PrestaShop translator's guide

How to help translating PrestaShop in your language

Congrats!

You are about to join our open source contributor's community as a translator. We are very grateful for your involvement and thank you heartily for your contribution.

PrestaShop is used worldwide in more than 200 countries. So far, our amazing wide-spread community has contributed to the translation of our e-commerce solution in over 65 languages. The way is still long and we definitely need you to help translating and validating our software in more languages.

If you are now on this page it is because you want to contribute to our open source community and feel that you can deliver a job of quality in your language.

To get to know what the needs are for your language(s), check the PrestaShop's project page on Crowdin: we might need help in translation whether it might be for a couple of strings, on the whole project or just for review.

This guide aims at giving you the directions to follow to start translating in Crowdin and to get to know our best practices and advice.

Should you have further questions, send us an email at translation@prestashop.com and we'll be happy to get back to you.

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Translating guidelines

BEST PRACTICES

Your translation will speak PrestaShop's voice in your country. So it's vital that you remain faithful to the source text and that you use a clear phrasing. To best achieve an error-free translation, make sure you only work with a language you know very well.

Whether you are familiar or not with translating, it is essential that you comply with the following best practices in order to provide the highest possible quality for your translation.

1. **WHAT/WHO are you translating FOR?**
Make sure you know the **context and the destination** of what you're translating.

i.e.: Is it for the customer? Is it an error message to be displayed on the screen? Where about on the screen?
For more info on how to get context, check the "How to search a word in context" section.

2. **Respect the existing translations and terminology.**

3. **Look at what has been done before and be consistent with others' previous translations.**
 Use the same translation for a given word throughout the whole translation.
Check the Terms and Comments sections in the right panel to guide you. Complete them if needed, as this might help other translators. Use most common words that best fit your language usage and adapt your language to the e-commerce world: do not translate as-is!
If you spot inconsistencies and if you are a validator, choose the right words and make sure you apply it throughout the whole project.

4. **Use most common words that best fit your language usage.**
No need to search for fancy words, write as merchants speak in your language. If you are not familiar with e-commerce, try to read a glossary or to check how other e-commerce websites are "talking".

5. **Adapt to your local market.**
Free yourself from the English version. Make your translation sound natural.

6. **Make sure to comply with the punctuation rules in use in your language.**

7. **Make sure you review and spot-check your job before clicking the Save button.**

8. **Try to stick to the source-text length as much as you can.**
Bear in mind that your translation must fit in the dedicated area.

9. **Pay particular attention to special characters, variables and tags.**
Preserve meaning and adapt their location to the word order in your language. For more detailed information, check the Variables & Tags section.

10. **Ask if you're not sure. Leave a comment, ask your fellow translators :)**
If you think your comment might be of interest for all languages, write it in English!

11. **Report any mistake that you may notice in the source string. Open an issue!**
To do so, type your comment in the lower typing area and don't forget to select the "Issue" check box to flag it as an issue.

Before you start

In accordance with the spirit of our community, being a contributor to the PrestaShop documentation and/or translation implies sharing your work with PrestaShop and the community for free, as a volunteer. By contributing to the project, you grant to PrestaShop a perpetual license on the content you submit to the project. This license implies granting use, modification, improvement, distribution and deletion of your contributions to the administrator of the project (which means the PrestaShop SA company). It does not grant you the ability to request the removal of your contributions from the project. Contributing to this project implies that you are the author of the content or that you are authorized by the content author to submit these contributions to PrestaShop.

Crowdin is a localization management platform that allows an easy access to various translation projects and encourages collaboration.

To access the PrestaShop translation project, you must have an account on Crowdin and be accepted by our team first.

To get started with Crowdin, follow the steps below.

