

# Utf8.gsub

Returns a copy of the original input string with replaced matches from the pattern by the replacement value.

**Warning:** This function may modify your input string even if no changes were made. Try it with runcode:

```
srunk utf8.gsub(utf8.char(66376), "", "") == utf8.char(66376)
```

## Syntax

```
string utf8.gsub ( string input, string pattern, mixed replace [, int match_limit = utf8.len( input ) ] )
```

## Required Arguments

- **input:** A string character sequence
- **pattern:** A string match pattern
- **replace:** A string literal OR an integer value OR a function (see examples below) OR a table ({ match = replacement })

## Optional Arguments

*NOTE:* When using optional arguments, you might need to supply all arguments before the one you wish to use. For more information on optional arguments, see optional arguments.

- **match\_limit:** An integer to limit the number of substitutions made

## Returns

Returns a pair of values, the modified *string* and the *integer* number of substitutions made.