

TITLE: CMSMS Config Variables

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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. This document is not a tutorial or how-to guide.

## Scope:

This document describes the variables as available in CMS Made Simple version 2.0 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*

<b>Description:</b>	Specifies the database management system and libraries that CMSMS should use.
<b>Status:</b>	Required
<b>Type:</b>	String
<b>Accepted Values:</b>	mysql, mysqli
<b>Note:</b>	Postgres support was removed in CMSMS 1.11

### *db\_hostname*

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

### *db\_name*

<b>Description:</b>	Specifies the name of the database that CMSMS should use
<b>Status:</b>	Required
<b>Type:</b>	String
<b>Accepted Values:</b>	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*

<b>Description:</b>	The timezone for date calculations. All times entered into and displayed by CMSMS will be in this timezone.
<b>Note:</b>	<b>Note:</b> 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.
	<b>Note:</b> The behavior of this variable has changed since previous versions of CMSMS. In previous versions of CMSMS the timezone value needed to be set to match the servers timezone. This is not necessarily the case any more.
<b>Status:</b>	Required
<b>Type:</b>	String
<b>Example:</b>	<code>\$config['timezone'] = 'America/Denver';</code>
<b>Accepted Values:</b>	See this link: <a href="http://www.php.net/manual/en/timezones.php">http://www.php.net/manual/en/timezones.php</a>
<b>See Also:</b>	<a href="http://php.net/manual/en/function.date-default-timezone-set.php">http://php.net/manual/en/function.date-default-timezone-set.php</a>

See also the `set_db_timezone` config variable.

## *root\_path*

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

## *root\_url*

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

## *host\_whitelist*

<b>Description:</b>	Determine if the requested host name is in an allowed list.  This is used when calculating the root_url to mitigate potential HTTP_HOST attacks, by verifying that the requested host is permitted.  Note: This config entry is only utilized if the root_url is not specified in the config.php.  Note: If the requested host could not be found in the host whitelist, then the system will use the server specified SERVER_NAME when creating the root_url.
<b>Since</b>	1.12.2
<b>Status:</b>	Optional
<b>Type:</b>	Mixed
<b>Accepted Values:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. String: A comma separated string of host names i.e: <code>\$config['host_whitelist'] = 'www.foo.com,fr.foo.com';</code></li> <li>2. array: An array of host names i.e: <code>\$config['host_whitelist'] = array('www.foo.com','fr.foo.com');</code></li> <li>3. A callback function <code>function(\$str);</code> The callback function should accept a single string argument (the current requested host) and return a single string (the matched requested host).</li> </ol>
<b>Default Value</b>	none

## *ssl\_url*

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

## *admin\_url*

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

## *uploads\_path*

<b>Description:</b>	This variable contains the absolute filesystem path to the location where files should be uploaded.
<b>Status:</b>	Optional
<b>Type:</b>	String
<b>Accepted Values:</b>	A valid filesystem path that exists under the CMSMS root directory. Please ensure permissions are set correctly to allow the web server to write files to this directory.
<b>Default Value:</b>	<code>\$config['root_path'].'/uploads';</code>
<b>Note:</b>	If you change this path to another directory you may also need to specify the <code>uploads_url</code> , <code>image_uploads_path</code> , and <code>image_uploads_url</code> values. Additionally, the <code>ssl_uploads_url</code> and <code>ssl_image_uploads_url</code> values may need to be adjusted if using HTTPS.

## *uploads\_url*

<b>Description:</b>	The web accessible URL that corresponds to the uploads path
<b>Status:</b>	Optional
<b>Type:</b>	String
<b>Accepted Values:</b>	A valid web acceptable URL. Please ensure that it corresponds to the <code>uploads_path</code> variable specified above.
<b>Default Value:</b>	<code>\$config['root_url'].'/uploads';</code>
<b>Note:</b>	Specifying this path may be required if the <code>uploads_path</code> has been changed from its default value.

## *ssl\_uploads\_url*

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

## *image\_uploads\_path*

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

## *ssl\_image\_uploads\_url*

**Description:** Specify the secure version of 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:** `$config['uploads_url'].'/images'`

## *css\_path*

**Description:** The path in which cms\_stylesheet should generate css files.

**Status:** Optional.

**Type:** String

**Accepted Values:** A fully qualified filesystem path where generated stylesheet files should be stored.

**Default Values:** `$config['public_cache_location'].'/';`

## *css\_url*

**Description:** The web location where css files generated by cms\_stylesheet can be found.

**Status:** Optional.

**Type:** String

**Accepted Values:** A web accessible URL where generated stylesheet files can be found.

**Default Values:** `$config['root_url'].'/tmp/cache';`

## *ssl\_css\_url*

**Description:** The secure web location where css files generated by cms\_stylesheet can be found. This value is used when generating web requests from secure pages.

**Status:** Optional.

**Type:** String

**Accepted Values:** A secure web accessible URL where generated stylesheet files can be found.

**Default Values:** `$config['ssl_url'].'/tmp/cache';`



## *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

## *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::** `$config['url_rewriting'] = 'internal';`

**Default Value:** none

**See Also:** [http://wiki.cmsmadesimple.org/index.php/FAQ/Installation/Pretty\\_URLs#Pretty\\_URLs](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:** `$config['page_extension'] = '.html';`

## *query\_var*

<b>Description:</b>	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.
<b>Status:</b>	Optional
<b>Type:</b>	String
<b>Default Value:</b>	page