1. Go to the project page
You can access it from https://crowdin.com/project/prestashop-official, the homepage of the PrestaShop's project in Crowdin.
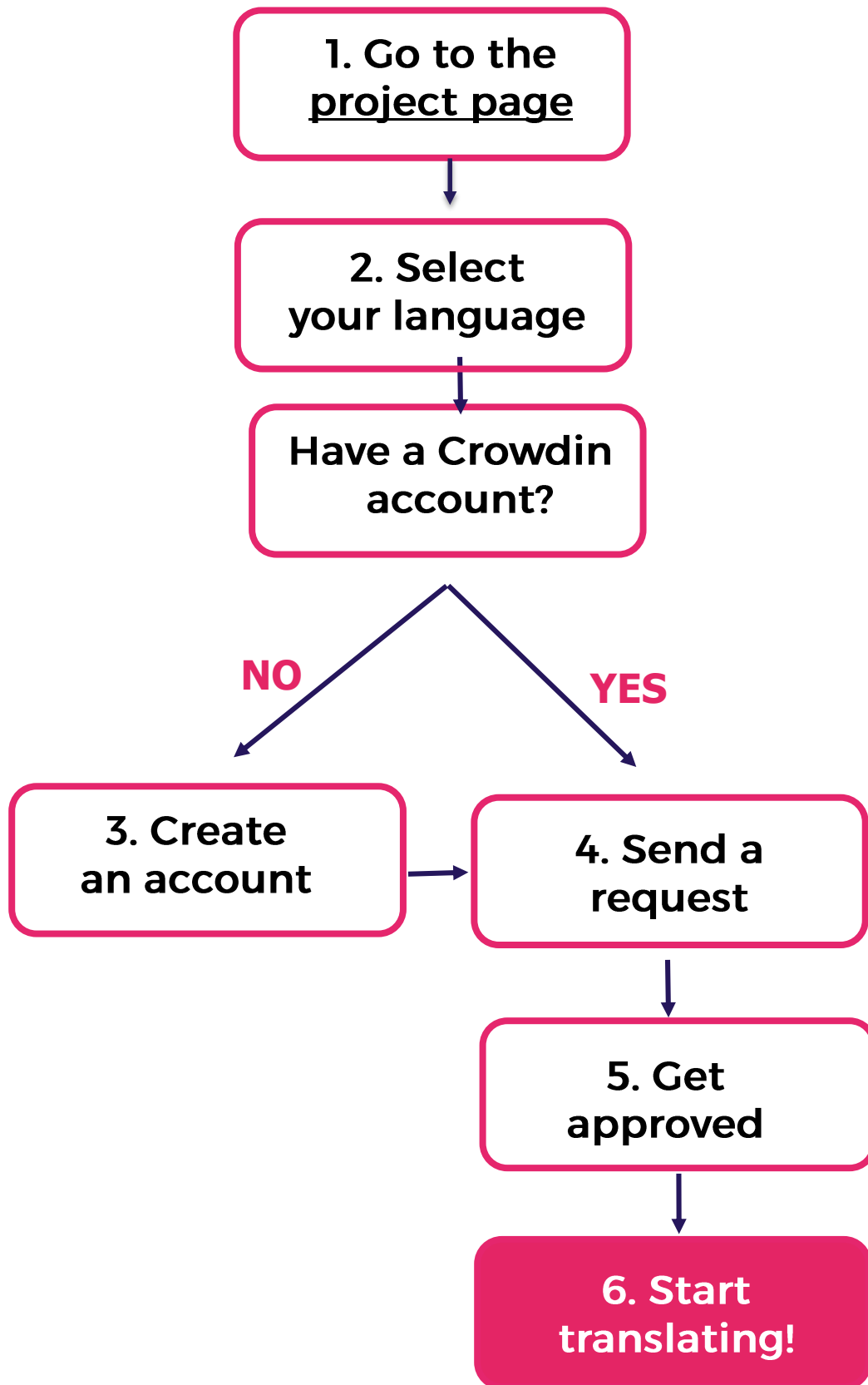
2. Select your language
Once you are on the page, scroll down to select the language into which you would like to translate.
If you already have a Crowdin account, go to step 4.
If you don't have one yet, proceed to step 3.
The PrestaShop official webpage falls into a certain number of flags.

Each flag represents a country. So if you happen to speak a language spoken in several countries, choose the one you want to work on (for instance between regular Spanish or Spanish from Colombia).

3. Create an account on Crowdin
Once your account is validated, you are ready to join the PrestaShop translation team.

4. Send a request
Enter the PrestaShop project as if you would start contributing, then click on any file. You will see a prompt to sign in to Crowdin.
In the prompt, please add a few words for us to know why you would like to take part in the translation or validation process, what is your experience with PrestaShop or e-commerce, and what are your possible past experience with translation.

5. Get approved
Once you are confirmed by PrestaShop, you are ready to go!

6. Start translating

## ORGANIZATION OF THE PROJECT

Home page tree-view

When you enter the project by clicking on your language, you arrive on the PrestaShop official page which contains two folders. One is called "next-version" and the other is named after the most recent major version.

> ⚠ All translations must be performed from the "next-version" folder!

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU TRANSLATE IN THE "NEXT-VERSION" FOLDER for your strings to propagate correctly. If you start translating from the previous version's folder (for instance 1.6.1.0 like on the screenshot) we won't be able to use your work, and you will have to start everything from scratch in the "next-version" folder.
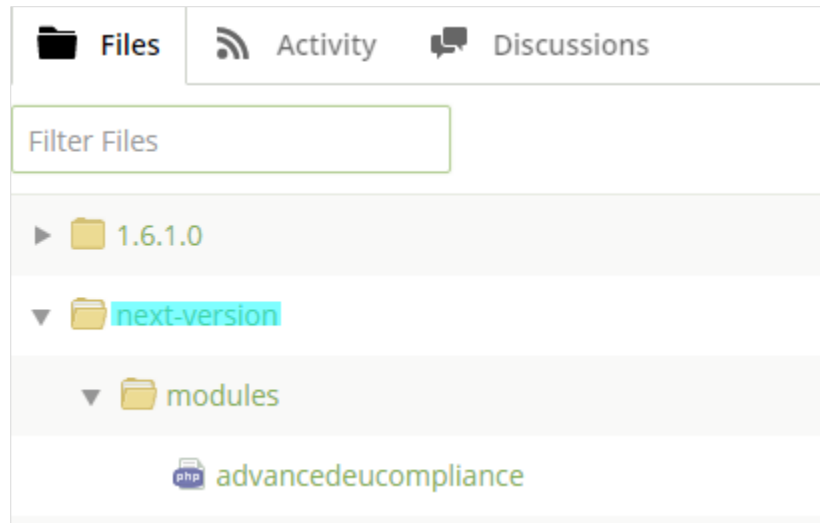
For more detailed information, check our related Build article.

When you click on the "next-version" folder, you are directed to a page containing the folder tree-view.
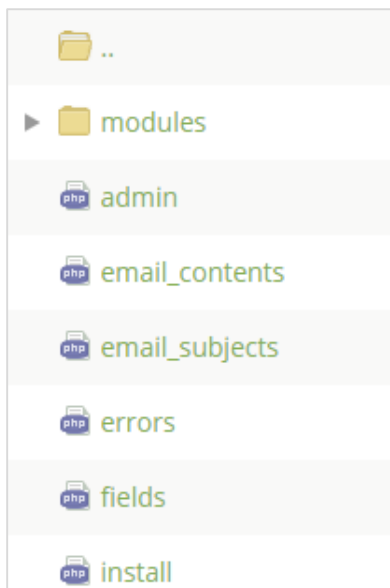
What do the Crowdin files correspond to?

