

TITLE: CMSMS Config Variables

AUTHOR: Robert Campbell

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Introduction:

This document is intended to provide a reference to the various config variables available in CMS Made Simple, and how to use them. It is intended as a reference for those people familiar with such concepts as database connectivity, file paths, permissions, and url rewriting, not as a tutorial or how-to guide.

Scope:

This document describes the variables as available in CMS Made Simple version 1.10 it does not include descriptions of variables used by third party addon modules, or for previous versions of CMSMS. Additionally, this document cannot be considered a complete reference. Third party modules and plugins may ignore some of these values or add their own.

Organization:

This document is organized roughly by the priority of the variables, from the top down. Most commonly used configuration variables will be described first.

Variable Reference:

dbms

Description: Specifies the database management system and libraries that CMSMS should use.
Status: Required
Type: String
Accepted Values: mysql, mysqli, postgres

db_hostname

Description: Specifies the hostname of the system that hosts the database.. This should be provided by your host.
Status: Required
Type: String
Accepted Values: Any hostname, or IP address. 'localhost' is the proper value on most hosts.

db_name

Description: Specifies the name of the database that CMSMS should use
Status: Required
Type: String
Accepted Values: A valid database name. If you are unsure of this value, contact your hosting provider.

db_username

Description: The username of the database user that has sufficient privilege to the database name specified above. This is used to allow CMSMS to connect to the database.

Status: Required

Type: String

Accepted Values: The username of your account, or the database username created in the admin console. Contact your host for the proper value for this field if you are uncertain.

db_password

Description: Specify the password associated to the database user. This is used to allow CMSMS to connect to the database.

Status: Required

Type: String

Accepted Values: The password (plain text) that is associated with the database username specified above.

db_prefix

Description: Specify a prefix to use in front of all table names. This variable can be used to allow multiple applications to coexist inside the same database.

Status: Required

Type: String

Default Value: cms_

db_port

Description: Specify an alternate port number to use when connecting to the database. This is useful when your database is available on a port that is not the standard. The information provided from your host should indicate this.

Status: Optional

Type: integer

Default Value: 3306 for mysql, may be different for postgres or other systems.

timezone

Description:	The server system timezone. This is used for ensuring that time calculations between the database and the server itself are synchronized.
Note:	Note: Behaviour has changed regarding timezones between PHP versions, when running PHP 5.2 this variable may not need to be set. However in PHP 5.3 it needs to be set to a valid value for your server.
Status:	Required
Type:	String
Example:	<code>\$config['timezone'] = 'America/Denver';</code>
Accepted Values:	See this link: http://www.php.net/manual/en/timezones.php
See Also:	http://php.net/manual/en/function.date-default-timezone-set.php

root_path

Description:	Specify the full and complete filesystem path to this CMSMS installation
Status:	Optional
Type:	String
Accepted Values:	A valid path specification
Default Value:	Determined automatically from the script location.

root_url

Description:	Specify the normal (insecure) URL to the top of your website.
Status:	Optional
Type:	String
Accepted Values:	The valid fully qualified URL to the home page of the website.
Default Value:	Determined Automatically from server variables.

ssl_url

Description:	Specify the secure URL to the top of your website
Status:	Optional
Type:	String
Accepted Values:	A valid fully qualified HTTPS url to the home page of the website
Default Value:	The root url with http:// replaced with https://

admin_url

Description:	A url to specify a web accessible url to the CMSMS admin console
Status:	Optional
Type:	String
Default Value:	<code>\$config['root_url'].'/'.\$config['admin_dir']</code>

uploads_path

Description:	This variable contains the absolute filesystem path to the location where files should be uploaded.
Status:	Optional
Type:	String
Accepted Values:	A valid filesystem path. Please ensure permissions are set correctly to allow the web server to write files to this directory.
Default Value:	<code>\$config['root_path'].'/uploads';</code>

uploads_url

Description:	The web accessible URL that corresponds to the uploads path
Status:	Optional
Type:	String
Accepted Values:	A valid web acceptable URL. Please ensure that it corresponds to the uploads_path variable specified above.
Default Value:	<code>\$config['root_url'].'/uploads';</code>

