

# HelpOnConfiguration

[HelpContents](#) > [HelpOnAdministration](#) > [HelpOnConfiguration](#)

## Subtopics

- [/CascadingStyleSheets](#)
- [/EmailSupport](#)
- [/SecurityPolicy](#)

## Index

- [Configuration of MoinMoin](#)
  - [Overview of configuration options](#)
  - [Changing character sets](#)
  - [File attachments](#)

## Configuration of MoinMoin

**MoinMoin** is configured by changing the `moin_config.py` file, which normally sits besides your `moin.cgi` driver script. `moin_config.py` is imported by the **MoinMoin** main code early in a request cycle and is found because the current directory (i.e. that of `moin.cgi`) is part of the Python system path. Consequently, `moin_config.py` can sit anywhere in your `PYTHONPATH`.

## Overview of configuration options

The following table contains default values and a short description for all configuration variables. Most of these can be left at their defaults, those you need to change with every installation are listed in the sample `moin_config.py` that comes with the distribution.

Variable name	Default	Description		
LogStore	'text:editlog'	<i>Experimental, keep the default</i>		
SecurityPolicy	None	class object hook for implementing security restrictions		
<ac:structured-macro ac:name="unmigrated-wiki-markup" ac:schema-version="1" ac:macro-id="0ad7cbc3-4726-4976-a7cd-0e5141174a4c"><ac:plain-text-body><![CDATA[	allow_extended_names	1	true to enable ["non-standard wikiname"] markup	]]></ac:plain-text-body></ac:structured-macro>
allow_subpages	1	true to enable hierarchical wiki features (see <a href="#">HelpOn Editing SubPages</a> )		
allow_numeric_entities	1	if true, numeric entities like € for € are not escaped, but & and stuff still is		
allow_xslt	0	true to enable XSLT processing via 4Suite (note that this enables anyone with enough know-how to insert <b>arbitrary HTML</b> into your wiki, which is why it defaults to 0)		
<ac:structured-macro ac:name="unmigrated-wiki-markup" ac:schema-version="1" ac:macro-id="f48daeb9-25db-4ef9-8ff2-ec175aca2fee"><ac:plain-text-body><![CDATA[	allowed_actions	[]	allow unsafe actions (list of strings)	]]></ac:plain-text-body></ac:structured-macro>
attachments	None	If None, send attachments via CGI; else this has to be a dictionary with the path to attachment storage ( <i>key dir</i> ) and the equivalent URL prefix to that same dir ( <i>key url</i> )		
backtick_meta	1	true to enable <code>{{inline literal}}</code> markup		
bang_meta	0	true to enable <code>NoWikiName</code> markup		
<ac:structured-macro ac:name="unmigrated-wiki-markup" ac:schema-version="1" ac:macro-id="545ef28a-a3bf-4982-9fc0-1046a09e17de"><ac:plain-text-body><![CDATA[	changed_time_fmt	' [%H:%M]'	Time format used on [RecentChanges] for page edits within the last 24 hours	]]></ac:plain-text-body></ac:structured-macro>
charset	'iso-8859-1'	The encoding / character set your system uses		
check_i18n	0	Set to 1 only in development systems, or on a translator's system		
css_url	"<url_prefix>/css/moinmoin.css"	URL for the default CSS definitions, make this a server-relative URL (start with a slash)		
data_dir	'./data/'	Path to the data directory, the default is OK if you place the data directory right besides your <code>moin.cgi</code>		
date_fmt	'%Y-%m-%d'	System date format, used mostly in <a href="#">RecentChanges</a>		
datetime_fmt	'%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S'	Default format for dates and times (when the user has no preferences or chose the "default" date format)		
default_lang	'en'	default language for page contents, and also the default user language if not set by other means		
default_markup	'wiki'	Default page parser / format (name of module in <code>MoinMoin.parser</code> )		
edit_locking	'warn 10'	Editor locking policy: None, 'warn <timeout in minutes>', or 'lock <timeout in minutes>'		

