind_te_1_001	Telugu

The font is the name to use as the CSS font-family e.g. `<p style="font-family: ind_hi_1_001;">हिन्दी</p>`

The definitions in `config_cp.php` also mean that you can use: `<p lang="hi">हिन्दी</p>`

CJK Fonts

CJK font files are large because of the large number of characters (glyphs) they contain. Adobe Reader offers a free download of CJK font packs, which allows a small PDF file to be created. The end-user must download the fonts when prompted by Adobe Reader.

In version 4, with the introduction of embedded font subsets, it is feasible to create files using open-source CJK fonts, which can be read without the user having to download any additional files. A CJK font pack is offered which contains 2 fonts:

Font name in mPDF	Languages supported
unbatang_0613	Korean (UHC)
zn_hannom_a	Chinese (BIG-5, GBK, HKCSS) Japanese (SJIS)

The font is the name to use as the CSS font-family e.g. `<p style="font-family: unbatang_0613;">汉语 漢語</p>`

The definitions in `config_cp.php` can be edited so that you use: `<p lang="zh">한국어</p>`

zn_hannom_a - contains all of the characters in SJIS, BIG-5, GBK, and HKCSS codepages (Japanese & Chinese), (except greek and cyrillic characters, and HKCS > U+x20000;)

unbatang_0613 - contains all characters in the UHC codepage (Korean)

CJK Font sources

Han Nom font is from http://vietunicode.sourceforge.net/fonts/fonts_hannom.html (Hi-res version) HAN NOM A
unBatang_0613 is from <http://kldp.net/projects/unfonts/download>

Note: Characters in Unicode Plane 2 (> U+20000 e.g. some of the HKCS characters) can only be displayed in mPDF using the BIG5 Adobe font. The ttf2ufm utility used to create mPDF font files does not appear to extract characters outside the Unicode Basic Multilingual Plane (BMP - 0000-FFFF)