Once you enter the "next-version" folder, you find several files and a "modules" subfolder, each file corresponding to an area of PrestaShop's front or back offices.
Those files are explained below:

| Names	File content
admin	Everything that has to do with the back office (administration of the shop)
email_contents	Content of the emails sent to merchants from the system, and of those sent to the customers from the shop
email_subjects	Subject of the emails sent from the system to merchants, and of those sent from the shop to customers
errors	Content of the error messages
fields	Mainly refers to the labels of the form used to create an account on the shop
install	Content of the installation wizard
Pdf	PDF format documents (invoices, delivery slips, etc.)
tabs	Administration menu and submenus
Theme (default-bootstrap)	Content of the shop's default theme
Modules	Content of the native modules, the pre-installed default modules you get with your shop (including both admin and front)

How to translate in Crowdin

From the PrestaShop-Official page, proceed as follows:
Open the page of the language you wish to translate for, enter the "next-version" folder and choose an area to translate. To start translating, just click on any of the file in the "next-version" folder or in the "modules" subfolder.

Crowdin translating steps
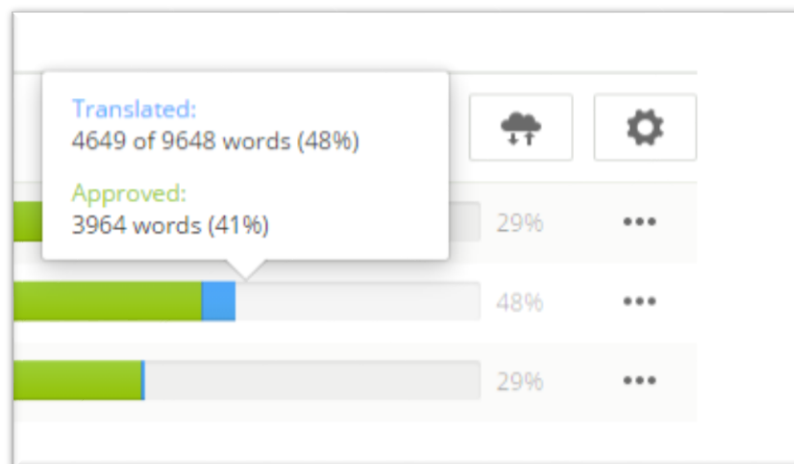
There are three types of string statuses for translation. The three different statuses reflect the various steps of the translating process: translation, proofreading and validation of the content.
Our validators are chosen amongst the translator's community for their involvement and because the quality of their job has been assessed by the translation project's administrators. For more information, check "How can I become a validator?" in our FAQ.

| STRING TYPE	GRAPHIC APPEARANCE IN CROWDIN	EXAMPLE
Untranslated	Comes with a red dot.	◾ Thank you for creating a customer account at {shop_name}. ◾ Your {shop_name} login details
Translated but unapproved	Comes with a green squared-shape icon.	◾ ecotax: %s ◾ Order date
Translated and approved	Comes with a green check mark.	✓ Products ✓ Shipping

NAVIGATION IN CROWDIN

⚠ You can leave a file and go back to the project tree-view at any time. To do so, click on the Project menu located in the left side of the page.

Under Project > Change File…, browse for the new file to translate in the window that shows below.
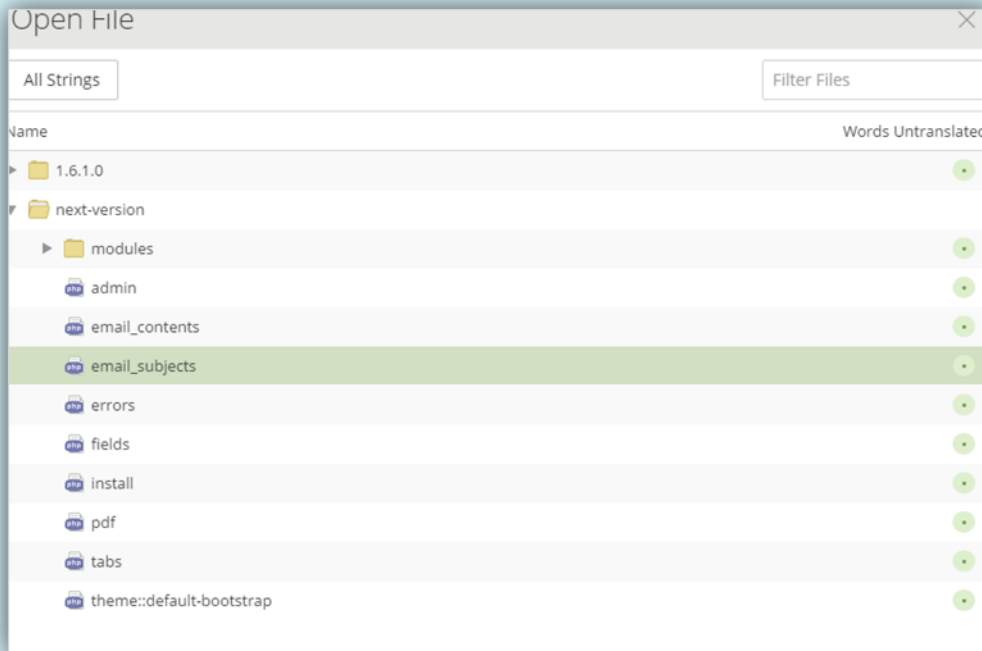
To access further filters, press the funnel icon located in the right upper corner of the left panel.
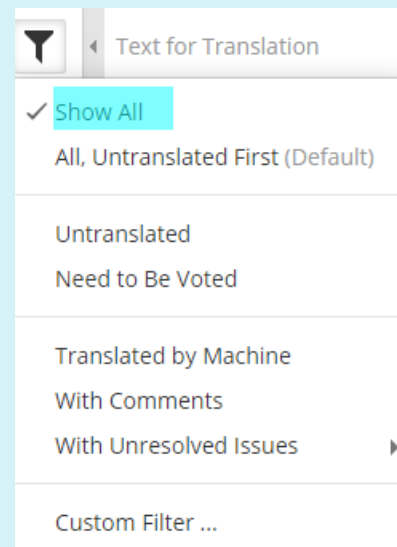
Crowdin translating area