ssl_uploads_url

Description:	Specify the secure version of the URL corresponding to your uploads_url above. This is only necessary when using SSL for some or all pages.
Status:	Optional
Type:	String
Accepted Values:	A valid, web accessible URL. Please ensure that it corresponds to the uploads_path variable specified above.
Default Value:	<code>\$config['ssl_url'].'/uploads';</code>

image_uploads_path

Description:	The path used by the image manager and other functionality to upload and manages images for your website.
Status:	Optional
Type:	String
Accepted Values:	A fully qualified filesystem path where images should be stored.
Default Values:	<code>\$config['uploads_path'].'/images';</code>

image_uploads_url

Description:	Specify the web accessible URL where images will be available. This must correspond to the image_uploads_path above.
Status:	Optional.
Type:	String
Accepted Values:	A web accessible URL
Default Values:	<code>\$config['uploads_url'].'/images'</code>

debug

Description: Indicates whether debug mode is enabled. When debug mode is enabled automatic redirection is disabled and query and trace information is appended to the output. This mode should also be enabled to assist in diagnosing errors when error messages are hidden by default.

Status: Optional

Type: boolean

Accepted Values: true or false

Default Value: FALSE

admin_dir

Description: Specify the name of the admin directory. This option can be used by advanced users to specify an alternate admin directory name. Although this may cause difficulty with the upgrade process.

Status: Optional

Type: String

Accepted Values: A valid directory name (relative to the root_path above).

Default Value: admin

persist_db_conn

Description: A flag that indicates whether persistent database connections should be used. This variable may be of use on high load servers. Contact your host if encountering problems and wondering whether this setting should be used.

Status: Optional

Type: boolean

Accepted Values: true or false

Default Value: FALSE

use_adodb_lite

Description: An optional variable indicating whether the system should look for the (default) adodb_lite system, or the optional full adodb database abstraction library. CMSMS ships with adodb_lite but is capable of operating with the full adodb if specified.

Status: Optional

Type: Integer

Default Value: 1

Accepted Values: 0 or 1

process_whole_template

Description:	By default CMSMS will process your page template in three pieces. Firstly the portion above the head section, then the body section, and then the head section. This allows smarty variables created in the body section to be utilized in the head for things like page title and meta data.
Status:	Optional
Type:	boolean
Accepted Values:	true or false
Default Value:	FALSE

output_compression (deprecated)

Description:	Specify whether CMSMS should enable output compression for each request.
Note:	This option is deprecated, and will be removed at a later date. The server config options provide a better mechanism to enable output compression and this option may interfere with the functionality of some modules i.e: for downloading files.
Status:	Optional
Type:	boolean
Accepted Values:	true or false
Default Value:	FALSE

previews_path (deprecated)

Description:	Specify a location where the temporary information used for generating previews should be stored.
Status:	Optional
Type:	string
Accepted Values:	A complete path specification that has write permissions by the web server process.
Default Value:	Internal value.

max_upload_size (deprecated)

Description:	A value (in bytes) that specifies the maximum size of files that can be uploaded to your website.
Note:	This value does not override server settings. If experiencing problems with limited file upload sizes please check your server configuration.
Status:	Optional
Type:	integer
Accepted Values:	integer
Default Value:	The maximum upload size specified by the system.
See Also:	http://php.net/manual/en/ini.core.php

default_upload_permission (deprecated)

