Converting from OSC 2.2 to 2.3x, for dummies

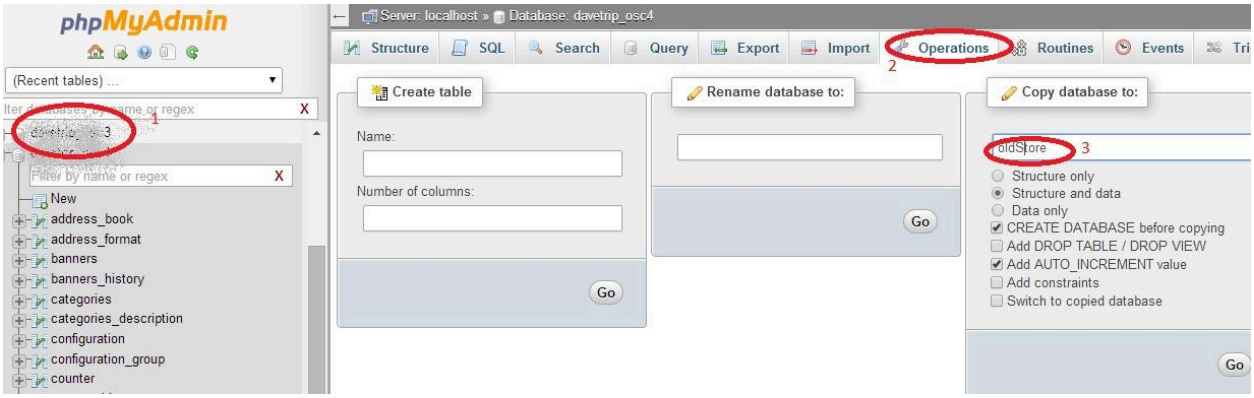
A note beforehand: this is for doing a manual conversion. After doing the following I still had a number of issues, such as an inability for the users to log in. Eventually I re-did the actual install by executing [catalog]\install\index.php which overwrote the entire database (be sure to backup your [catalog]\includes\configure.php for future reference), but of course I backed up the converted database from my efforts below. After restoring that database everything worked fine… so that in mind, these instructions are mainly a database conversion which you will use to overwrite the installation database after installing the OSC 2.3x.

All in all, it was a 3 step process of doing the below database conversion and backing the new one up, doing the regular install of the new 2.3 osCommerce (execute: [catalog]\install\index.php), then restoring your converted database.

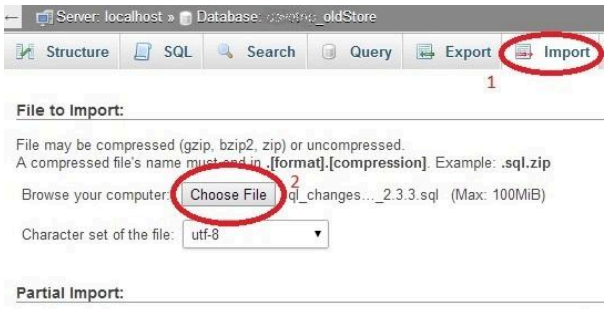
Database conversion:
I'm assuming you have phpMyAdmin. If you don't then download it and install it, especially if you're an SQL noob. It has saved my life more times than I can count, and it's a great way to learn mySql since most of the stuff it does it shows you the mySql while it does it.

1. Copy your 2.2 store to “oldStore”: In phpMyAdmin click on the old database name then click Operations (in horizontal menu), then under "copy database to:" type "oldStore" and click go (accept default options "structure and data", "CREATE DATABASE before copying", and "Add AUTO_INCREMENT value").

   like this:



2. Go to the “oldStore” database that you just created (if on a shared server it will probably be named something like username_oldStore) … this you will modify in the subsequent steps so it will be 2.3 compatible, then you will export