edit_rows	30	Default height of the edit box		
external_diff	'diff'	Allows you to set an exact path to the command, or change the name to for example "gdiff" if GNU diff is not a native command in your UNIX flavour		
<ac:structured-macro ac:name="unmigrated-wiki-markup" ac:schema-version="1" ac:macro-id="bda16e2-687c-45f1-a6f9-d7ea42ac0202"><ac:plain-text-body><![CDATA[	hosts_deny	[ ]	List of denied IPs; if an IP ends with a dot, it denies a whole subnet (class A, B or C)	]]></ac:plain-text-body></ac:structured-macro>
html_head	<i>META-Tag with Content-Type</i>	Additional <HEAD> tags for all pages (see <a href="#">HelpOnSkins</a> )		
html_head_queries	<i>META-Tag with "NOINDEX, NOFOLLOW" for robots</i>	Additional <HEAD> tags for edit and action pages (if html_head is sent, too; see <a href="#">HelpOnSkins</a> )		
html_pagetitle	None	Allows you to set a specific HTML page title (if not set, it defaults to the value of sitename)		
htpdp_docs	.'/wiki-moinmoin'	directory with public files, when using the stand-alone server		
htpdp_host	'localhost'	hostname of the stand-alone server		
htpdp_port	8080	port of the stand-alone server		
htpdp_user	'nobody'	user to run the stand-alone server under (UNIX only)		
interwikiname	None	<a href="#">InterWiki</a> name (prefix, moniker) of the site, or None		
logo_string	'' % (logo_url, sitename)	The <b>img</b> tag used to format the logo display in the upper-left corner of a page and used in RSS documents		
logo_url	<i>MoinMoin logo</i>	The URL path to the logo used by logo_string above		
lowerletters	<i>Latin 1 alphabetic characters and digits</i>	Lowercase letters, used to define what is a <a href="#">WikiName</a>		
mail_from	None	From: header used in sent mails		
mail_smarthost	None	IP or domain name of an SMTP-enabled server; note that email features (notification, mailing of login data) works only if this variable is set		
max_macro_size	50	Maximum size of some macro pages in KB, especially used to limits the size of <a href="#">RecentChanges</a> ; use 0 to disable that feature		
<ac:structured-macro ac:name="unmigrated-wiki-markup" ac:schema-version="1" ac:macro-id="36eb05f0-368f-4265-a18c-5e3972f24bb9"><ac:plain-text-body><![CDATA[	navi_bar	list of default quick links	Most important links in text form (these links can be over-ridden by the user's quick links); to link to any URL, use a free-form link of the form "[url text]"	]]></ac:plain-text-body></ac:structured-macro>
nonexist_qm	0	Default for displaying <a href="#">WantedPages</a> with a question mark, like in the original wiki (changeable by the user)		
<ac:structured-macro ac:name="unmigrated-wiki-markup" ac:schema-version="1" ac:macro-id="08c67454-f6c3-4b49-9054-b7ca32a14ed6"><ac:plain-text-body><![CDATA[	page_category_regex	'^Category[A-Z]'	Pages matching this regex are regarded as Wiki categories	]]></ac:plain-text-body></ac:structured-macro>
page_footer1	<i>Python Powered logo</i>	Custom HTML markup sent <i>before</i> the system footer (see <a href="#">HelpOnSkins</a> )		
page_footer2	''	Custom HTML markup sent <i>after</i> the system footer (see <a href="#">HelpOnSkins</a> )		
<ac:structured-macro ac:name="unmigrated-wiki-markup" ac:schema-version="1" ac:macro-id="d2829e1d-9e9f-48f1-9dfc-794c84af3689"><ac:plain-text-body><![CDATA[	page_form_regex	'[a-z]Form\$'	Pages matching this regex are regarded as containing form definitions	]]></ac:plain-text-body></ac:structured-macro>
page_front_page	'FrontPage'	Name of the front page		
page_icons	<i>large HTML fragment</i>	The top-right icons on each page		
page_icons_up	<i>icon for link to parent</i>	This icon is shown on subpages and links to the parent page		
page_local_spelling_words	'LocalSpellingWords'	Name of the page containing user-provided spellchecker words		
<ac:structured-macro ac:name="unmigrated-wiki-markup" ac:schema-version="1" ac:macro-id="cf9edd14-7f9d-4fb7-addc-2886d1f59f50"><ac:plain-text-body><![CDATA[	page_template_regex	'[a-z]Template\$'	Pages matching this regex are regarded as templates for new pages	]]></ac:plain-text-body></ac:structured-macro>
shared_intermap	None	path to a file containing global <a href="#">InterWiki</a> definitions (or a list of such filenames)		
shared_metadb	None	path to a file containing a global <a href="#">InterWiki</a> pagelist ( <i>not yet implemented</i> )		
show_hosts	1	<i>true</i> to show hostname in <a href="#">RecentChanges</a>		
show_section_numbers	1	<i>true</i> to show section numbers in headings by default		
show_timings	0	used for development		
show_version	0	show <a href="#">MoinMoin</a> 's version at the bottom of each page		
sitename	'An Unnamed MoinMoin Wiki'	Short description of your wiki site, displayed below the logo on each page, and used in RSS documents as the channel title		
smileys	{}	User-defined smileys (a dict with the markup as the key and a tuple of width, height, border, image name as the value)		