The translation interface is divided into three panels.
The middle and right panels are dedicated to the translation actions. This is where most of your work will happen.
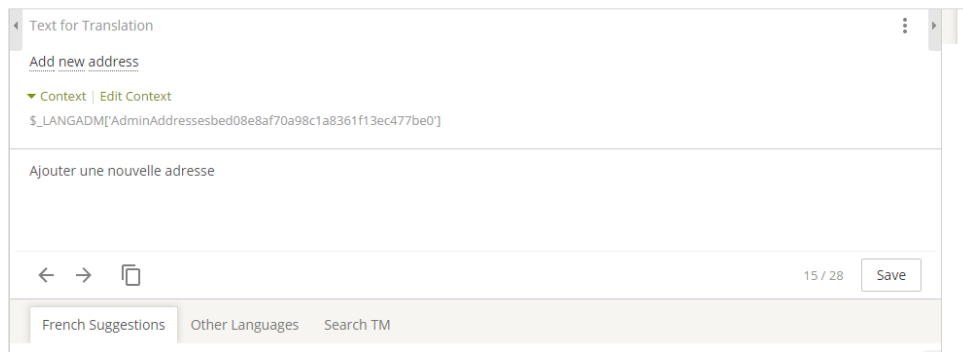

The left panel lists all the strings in the file you chose.
The currently selected string is highlighted in yellow, so that you know where you are in the progress for a file's translation.
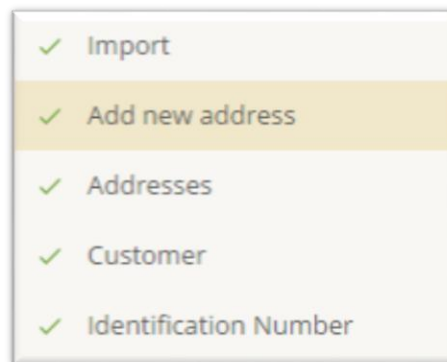
The "Text for Translation" area contains the English string to translate along with information about its context. (See screenshot below).
The blank area below it is waiting for you to translate!
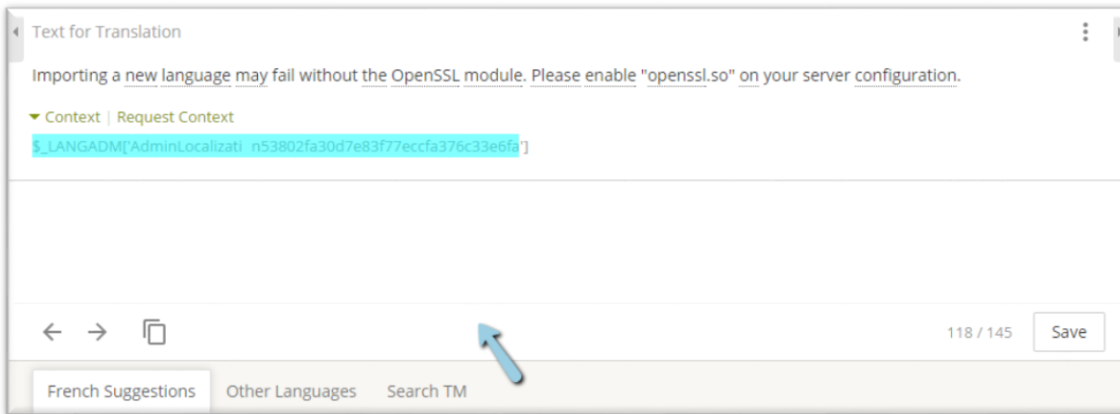
<u>Useful tips:</u>

- You can copy the text directly from source to target. To do that, use the ⬚ icon.
- You can also use the arrows at the bottom of the translating area to skip to the previous or next string for translation in the file.
- Once the translation is complete, and ONLY once you made sure the spelling and grammar are correct, you can press the Save button (or press Ctrl+Enter).

Variables & Tags

What is a variable?

Variables are values used in computer science that can change, depending on conditions or on information passed to the program. They should not be translated, and ALL variables should be found in the translation. Variables act as placeholders for dynamic content.

Once you figured out what the value is replacing, it is easier for you to know where to place it in your destination string.