Description:	Specify the permission that should be given (by default) to uploaded files.
Status:	Optional
Type:	String representing octal value
Example::	<code>\$config['default_upload_permission'] = '644';</code>
Default Value:	644

use_smarty_php_tags

Description:	Indicate whether smarty {php} tags should be allowed in templates. This is an advanced option which should only be enabled by experienced developers who are familiar with the potential drawbacks to this functionality.
Status:	Optional
Type:	Boolean
Default Value:	FALSE

auto_alias_content

Description:	Specify whether page aliases should automatically be created for new pages.
Status:	Optional
Type:	Boolean
Default Value:	FALSE

url_rewriting

Description:	What type of URL rewriting should we be using for pretty URLs. The possible values for this variable are system dependant.
Status:	Optional
Type:	String
Accepted Values:	none, internal, mod_rewrite
Example::	<code>\$config['url_rewriting'] = 'internal';</code>
Default Value:	none
See Also:	http://wiki.cmsmadesimple.org/index.php/FAQ/Installation/Pretty_URLs#Pretty_URLs

page_extension

Description:	Used when the url_rewriting is a value other than 'none' this variable specifies the extension that should be appended to all URLs that the system generates.
Status:	Optional
Type:	String
Default Value:	n/a
Example:	<code>\$config['page_extension'] = '.html';</code>

query_var

Description:	Specifies the name of the URL variable that will indicate the page alias. You should not need to override this value unless the default value interferes with another software package.
Status:	Optional
Type:	String
Default Value:	page

image_manipulation_prog

Description:	Specify the program (or library) that should be used for image manipulation.
Status:	Optional
Type:	String
Default Value:	gd
Accepted Values	gd or imagemagick
See Also:	http://wiki.cmsmadesimple.org/index.php/User_Handbook/Admin_Panel/Content/Image_Manager

image_transform_lib_path

Description:	When using imagemagick as a manipulation program specify the library path to that program.
Status:	Optional
Type:	String
Default Value:	/usr/bin/ImageMagick

locale

Description:	Locale to use for various default date handling functions, etc. Leaving this blank will use the server's default. This might not be good if the site is hosted in a different country than it's intended audience.
Note:	Though you can specify any valid locale, the locale information you specify must be installed on the server.
Status:	Optional
Type:	String
Default Value:	n/a
See Also:	http://php.net/manual/en/function.setlocale.php

admin_encoding

Description:	Specify the encoding to use for admin translations.
Note:	In almost all cases, default_encoding should be empty (which defaults to utf-8) and admin_encoding should be utf-8. If you'd like this to be different, change both. Keep in mind, however, that the admin interface translations are all in utf-8, and will be converted on the fly to match the admin_encoding. This could seriously slow down the admin interfaces for users.
Status:	Optional
Type:	string
Default Value:	utf-8

default_encoding

Description:	Specify the encoding to use for admin translations.
Note:	In almost all cases, default_encoding should be empty (which defaults to utf-8) and admin_encoding should be utf-8. If you'd like this to be different, change both. Keep in mind, however, that the admin interface translations are all in utf-8, and will be converted on the fly to match the admin_encoding. This could seriously slow down the admin interfaces for users.
Status:	Optional
Type:	string
Default Value:	n/a

set_names

Description:	A flag indicating whether a 'set names' command should be given to a mysql database upon connection. Applies to mysql only
Status:	Optional
Type:	Boolean
Default Value:	FALSE

wiki_url

Description:	A URL indicating where the CMSMS wiki is located. Used for help links
Status:	Optional
Type:	string
Default Value:	http://wiki.cmsmadesimple.org/index.php/User_Handbook/Admin_Panel

show_performance_info

Description:	A flag indicating whether performance information should be appended to all output from CMSMS requests.
Note:	This setting when enabled could interfere with the output of some modules, for example when downloading files or exporting XML information. This variable is not normally set in the config file, setting this variable to any value will enable the feature.
Status:	Optional
Type:	Boolean
Default Value:	unset

debug_to_log

Description:	A flag indicating whether the debug_to_log method should actually output anything. This variable should be set to false for production environments.
Status:	Optional
Type:	Boolean
Default Value:	FALSE

***php_memory_limit* (deprecated)**

Description:	This config variable, if set will attempt to override the memory available to PHP for various tasks. Note: that this may have no success depending upon server configuration.
Status:	Optional
Type:	String representing a memory amount.
Example::	<code>\$config['php_memory_limit'] = '32M';</code>
Default Value:	n/a

Revision History:

August 2011 – Robert Campbell

Initial Revision

October 2011 – Robert Campbell

Fixes to minor spelling and punctuation errors.