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# Euro Character Support Mini HOWTO

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## Revision History

Revision v1.0.2	2002-04-06	am
Added the info that emacs support is read-only and removed the question about how the support works.		
Revision v1.0.1	2002-03-03	am
Cent: added comment that cent is not usually used.		
More Euro links. Added information on KDE and Gnome.		
Revision v1.0.0	2001-09-29	am
Original release		

## Abstract

This document describes how to make the Euro character support in GNU/Linux work. Finnish users might be interested to consult the Finnish HOWTO which is written in Finnish.

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## Copyright and Thanks

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Thanks for numerous people who gave me advice in Usenet.

## The Euro Character

The new character set, *ISO-8859-15* which is also known as *latin9* and in order to maximize confusion as *latin0*, was created to replace *ISO-8859-1 (latin1)* and it includes the euro character.

The Euro is mapped to *AltGr-e* and the cent - if it is used - is mapped to *AltGr-Shift-e* in X and on AltGr-c on console.

The Euro Mini HOWTO was written on a Debian system and the set up works on Debian 3.0 (Debian testing as the time of writing).

## The Euro and Locales

*glibc 2.2* and newer support the Euro. The correct locale is, for example, *fi\_FI@euro*.

## The Euro and the Console

Check that the file `/usr/share/keymaps/include/euro.inc.gz` includes lines

```
altgr keycode 18 = currency
altgr keycode 46 = cent
```

A console font, which supports euro, must be loaded. Red Hat uses command `setfont` and Debian uses command `consolechars`.

In Debian the file `/etc/console-tools/config` must have ISO-8859-15 screen font:

```
SCREEN_FONT=lat0-16
```

In Red Hat the file `/etc/sysconfig/i18n` must have lines

```
SYSFONT=lat0-16
SYSFONTACM=iso15
```

## The Euro in the X Window System

With default configuration *AltGr-e* (the *right Alt* for those who have no *AltGr*) produces the generic currency symbol which looks like a four legged spider. When the font of the program is changed to a *ISO-8859-15* font the currency symbol is replaced by the Euro symbol. In Debian this can be achieved by adding line

```
.XTerm.VT100.font: -jmk-keep alt-medium-r-***-120-***-iso8859-15
```

to the file `/etc/X11/app-defaults/XTerm`. The fonts available in distributions and installations vary.

If *AltGr-e* does not work add line

```
keycode 26 = e E EuroSign
```

to the file `/etc/X11/Xmodmap`

## KDE

Change the font setting in *KControl* to *ISO-8859-15*.

## GTK and Gnome

Change the font setting in *Gnome Control Center* to *ISO-8859-15*.

A better way of doing this is changing the system wide *GTK+* configuration with commands

```
cd /etc/gtk
ln -s gtkrc.iso-8859-15 gtkrc
```

## Emacs

Emacsen 21 and newer have partial euro support. The following elisp should work:

```
(set-face-font
  'default '"*-courier-medium-r-*-*-120-*-*-*-*iso8859-15")
```

Note that you cannot write Euro characters. You can only see them.

## Euro-links

KWord Euro Page [<http://www.koffice.org/kword/euro.phtml>]. Debian Euro HOWTO [<http://www.debian.org/doc/manuals/debian-euro-support/>]. Euro Character Support mini HOWTO [<http://garbo.uwasa.fi/ldp/HOWTO/mini/Euro-Char-Support/index.html>] Gylhem Aznar's Euro Pack [<http://www.ibiblio.org/guyhem/programmes/EURO-2.tgz>] The README of the Euro Pack [<http://lwn.net/1998/1119/a/euro-readme.html>] Linux Journal on the Euro Pack [<http://www.linuxjournal.com/article.php?sid=3200>]