

Fix weird problem with Apache default encoding (AddDefaultCharset) not taking effect on FreeBSD with Apache version (2.0.63)

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I encountered a weird problems a couple of minutes before. I tried to put some text files written in UTF-8 which contain cyrillic in the file names as well as the content the files has in my Apache directory listing. Trying that produced a lot of "alien symbols" for both file names and file content.

I have to admit that wasn't exactly what I expected. I've checked my `/usr/local/etc/apache/httpd.conf` just to find out I already have the:

```
AddDefaultCharset utf-8
```

within in the configuration, I thought that somehow Apache could have difficulties applying that rules for the custom Virtualhost and therefore give the directive a try locally in the VirtualHost. Grievously that didn't produced any positive result. That's why I decided to check if somebody has experienced the same weird behavior and I stumbled on [this wonderful blog post](#).

In short on the plug and pray's blog ... Wait and moment plug and pray? Yes you read that correctly it's plug and pray :), on that blog it's explained that newer versions of Apache 2.2.4 as this is the version the blogger talks about as well as the latest Apache release has an issue with **AddDefaultCharset not working** anymore. Fortunately the issue with the AddDefaultCharset not taking effect in Apache no more is easily solved. All that needs to be done is including the:

```
IndexOptions Charset=UTF-8
```

Within Apache conf file. In my case on FreeBSD I had to include that in

`/usr/local/etc/apache2/httpd.conf` after which all worked perfectly fine and I can see all my cyrillic symbols showing anew.