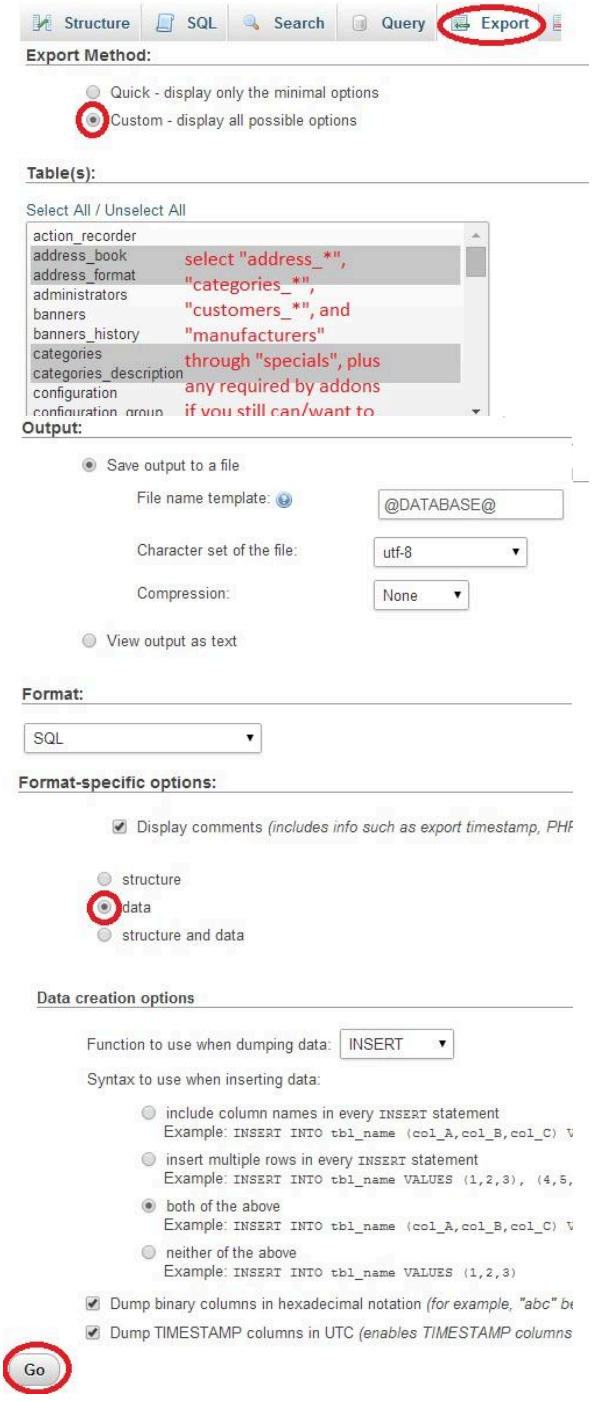


the data, then put that data into a new osCommerce 2.3 installation.

3. Convert your oldStore so it will be 2.3 compatible: Do this by importing the SQL found here (http://addons.oscommerce.com/info/8731) on the oldStore database, as shown at the right (first download from the oscommerce link above, save to your computer, then go to oldStore, just created, click “Import”, “Choose file” then choose the file just downloaded, then “Go”). Make sure you are doing this to your oldStore database
4. Export the data from “oldStore”, now that it is 2.3 compatible: Do this by selecting “Export” from the horizontal menu, selecting “Custom”, then selecting:

    a. tables starting with “address”
    b. tables starting with “categories
    c. tables starting with “customers”
    d. all the tables including and between “manufacturers” and “specials”

    Also, send it to an output file, and only export the data, but not the structure. Like as is shown at the right:



5. Now install a fresh version of the 2.3x version of osCommerce that you want to use. I installed v2.34.

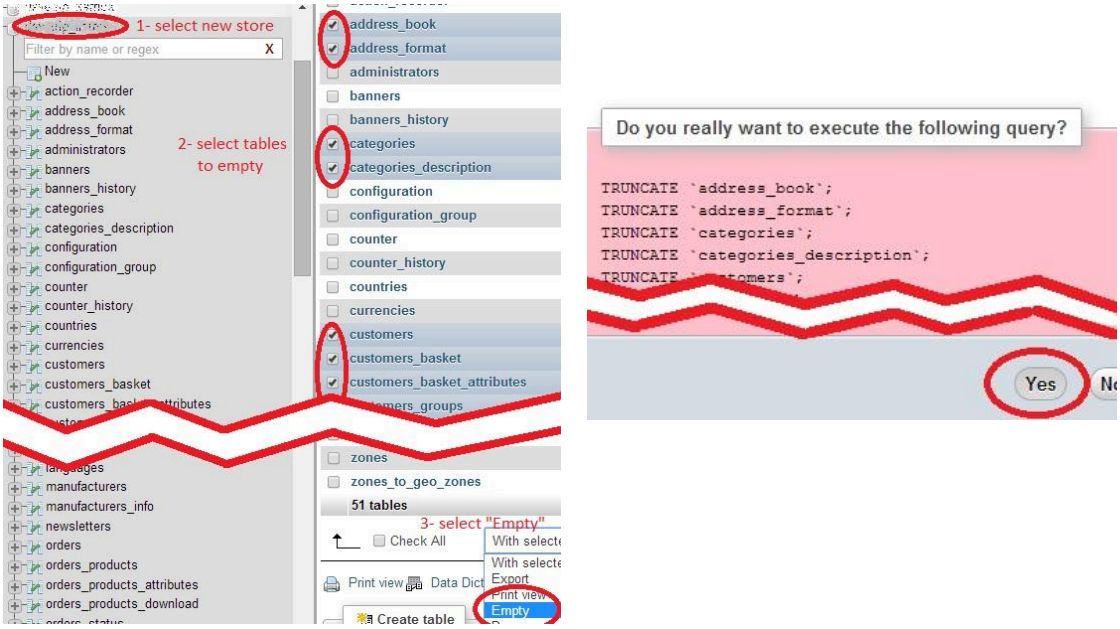
6. After the 2.3x store is installed you need to clear out all the data from the 2.3x tables that are going to be repopulated by the oldStore database as shown in the images below (if you don’t empty them then the subsequent import in step#7 will fail):

    You clear out the data by selecting the new store database created from the install in step #5 above (click on the new database name in phpMyAdmin). At the right of the database name all it’s tables will show up. Select all those tables you want to empty. Do that by clicking the

checkmark at the left of each table name:

a. tables starting with “address”
b. tables starting with “categories
c. tables starting with “customers”
d. all the tables including and between “manufacturers” and “specials”

Then select “Empty” in the dropdown box at the bottom of the table list. It will then give you a confirmation screen asking if you want to “TRUNCATE” them. “Truncate” in SQL means to empty … I know, it’s stupid because that’s not what truncate means … I don’t make the rules though. Just say “Yes”. See the below two screen grabs:



7. Now you’re ready to import the data from “oldStore” that you extracted in step #4. You will use the same import process you used in step #2 above (see the image from step#2 if you forgot). When you’re ready, if you navigated away from the new v2.3x store database then go back and select it, select Import, then get the file you created in step #4 and click go. If you get no errors (which is likely if you had no addons), then you’re done with the mySQL conversion.

   If no errors skip to step 10.

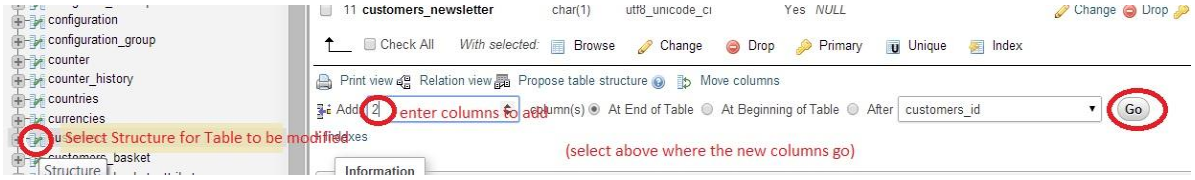
   TROUBLESHOOTING:

8. Okay, you're here at step #8 if you had an error during the import in #7. There are 3 kinds of errors, and you will most likely see all 3 multiple times if you had very many addons. Troubleshooting them is easy, as follows:

    a. <u>Error: Duplicate entry ...</u>
    This happened because one of the tables you imported already had data … or in other words, you didn't get all the tables mentioned in step #6 emptied. Look at each of the tables mentioned in #6, and look for the column that says "Rows". If there are any tables that do *not* show "~0" in the "rows" column then checkmark them and empty them as specified in step #6, then redo step #7.

    b. <u>Error: Unknown column …</u>
    This is caused by an addon which you made to the old store at some point. The best way to fix this is to include the "unknown column" in the new store so your data will be compatible. This of course then makes your 2.3x database non-standard, but it will work just fine with your new store anyway, plus you will then be able to implement the addon again more easily when it becomes available for 2.3x (if it isn't available already).

    Fix it by going to the table mentioned in the error, but in the oldStore database, and making a note of all the columns in that oldStore table (maybe do a screen grab as a reference). Then go to that same table in the new (v2.3x) database and add the oldStore column(s) that are missing, as follows:



    after you click "Go" it will allow you to format the new fields:

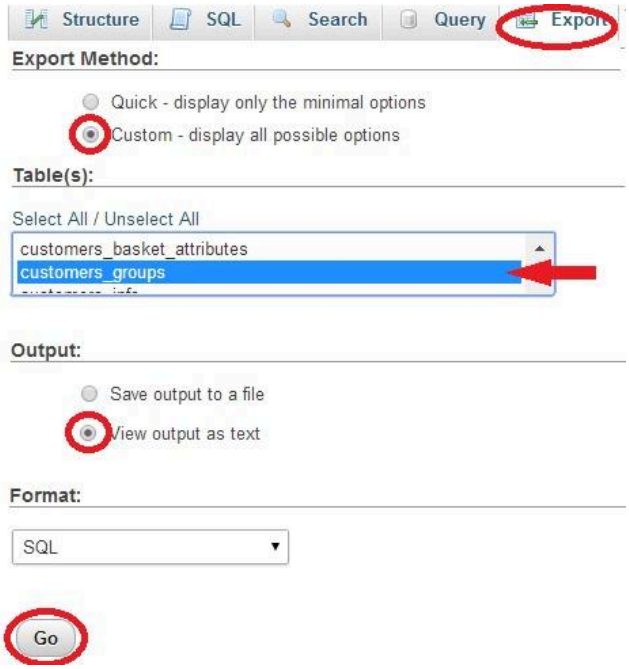
    format them like the fields in the oldStore database then click "Save".

    c. <u>Error: Table xxxx does not exist...</u>
    This is also caused by an addon you made to the old store. The best way to fix this is to include the Table in the new store so your data will be compatible, and it will facilitate adding the addon to the new store when the addon is 2.3 compatible (it may already be). Similar to the solution above you should not worry about the

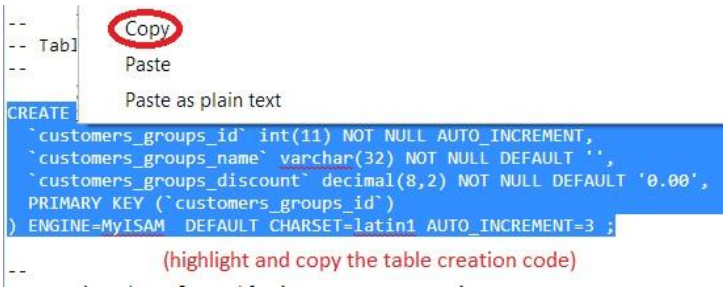
extra table causing problems in the new store because it won't. If you do not use it, for example, if you never reinstall the addon that used it, then it will just be ignored. So add it so you can import your data.