The below table shows a list of **variables** and their meaning:

Variable	Variable as found on Crowdin	Example of possible replacing value	Variable explained
%s	*"The class %s cannot be found."*	*"The class **left-column** cannot be found."*	%s is used for text variables.
%d	*"There are %d errors."*	*"There are 4 errors."*	%d is used for numerical variables.
%1$s and %2$	*"%1$s will be replaced by %2$s"*	*"**Blue** will be replaced by **Green**"*	These are like %s, when there are two or more variables.
{order_name}	*Thank you for your order with the reference {order_name}*	*"Thank you for your order with the reference **xxxx** "*	These variables are quite explicit, just make sure you keep them as is.
'	*"It's very easy to sign up.* Just click *here!"*	*"It's very easy to sign up.* Just click *here!"*	HTML entities are sometimes used to avoid apostrophes to be mistaken with code. In that case, it is no use keeping them in your translation.

TIP:
If a variable makes it impossible to know what the gender of the person might be, try to build your sentence in the most generic way, both in terms of gender and number.
For more information, check PrestaShop's documentation on the page below:
http://doc.prestashop.com/display/PS16/Translations

What is a tag?

Tags are easier to handle than variables since you don't have to worry about their meaning. The important thing to remember is that you must **keep them** in your target language string **without changing** their order. The opening and closing tags must respectively be placed before and after a word (see table below).
Tags can be either regular HTML tags or PrestaShop-specific tags. For more information, check our FAQ related question.

| Tag	Tag as found in Crowdin
[1] [/1]	I agree to the **[1]** terms of service**[/1]** and to the **[2]** terms of revocation**[/2]** and will adhere to them unconditionally.
Thank you for your order with the reference {order_name} from {shop_name}	Thank you for your order with the reference {order_name} from{shop_name}

HOW TO SEARCH A WORD IN CONTEXT

Unfortunately, the project's strings do not always provide an ideal level of context. Fortunately, there are a couple of workarounds that you can use.

If while translating in Crowdin you come across a word that you don't know how to handle for lack of context, there are several ways to work it out:

Using the Crowdin search area

Open the project in a second browser tab and make sure to select all the files in the project using Project > All Strings. This will allow you to search for a word in the whole project.
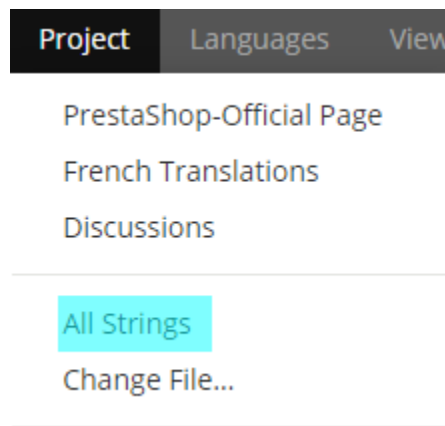
⚠️Remember that this option leads you to translate in old version folders. Make sure to close this view before you start translating again! Failing to do so might bring you back to translate into the old version files.

To avoid confusion, we advise you to open a second window dedicated to this research and to avoid selecting this option unless you are in another browser tab.

Spotting the controller's name

Before starting in Crowdin, it is highly recommended that you create a PrestaShop store. This will allow you to have a better understanding of the software, if it is not already the case. For instructions on how to install a shop, please check our online documentation:
http://doc.prestashop.com/display/PS16/Installing+PrestaShop

Although the installation might be time-consuming, it will permit you to access the context required to provide the best translation. In the end, this can save you a lot of time and queries.

⚠️Just bear in mind that you will need to select the English language at installation. Failing to do so will force you to change the language later and to install the language pack that you need.

(For more information, check the FAQ, "How can I change the language of my shop?")

- o **How to find context in the "admin" file:**

If you have a shop installed, you can use the Crowdin context to find which part of the software it applies to, and therefore you can see the page in its back office context.
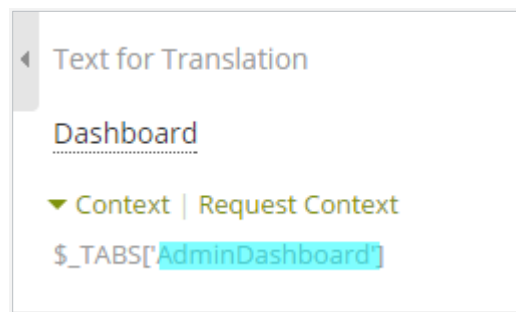

Basically, you need to copy the word between squared brackets and simple quotes (for instance "AdminDashboard") and to paste it in the URL of your local project right after "controller=", like on the screenshot below:
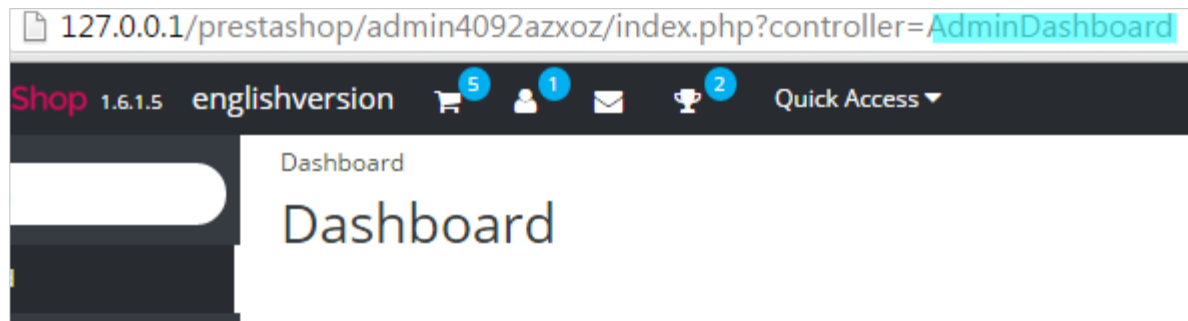
- ○ **How to find context in the modules folder:**

