

# Conversion program csv2vcf V.17.01

Today, there are cheap mobile phones that do not have Android operating system, but still they are able to carry out operations that were previously not possible. I needed to transfer contacts that I got in the Excel table to such a phone. There were 20 contacts and only 15 of them had also a phone number. I was reluctant to transcribe it manually onto the phone especially considering the threat a typo in a phone number. Therefore, I propose a program that might be useful to everyone.



Follow these procedures:

- it is necessary to determine whether the mobile phone supports export and import contacts
- first we export one contact to obtain the correctly formatted .vcf file
- this format may be significantly different so we use that as a template
- in the case that there are other contacts in the obtained VCF file, you need to erase the rest
- this file should be renamed to master.vcf and will serve as a template
- verify in your .xls file that there is a contact name and telephone number
- it is important to note the order of columns, eg. Name=1, Phone=4
- afterwards, modify the file keywords.txt
- at last, modify the template file master.vcf
- after starting the program csv2vcf.exe, it will create a file export.vcf
- which should be copied into the mobile phone
- such a file can also be send to Gmail or elsewhere

But it's not that easy, so here is a step-by-step procedure:

## 1. Verification of a mobile phone and acquisition of a template

Mobile phone must have a storage place where its software creates a file with extension .VCF. This output file we transfer via USB cable to the PC.

If this is possible, we won, considering that is would be possible to do a reverse process as to import contacts from PC back to the mobile phone. We create such file later on PC and via a USB cable transfer back to the phone.

On my cheap cellphones for 19.10 Euro, it was enough to mark this file and the cellphone asked whether to import the contacts. Do not read any further if this is not possible, my program will not help you.

## 2. Template modification

The template might look like this (edited by Microsoft's Notepad)

```
BEGIN:VCARD
VERSION:2.1
N;CHARSET=UTF-8;ENCODING=QUOTED-PRINTABLE:Novak Bartolomej;;;
TEL;CELL:0903123456
END:VCARD
```

Please note that your template may look different. If such a file is imported into a phone, it would duplicate what you already have there (e.g., Novak). In my program csv2vcf.exe, you have to suggest where the name and phone number should be. Well, as you can see, the program is a fool and needs instructions. In my case, I modified as follows:

```
BEGIN:VCARD
VERSION:2.1
N;CHARSET=UTF-8;ENCODING=QUOTED-PRINTABLE:%Name%;;;
TEL;CELL:%Phone%
END:VCARD
```

It should be done very precisely, leaving out or add nothing else. Your mobile phone must think that such a file is its baby!!!

The changed items were **%Name%** and **%Phone%**. As you can see, it does not matter whether there will be the Name, the NAME, or even the nAme. The percent sign at the beginning ensures that it will not be mistaken with a real name, if there is someone with a name Kevin Phone.

The percent sign at the end is important in a case when your .xls file has people without a phone number. The specifications **%Name%** and **%Phone%** with the percent sign at the end will ensure the final file for import into your mobile phone will have only contacts where both the name and telephone number are present.

## 3. How the program csv2vcf.exe finds where to get the data

Take a look at the .XLS file you want to import . There are names in my language, but I hope this can be understood.

p.č.	Meno a priezvisko	e-mail adresa	Mobil	T1	T2
1	Beata Dugovičová	beata.dugovic@gmail.com	"090395432"	X	
2	Darina Palková	darina.pal@gmail.com		X	

The first column is the serial number, the name is in the second column, and the phone number is the fourth column. At first glance, it is not what we expected.

The strategy of the program csv2vcf.exe is though that the original .XLS file doesn't need to be modified.

There is also an exception. A comma can not be present in the data columns.

## CSV - Comma Separated Values

The data with commas would not get registered (e.g., Stephen, King of Cuba or phone number 0903,123456)

Other columns must not contain commas either. Additionally, if there was, for example, a column with a car make before the phone number, in the .CSV file, it would look like this:

```
3,Ján Novák,Renault,0903111333,has one car
4,Juraj Drobný,Renault,Fiat,0903222555,has two cars
```

In the second row, there are more commas than we need (one after each car make).

Now we just need to define what we need. Open the file **keywords.txt** where, for example, I have this content:

```
%Number
%Name%
%E-Mail
%Phone%
```

I named all columns, regardless of whether I need them or not. Here, their sequence is important! The **Name** is in the second row because in Excel table the name is in the second column. Similarly, the **Phone** is in the fourth row because in Excel table the name is in the fourth column.

It would work also like this:

```
%Nothing
%Name%
%Nothing
%Phone%
```

We do not need what is behind the column Phone, therefore the names of the remaining columns are not included.

### 4. The problem with the name

It is preferable to have the names in the order last name followed by the first name  
(e.g., Costner Kevin)

In the case that you have .XLS file with an opposite order (e.g., Kevin Costner), do not worry. All you need is to edit the template.

The file from which the program will take data is the name, must be of course written in the uniform style :

p.č.	Meno a priezvisko	e-mail adresa	Mobil	T1	T2
1	Beata Dugovičová Ing.	beata.dugovic@gmail.com	"0903954321"	X	
2	Darina Palková MUDr.	darina.pal@gmail.com	0918221405	X	

That s not so easy in the column name is also the title. This must be at the end of the name and is optional. My solution works on the basis of the space between words.

