

Bodhi Linux Localization Guide



Introduction:

Translating the Moksha desktop, modules and bodhi linux installers is a great way to contribute and spread the distro to many countries around the world.

Translations mainly consist of working with .po files and sometimes html files.

- **PO files** are textual, editable files based on a POT file and contain the original program text and its translation.
- An **HTML file** is a document written in Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) that structures content for web pages. It contains elements like headings, paragraphs, and links, which web browsers use to display the content visually. These files use so-called tags that often surround text.

An example of a po file with Italian translations:

```
#: src/e_mod_config.c:85
msgid "StickyNotes Module"
msgstr "Modulo StickyNotes"

#: src/e_mod_config.c:140
msgid "General"
msgstr "Generale"

#: src/e_mod_config.c:143
msgid " Note text in the header"
msgstr "Testo della nota nel header"

#: src/e_mod_config.c:148
msgid "Header text"
msgstr "Testo del header"
```

An example of html file:

```
<div class="main wide">


<div class="content"><ul>
  <li>Be sure to look through our Quickstart Guide, which is designed to get you started using Bodhi. </li>
  <li>Beyond the Quickstart guide is our documentation wiki, a rich source of information.</li>
  <li>Many Bodhi-specific apps have help options or man pages which can be accessed through the terminal.</li>
</ul></div>
<p class="footer"></p>
</div>
```

How to work on .po files:

How to obtain source?

- install git and clone the whole repository to your work folder
- or download lang.po file directly from git

How to edit po file?

- in common text editor
- in specialized code editor example: geany (syntax highlight - useful)
- in poedit (application for translators). Probably the best solution.

What to edit and how?

You can see code file names with English text in first line **'msgid'** and empty or filled line **'msgstr'** in another language. Check the translation or add new one. In case you can see **'fuzzy'** in front of the lines, the translation will be ignored. This is probably the automatically generated text with a dictionary and could not be precise. Be aware of plural in some language. In Slovak, for example, there are some special rules for plural which must be taken into account.

```
#: src/modules/ibar/e_mod_config.c:147
msgid "Icon focus flash"
msgstr "Animácia ikony"
```

Plural example:

```
#: src/bin/e_utils.c:1201
#, c-format
msgid "A second"
msgid_plural "%li Seconds"
msgstr[0] "sekunda"
msgstr[1] "%li sekundy"
msgstr[2] "%li sekúnd"
```

Also pay attention to the UTF-8 charset. Make sure that the line **"Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8\n"** is present at the beginning of your .po file.

What if your language is not included?

Do not worry. You have to add your language shortcut to LINGUAS file. Then start editing clean pot file and save it as lang.po

Better way:

```
msginit --locale=sk --input=moksha.pot
```

Inside the folder of the program you are translating you will most likely find a **.desktop** file. Inside this file you can add the "Name", "GenericName", "Comment" and/or "Keywords" in your language. Please respect the alphabetical order.

Example of .desktop file:

```
3  [Desktop Entry]
4  Type=Link
5  Name=StickyNotes
6  Name[be]=Стыкеры
7  Name[cs]=Poznámkový blok
8  Name[de]=Sticky_notesett
9  Name[el]=Sticky_notes
10 Name[eo]=Sticky_noteseto
11 Name[es]=Notas adhesivas
12 Name[it]=Note adesive
13 Name[ml]=സ്റ്റികിനോട്ട്
14 Name[pl]=Samoprzylepne notatki
15 Name[pt]=Notas adesivas
16 Name[pt_BR]=Notas adesivas
17 Name[ru]=Стикеры
18 Name[sk]=Poznámkový blok
```

What to do next?

Best solution for advanced users: fork repo to your git, make changes and pull request. We will merge to the origin. If you are new to GitHub, it is advisable to familiarize yourself with it, or work from the GitHub web page. This way, slightly more cumbersome, you can become familiar with the GitHub functions, and contribute without terminal commands.

How to check your translations:

You have to create the .mo file from .po file. It is our goal. It is possible via CLI with **msgfmt** command or using in Poedit (file->compile to mo).

If you want to do it via terminal, make sure you have **gettext** installed.

```
sudo apt update && sudo apt install gettext
```

For example, if the .po file you are working on is in
/home/<user>/Documents
To get the .mo file in:
/home/<user>/Documents

```
msgfmt -o /home/<user>/Documents/lang.mo /home/<user>/Documents/lang.po
```

(first path == destination. Second path == po file you are working on)

Where to place .mo file for testing?

If you make an translation for Moksha, rename lang.mo (sk.mo for example) to enlightenment.mo and and you should place it to

```
/usr/share/locale/lang/LC_MESSAGES
```

lang means sk in this case.

```
/usr/share/locale/sk/LC_MESSAGES
```

Restart the app for test.

About html files:

Sometimes you may find yourself having to translate html files. As mentioned above, the text to be translated is found between tags. Once you have found the original html in English, the translation consists of copying the file and deleting the English text to place the translated one. The name of the file must not be changed: If the original is "**welcome.html**", the copied and translated file must remain "**welcome.html**". There will be no confusion since the translated files will end up in the folder named after your language code. For example, the file welcome.html translated in Italian will be placed inside an "it" folder.

```
3 <div class="main wide">
4   
5
6 <div class="content"><ul>
7     <li>Thank you for choosing Bodhi Linux!</li>
8 </ul></div>
9
10 </div>
```



```
3 <div class="main wide">
4   
5
6 <div class="content"><ul>
7   <li>Grazie per aver scelto Bodhi Linux!</li>
8 </ul></div>
9
10 </div>
```

Testing html translation:

Most html files to be translated are part of one of our installers. These installers often have a script inside that starts the installer and allows you to read your translations. The instructions for starting this type of script may vary but are usually included in the README file.

Sources:

Much of the .po file guide was taken from a post created some time ago, by one of our devs "**thewaiter**". His guide is still valid:

<https://bodhilinux.boards.net/thread/231/moksha-translating>

More info about *gettext*:

<en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gettext>
www.gnu.org/software/gettext/

Author:

Diego "diekrz2" K.

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