As far as the "modules" folder is concerned, there is an easy way to know what a string is about. In the translation area of Crowdin, you can guess a lot on where the string is thanks to the text between simple quotes and squared brackets:
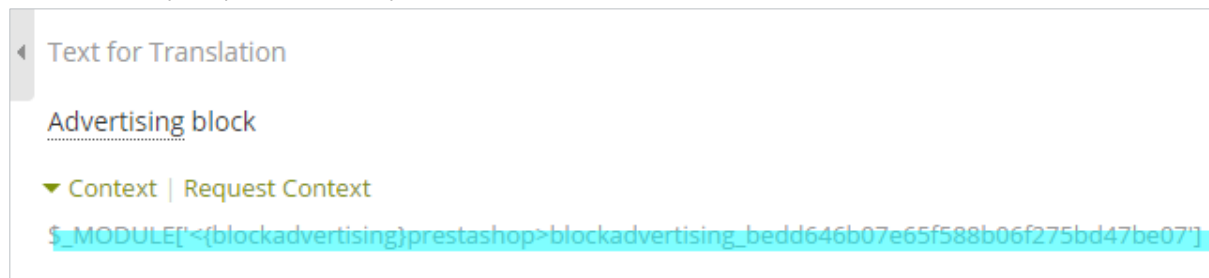
In this example, the string comes from the "blockadvertising" module.

Use the back office search option

In the back office of your shop, you can use the search field to find the pages where the searched words appear. For example, to know in which context the "discount rate" appears, proceed as described below.
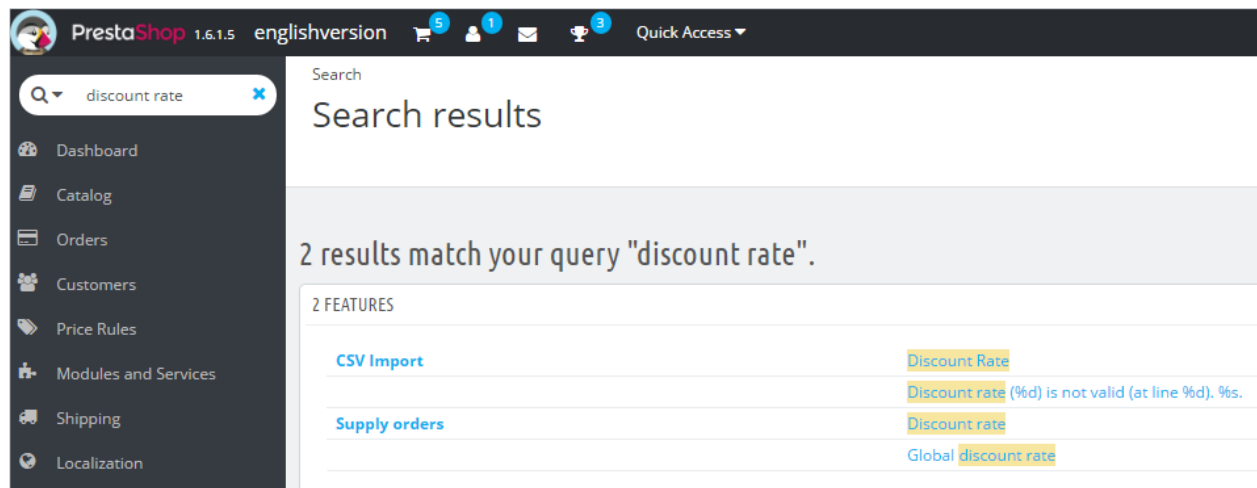
All the occurrences typed appear, you only haves to browse through the different results displayed and to identify the one you have to translate. To display the result in context, just click on the link.

After you've tried all the above tips, if you really still don't know what it's all about, you can open a context-related issue for which we'll get a notification. (For more information, please check the "How to assign a comment to PrestaShop?" in the following section.)
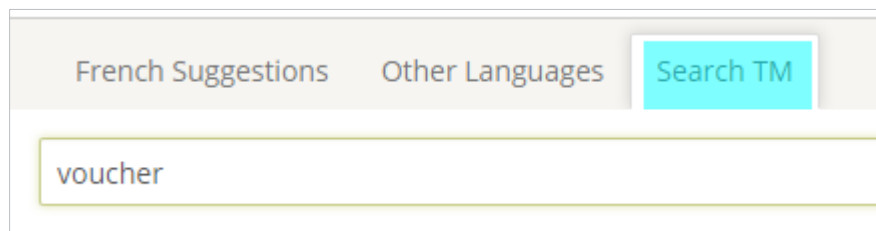
How to check other people's work in Crowdin

Our community uses Crowdin to translate our software. In order to offer a consistent translation in the target language, you must check the existing translations and make sure to keep them throughout the whole text.

CHECK A TERM IN THE TRANSLATION MEMORY (TM)

Crowdin keeps a record of all the validated translations in a central tool, called the Translation Memory.
To see how a term was translated previously, you can use the Search TM tab.