Thus, in the column two **Name** is 1. FirstName, 2. LastName, 3. Title

Template for Gmail, which requires the separation of first name and last name looks like this:

```
BEGIN:VCARD
VERSION:3.0
FN:3%Name% 1%Name% 2%Name%
N:2%Name%;1%Name%;;3%Name%;
EMAIL;TYPE=INTERNET;TYPE=HOME:%Mail
TEL;TYPE=CELL:%Phone%
END:VCARD
```

In the column with code **FN**: is

3%Name% - This is the third part of the Name in the example Ing. , ie Title  
2%Name% - This is the second part of the Name in the example Dugovičová , ie LastName  
1%Name% - This is the first part of the Name in the example Beáta , ie Firstname

In line with the code **N**: entries are separated by semicolons in reverse order

The correct result looks like this:

```
BEGIN:VCARD
VERSION:3.0
FN:Ing. Beata Dugovicova
N:Dugovicova;Beata;;Ing.;
EMAIL;TYPE=INTERNET;TYPE=HOME:beata.dugovic@gmail.com
TEL;TYPE=CELL:0903954321
END:VCARD
BEGIN:VCARD
VERSION:3.0
FN:MUDr. Darina Palkova
N:Palkova;Darina;;MUDr.;
EMAIL;TYPE=INTERNET;TYPE=HOME:darina.pal@gmail.com
TEL;TYPE=CELL:0918221405
END:VCARD
```



## 5. And what the accents

For simplicity, the program disregards all accents, thus avoiding problems with the encoding. The Name and Number omits all other characters other than letters and numbers.

Other acceptable characters:

- plus sign "+" for the international calling prefix
- @ symbol for email
- space (between the name and surname)

## 6. Other separator in .csv file

Sometimes it can happen that you come XLS file where someone wrote in a column Name:

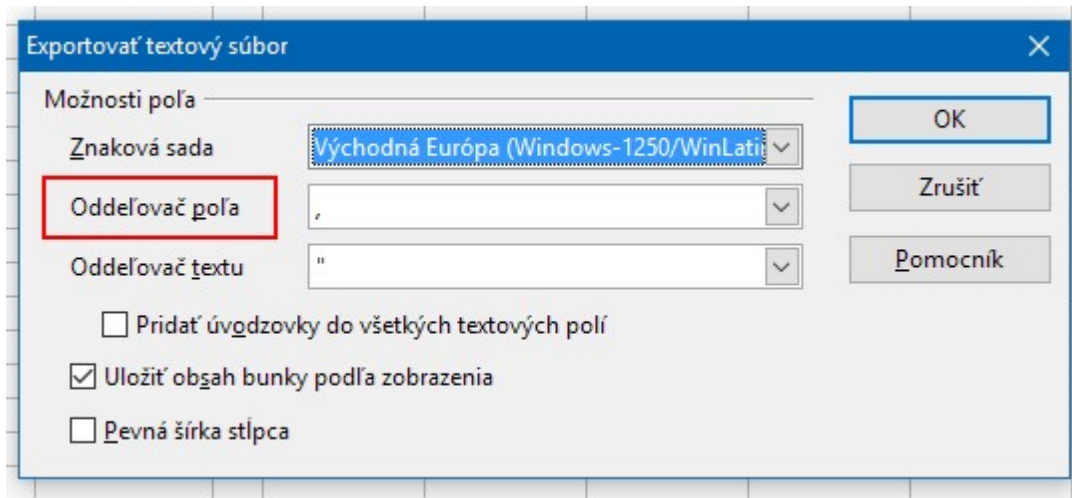
Urban Mikulaš Ing. , Csc

To not have fun doing where you are in the input file such a trick, a comma in the data, just export the .xls file **with another separator**. A reliable method is to use a broken bar character thus | .

Such a character is on a non-English keyboard hard to find. You can write the code with Alt key (to be held) and on the numeric keypad write 124. Then there is no risk, no conflict.

As the separator can also be used another character, you can choose from these that the program accepts..

**| ! / # \$ % & ? = - + , . : ; < > ( ) [ ] { }**



But now you have to determine for my program which character it is. Comma therefore remains standard. In this case, you do not have to do anything. Other separator can be defined the last line of the file **csv2vcf.ini** follows:

```
%Number
%Name%
%E-Mail
%Phone%
|
```

This character must be the first and only one in line and of course in line with what you defined when you export a .CSV from .XLS file.

## 7. File names

While in the first version of the program was necessary to have an input CSV file with a fixed name, now it is neither necessary nor practical. If you do nothing, the program seeks to continue Import.csv file.

Write our specific file name including the extension to your last line of the file **csv2vcf.ini** follows:

```
%Cislo
%Jmeno%
%Mail
%Telefon%
|
```

**Participants of a trip.csv**

Output file .vcf always has the same name as the input, thereby preventing error.

## 8. Other formats of VCF file

In the distribution package of the program are also templates

- gmail.vcf - for Gmail.com
- MyPhone.vcf - for my cell phone MyPhone 6300

## 9. Conclusion

The program is **freeware**. The author reserves the right to decide where the program will be available for download. If you intend to save the program on a different server, please inform the author.

The program was made to suit author's needs. If you have ideas how it can be improved, email me please.

The program Csv2vcf.exe, in the current version, has the following properties:

Lenght 6 144 Bytes

Date 17.12.2016

Time 20:33:01

Ing. Branislav Štofko [b.stofko@zoho.com](mailto:b.stofko@zoho.com)