title1	None	HTML fragment before title area (see <a href="#">HelpOnSkins</a> )			
title2	'<hr>'	HTML fragment after title area (see <a href="#">HelpOnSkins</a> )			
trail_size	5	Number of pages in the trail of visited pages			
ua_spiders	...	google	wget	...	A regex of HTTP_USER_AGENTs that should be excluded from logging
umask	0777	umask used on all open(), mkdir() and similar calls			
upperletters	<i>Latin 1 alphabetic characters</i>	Uppercase letters, used to define what is a <a href="#">WikiName</a>			
url_mappings	{}	lookup table to remap URL prefixes (dict of 'prefix': 'replacement'); especially useful in intranets, when whole trees of externally hosted documents move around			
url_prefix	'/wiki'	Used as the base URL for all public documents served by the wiki, especially the image files for the icons			
<ac:structured-macro ac:name="unmigrated-wiki-markup" ac:schema-version="1" ac:macro-id="67b83163-dc95-468c-bab7-44735efd32d5"><ac:plain-text-body><![CDATA[		url_schemas	[]	additional URL schemas you want to have recognized (list of strings)	]]></ac:plain-text-body></ac:structured-macro>

## Changing character sets

If you want to use [MoinMoin](#) with a character set other than Latin-1, you might or even have to change the default character sets for [WikiName](#)'s in "moin\_config.py". A safe default is US-ASCII, i.e.

```
upperletters = "A-Z"
lowerletters = "0-9a-z"
```

With that setting, you need to set "allow\_extended\_names=1" and use the special markup for extended [WikiName](#){ { s } }["extended name"] to get any names with characters outside the core latin alphabet.

## File attachments

The [AttachFile](#) action lets a page have multiple attached files. Since file uploads could be abused for DoS (Denial of Service) attacks, [AttachFile](#) is an action that has to be enabled by the wiki administrator. To do this, add "allowed\_actions = [ 'AttachFile' ]" to your configuration file.

There are also two storage/retrieval models for file attachments:

1. attachments are stored "privately" and can only be retrieved via a CGI GET (via URLs like <http://wiki.net/moin/SomePage?action=AttachFile&do=get&target=filename.ext>).

1. attachments are stored into a directory directly accessible by the web server, and can thus be served directly by the webserver, without any invocation of [MoinMoin](#) (leading to URLs like <http://wiki.net/wiki/mywiki/SomePage/attachments/filename.ext>).

Generally, the second option is preferable<sup>1</sup>, but it also requires additional configuration steps, and possibly more rights on the host machine. Because of that, the first option is the default; attachments are stored in the "data" directory, with paths like "<data>/pages/<pagename>/attachments/<filename>".

For the second option, you need to add an `attachments` option to your configuration, which is a dictionary of two values:

```
attachments = {
    'dir': 'C:/Moin/share/moin/htdocs/mywiki',
    'url': '/wiki/mywiki',
}
```

`dir` is the file system path to the attachment storage, and `url` is the matching URI to get access to that directory. That directory has to exist and be writable for the webserver, so it can create the necessary directories and files for new attachments. Note that you have to *manually* create this directory, [Moin](#) will *not* create it for you.

The above example shows a typical configuration for Windows that works for an installation according to the default setup procedure (see [HelpOnInstalling ApacheOnWin32](#)). For UNIX, if you followed [HelpOnInstalling ApacheOnUnix](#), the necessary configuration will look like this:

```
attachments = {
    'dir': '/usr/local/share/moin/htdocs/mywiki',
    'url': '/wiki/mywiki',
}
```

After you have completed the configuration changes, try to create an attachment for [WikiSandBox](#) to check for any errors. If you have any permission problems, you will likely see a Python traceback or some error message.

1. Such a configuration will lead to lower server loads, since you avoid the overhead of a CGI process for every attachment download. [&larrhk;](#)