Here's how to add it: First export the missing table from the old store, and this time select "View output as text", instead of "Save to file". We're going to copy that SQL text that this outputs and then paste it into the SQL dialog box in the new database. As follows:

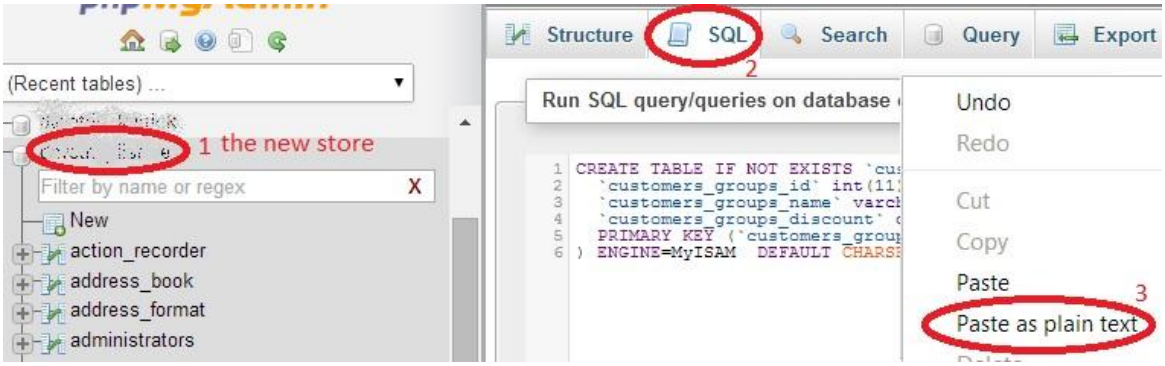
Export:



Okay now copy the resulting SQL code … highlight it, note that it will look similar as follows except with more or less fields (note just copy the portion that creates the structure, but do *not* copy the data that follows in the SQL output):



Okay, now select the new store database and select "SQL" from the horizontal menu and paste the data similar to that shown below:



Then click “go”.

9. Now go back to step #6 to empty the necessary tables in the new database (you must re-empty the tables that were filled up to when the error occured), then redo step #7 (import oldStore data). If you get errors repeat step #8, then loop back to step #6.

   Continue looping back to step six until you have no more errors, then you will be done with the SQL conversion.

10. Congrats! SQL portion is now done. All that is left is to copy your files from the image directory from the old installation to the new installation directory and then you’re completely done (except for addons).

    You may want to look for your addons to see if they’re 2.3 compatible if you want to add them right now, although the store will work normally without them.

    If you want, you can now delete your old store, it’s database and the copy of the database “oldStore”, and send all your customers to the new v2.3x store. I however like to keep a copy of the old data just in case at least for a year or so.

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MORE TROUBLESHOOTING - mostly what you’ll notice while test-driving your new site

Product Options Missing

At some point it looks like the length of the “products_options_name” was changed from 128 to 32, which will clobber your product options if you originally used markup in those fields. Look at the “product_options” table, and the “products_options_name” column to see if stuff was truncated. If so you can fix it back to 128 with this SQL command:

```
ALTER TABLE `products_options` CHANGE `products_options_name`
`products_options_name` VARCHAR(128) CHARACTER SET utf8 COLLATE
utf8_unicode_ci NOT NULL DEFAULT '';
```

Then loop back to step#6 - step#7 to repopulate the table.

Websurfing Error: “Table [table name] doesn't exist”

You will likely get this error message when you test drive your new site. Most likely at a minimum you will be missing the products_images table, as in: [your database name].products_images

You will want to briefly compare the oldStore database with your new one to see which tables are missing in the new one and then copy those over by exporting to SQL from the oldStore, then selecting the new database and pasting that SQL and selecting “go”, just as described in “8.c.” above.

Websurfing Error: “Unknown column [column name]...”

You will likely get this error message when you test drive your new site. The error will be followed with text something like this:

“**select [something] from [tablename] ...**”

Take note of what’s listed in the [tablename] from that text. Go to that table (for example “review”) from the oldStore and look at the structure of that table … best if you take a screen grab of it (your keyboard’s “pnt sc” button, then paste that in your graphics editing program) for reference.

Go to the new database, then select the structure for that same tablename (select the table, then click “Structure” tab). Then add the needed missing rows, using your screen grab (see above paragraph) as a reference. See “8.b.” above for more detailed instructions on how to do this.

Can’t get into admin

Make sure you have register_globals = Off in your admin/php.ini. If it was on then you had quite an old installation as this security risk was removed a very long time ago.