CHECK SUGGESTIONS IN OTHER LANGUAGES

If you happen to speak several languages, click on the Other Languages tab (as shown below) to check the translations done in other languages. If you have any doubt about a phrase or choice of word, this might be very helpful! That is the power of community translation!
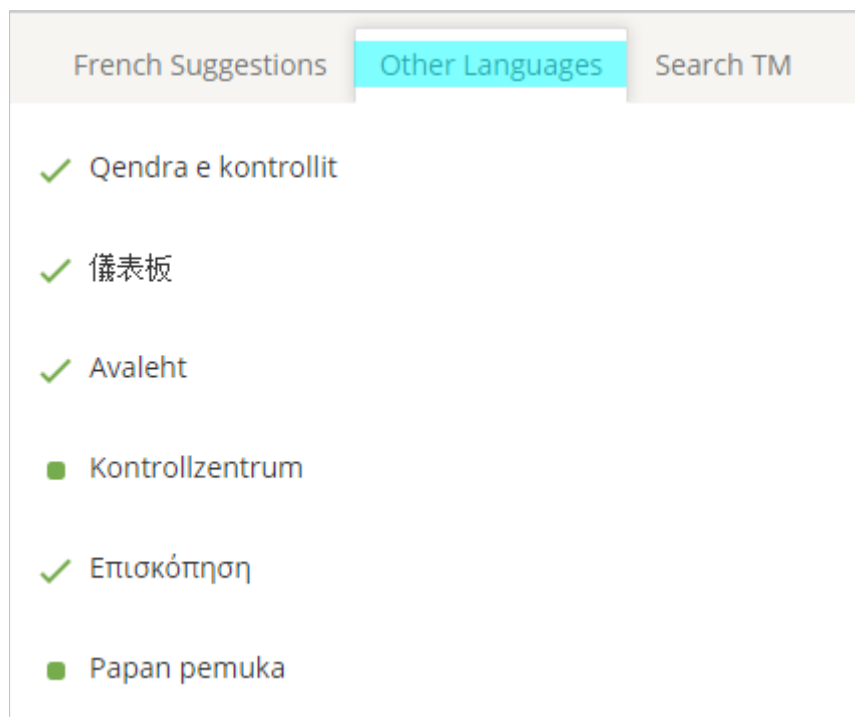
READ OR MAKE A COMMENT

Use this area if you want to check or add a comment viewable by the other PrestaShop translators. If you think a comment might be of interest for all languages, please write it in English so that other translators might follow and help if they can.

START A DISCUSSION

You can also start a discussion from the Comments tab or follow other people's interactions. This tab is only available outside the translating area, before you enter in a language's file or folder.
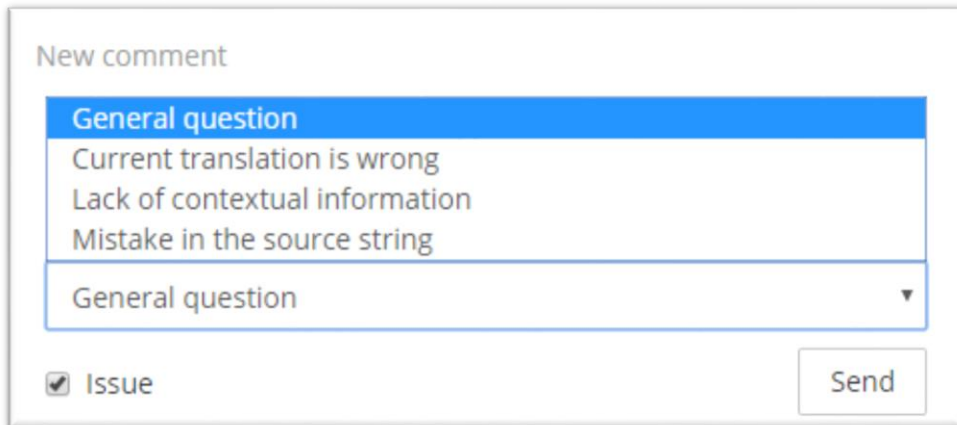
USE THE TERMS SECTION

The glossary is enriched by the users. If you want to add a contribution to it while translating just select the Terms tab, on the right panel of the translating working space, then click on the ☰₊ sign to add a term and/or definition.

If you disagree with a terminology choice, don't change it in the glossary area unless you are 100% sure, we advise you rather start a discussion about it in the Comments section (see above).

ASSIGN A COMMENT TO PRESTASHOP

The Comments section allows you to spot a mistake and to assign it directly to our team.
To add a comment, open the Comment tab. At the very bottom of the page, click in the New comment window. If you select the Issue check box, a list of the categories of issues that you can report displays.

For more information, refer to "I noticed a mistake or have a query, what shall I do?" in the FAQ

To go further...

For further guidelines and tips on how to use the platform, please check the tutorial at the following link:

https://support.crowdin.com/for-translators/onlineworkbench/translation-tutorial/

For an overview of the Crowdin workspace, you can check the demo at:

https://crowdin.com/page/in-action

For general instructions on how to translate, check our documentation at:

http://doc.prestashop.com/display/PS16/Translations

FAQ

TRANSLATING IN CROWDIN

How can I contribute as a translator?

To translate for PrestaShop, you need to open an account on Crowdin. For more info, check the "How to join the project" section. Once you are accepted, you can start translating as much content as you want.

How are the translators chosen?

We do not have any special requirements as long as we feel that you are willing to collaborate and that you are serious about the quality of your translation.

How can I become a validator?

Our validators are chosen amongst the translators for their involvement and because the quality of their job has been assessed by the translation project's administrators.

The responsibility of validators is huge! They are in charge of the ultimate decision and must make sure that the final quality is satisfying.

If becoming a validator is appealing to you, contact us via private message on Crowdin or send us an email at translation@prestashop.com.

How can I change the TM's default settings?

The Suggestions area will be prefilled with the Translation Memory content.