## *locale*

<b>Description:</b>	Locale to use for various default date handling functions, etc. Leaving this blank will use the value associated with the currently selected 'language' for frontend or admin actions. Specifying this value will only be used once per request.
<b>Note:</b>	Though you can specify any valid locale, the locale information you specify must be installed on the server.
<b>Status:</b>	Optional
<b>Type:</b>	String
<b>Default Value:</b>	n/a
<b>See Also:</b>	<a href="http://php.net/manual/en/function.setlocale.php">http://php.net/manual/en/function.setlocale.php</a>
<b>Note:</b>	Behavior of this config variable changed in 1.11

## *set\_names*

<b>Description:</b>	A flag indicating whether a 'set names' command should be given to the mysql database upon connection.
<b>Status:</b>	Optional
<b>Type:</b>	Boolean
<b>Default Value:</b>	TRUE

## *set\_db\_timezone*

<b>Description:</b>	A flag indicating whether a 'set timezone' command should be given to the mysql database upon connection.
<b>Status:</b>	Optional
<b>Type:</b>	Boolean
<b>Default Value:</b>	FALSE
<b>Version 1.11.7</b>	Added, default value is FALSE
<b>See Also</b>	timezone config variable.

## *show\_performance\_info*

<b>Description:</b>	A flag indicating whether performance information should be appended to all output from CMSMS requests.
<b>Note:</b>	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.
<b>Status:</b>	Optional
<b>Type:</b>	Boolean
<b>Default Value:</b>	FALSE

## *debug\_to\_log*

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

## *showbase*

<b>Description:</b>	This config variable, indicates wether the <base> tag should be output by the {metadata} tag. This config variable can also be overridden by the showbase parameter of the {metadata} tag.
<b>Status:</b>	Optional
<b>Type:</b>	boolean
<b>Example:</b>	<code>\$config['show_base'] = true;</code>
<b>Default Value:</b>	true

## *developer\_mode*

<b>Description:</b>	This config variable enables various functionality (Particularly in the ModuleManager) that is intended primarily for module developers.
<b>Status:</b>	Optional
<b>Type:</b>	boolean
<b>Example:</b>	<code>\$config['developer_mode'] = true;</code>
<b>Default Value:</b>	false

## *public\_cache\_location*

<b>Description:</b>	This config variable allows specifying a web addressable location where CMSMS can write files that should be publicly browseable.  You must specify an absolute directory that is writable by the php process.
<b>Since:</b>	2.0
<b>Status:</b>	Optional
<b>Type:</b>	string
<b>Example:</b>	<code>\$config['public_cache_location'] = '/var/www/cmsms/tmp/cache';</code>
<b>Default Value:</b>	<code>\$config['root_path'].'/tmp/cache'</code>

## ***tmp\_cache\_location***

<b>Description:</b>	This config variable allows specifying a secure location where CMSMS can write files that should not necessarily be web browseable.
	You must specify an absolute directory that is writable by the php process.
<b>Since:</b>	2.0
<b>Status:</b>	Optional
<b>Type:</b>	string
<b>Example:</b>	<code>\$config['tmp_cache_location'] = '/var/www/cmsms/tmp/cache';</code>
<b>Default Value:</b>	<code>\$config['root_path'].'/tmp/cache'</code>

## ***tmp\_templates\_c\_location***

<b>Description:</b>	This config variable allows specifying a location where smarty can write its compiled templates. This directory does not need to be publicly browseable.
	You must specify an absolute directory that is writable by the php process.
<b>Since:</b>	2.0
<b>Status:</b>	Optional
<b>Type:</b>	string
<b>Example:</b>	<code>\$config['tmp_templates_c_location'] = '/var/www/cmsms/tmp/somedir';</code>
<b>Default Value:</b>	<code>\$config['root_path'].'/tmp/templates_c'</code>

## ***assets\_path***

<b>Description:</b>	This variable allows specifying an absolute location where auxillary smarty templates, plugins, and config files can be located for frontend requests.
	The system relies on three subdirectories of the assets path <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• plugins (An additional path to find smarty plugins)</li> <li>• templates (An additional path to find smarty templates)</li> <li>• configs (A path to find smarty config files)</li> </ul>
<b>Since:</b>	2.0
<b>Status:</b>	Optional
<b>Type:</b>	string
<b>Example:</b>	<code>\$config['assets_path'] = '/var/www/cmsms/assets';</code>
<b>Default Value:</b>	<code>\$config['root_path'].'/tmp'</code>

***permissive\_smarty***

**Description:** This config variable loosens some of the security configuration for smarty templates. Particularly enabling this option allows the use of any php function as a smarty plugin.

We recommend that you DO NOT enable this option if you are allowing content to be submitted for display on your website from untrusted sources.

**Since:** 2.0

**Status:** Optional

**Type:** boolean

**Example:** `$config['permissive_smarty'] = 1;`

**Default Value:** 0

## Revision History:

### ***August 2011 – Robert Campbell***

Initial Revision

### ***October 2011 – Robert Campbell***

Fixes to minor spelling and punctuation errors.

### ***April 2012 – Robert Campbell***

Updated for CMSMS 1.11

- Adds css\_path
- Adds css\_url
- Adds ssl\_css\_url
- Removes process\_whole\_template
- Removes output\_compression
- Removes use\_adodb\_lite
- Remove use\_smarty\_php\_tags
- Removes default\_upload\_permission

### ***July 2012 – Robert Campbell***

Final corrections for 1.11

### ***May 2013 – Robert Campbell***

Updated for CMSMS 1.11.7

- added info for set\_db\_timezone

### ***February 2014 – Robert Campbell***

Updated for CMSMS 2.0

- added info developer\_mode
- updated info for set\_db\_timezone
- removed php\_memory\_limit

### ***May 2015 – Robert Campbell***

Further Updates for CMSMS 2.0

- cleaned all removed config entries
- added public\_cache\_location
- added tmp\_cache\_location
- added tmp\_templates\_c\_location
- added assets\_path
- added permissive\_smarty