To change the settings of your TM suggestions and set up a lower percentage, click on the Editor Settings' icon ⚙ on the right hand corner of the UI. You can choose to include "fuzzy matches" in the TM suggestions, i.e. entries that match the source text at a percentage lower than 90 percent.

My language is not in Crowdin's list of languages, what shall I do?

If your language is unavailable both in the back office and in the Crowdin translating area, contact our team at translation@prestashop.com. We'll be happy to launch a project for a new language.

I noticed a mistake or have a query, what shall I do?

You can add a comment in the "Comments" tab of the right panel. It will be viewed by all other translators. If the issue is not specific to your language, leave your comment in English.

I have just translated a string in Crowdin but it is not available on my shop yet, why?

It needs to be validated first. We think it's better for everybody if the translations are checked by an appointed validator. Once they are validated, the strings are not updated instantaneously: a

synchronization between Crowdin and PrestaShop is required. Currently this takes place about every two weeks. Once the translations are synchronized, you should be able to see your translation in PrestaShop!

I am translating in a locale (like Mexican Spanish) but the progress count is very low, what shall I do?

Note that the translation progress may vary for locales. For instance, if you start a translation in Mexican Spanish, the content will actually be uploaded from the Spanish translation. So only the updated/changed segments, i.e. those you are localizing, adapting to the regional rules, will account for the progress count.
The best way to proceed is to identify your regional peculiarities and to change them.

When you look at the translation progress, you'll often see some lower completion (far from 100% completed) for such languages. It doesn't mean the project won't be fully translated in these languages in the end!
If you have further queries and for more information, refer to the following Build article:
http://build.prestashop.com/news/do-you-speak-prestashop-october-2015-edition/

How to show the content of a tag in Crowdin?

When translating for PrestaShop, you might regularly come across HTML tags.
If the tag display is not meaningful in Crowdin, change the advanced settings to get more information.
Click on the Editor Settings' icon. Under the Editor Settings menu, select the Show radio button in the HTML Tags Displaying section.
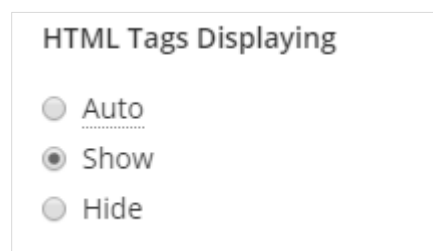
How can I know where the string I am translating is coming from?

To get the strings you are translating in context, you have several possibilities. For more information, refer to the "How to search a word in context" section.

How to interact with other translators?

For language-specific queries and/or comments, go to the Discussions area of the PrestaShop-Official homepage or to the Comments area of the translating area. You can also check our Forum.

TRANSLATING MY SHOP

How can I add language in my shop?

To change the language of a shop, you must first install it, then enable it. Once the language is available, you can simply select it in the drop-down list of the languages you've enabled. If you haven't installed any language before, see "How to install a language pack in my shop?"

How to install a language in my shop?

There are two ways to install a language in your shop.
1. You can install a localization pack, which comes with currency, taxes and other information attached to a specific country. To do so, go to Localization > Import a Localization pack.
2. You can install a language pack, which contains only the translations for this language.

From your Dashboard, go under Localization > Translations. In the Add/Update a language area, scroll down to choose the localization pack you want to import. Click on Add or update a language.

According to your need, you might want to upload a localization pack, instead of a language pack. Check our documentation for more information:

http://doc.prestashop.com/display/PS16/Localization

The language you added displays both in the Dashboard (under Localization/Languages) and in the list of languages available on the online shop.

How to customize the existing translation of my shop?

It's possible to customize the text of your shop if you think some words might be more adapted to your customers. To do that, you can go under Localization > Translations > Modify translations. Then select the type of location, the theme and the language that you want to update.

For more info, please check our documentation at:

http://doc.prestashop.com/display/PS16/FAQ#FAQ-Howtocreateanewtranslation?

I'm a PrestaShop fan, how can I contribute?

There are several ways to contribute. You can contribute to code, to translations and if you fancy it, become an ambassador.

For more information, check the build related article and download our guide.

To know more about ambassadors, go to https://ambassadors.prestashop.com/

I bought a theme/module but it is not translated, why?

We only provide translations for the software and native modules, not for the third-party modules or themes you might install. If you are interested in a native module, you can check in the list of modules if it's available in your language.

I translated my shop freely and independently (without Crowdin), how can I share it with the community?

We'll be happy to upload your work on Crowdin in order to share it with all the members of the community. All you need to do is to send us at translation@prestashop.com the package exported under Localization > Translations > Export a language.
You can either translate directly from your online back office or use the dedicated translating platform.

Is it possible to choose whatever language I want for my online shop?

Of course! You can choose whatever language unless it's available for download! All you have to do is to import the language pack of your choice under Localization > Translations.
Under ADD/UPDATE A LANGUAGE, browse to select the language you want to add. Then click on the Add or Update Language button.

⊕ ADD / UPDATE A LANGUAGE

❓ You can add or update a language directly from the PrestaShop website here.
If you choose to update an existing language pack, all of your previous customizations in the theme named "Default-bootstrap" will b

Please select the language you want to add or update   Afrikaans (Afrikaans)

⚠ For the change to apply to your entire user interface, you must then go to Administration > Employees > Edit. The languages added should now be displayed in the Language drop-down list.

The language will be added automatically to the choice of languages in your online shop.

In this case, note that you will have to update your product sheets, categories and page content for that language.

Thank you

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