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SECTION 4: USER INTERFACE AND FAQ

In this section, we will examine the user interface in detail using the **default template** as base. We will divide the home page into small parts and try to explain the methods of setting these by which this will become exhaustive FAQ for osDate V2.5.



I am a

Man

seeking a

Woman

who is from

16

 to

90

Country:

United States


Near Zip:

who has a photo ☐

Search

Member Login | Username: Password:

Login

 Register Now 

Language Option

English

Change Language

Site Statistics

Members in Last Week: 0

Total Male Members: 4


Total Female Members: 7

Pictures in Last Week: 0

Members online: 0

Random Woman

39, Manhattan, United States




WaterMark

View Profile

Spin Again!

Random Man

37, Bradenton, United States




WaterMark

View Profile


Spin Again!

Special Offer!



Welcome to osDate

See why osDate is the fastest growing relationship site on the web. Create your osDate profile to begin the exciting journey towards finding your match.

 Members online: 0


Don't stay alone, Join Now for Free!

Newest profile pictures

Any Gender

Aila12


39 Woman, United States



WaterMark

BigWill


22 Man, United States



WaterMark

faisal


29 Man, United Kingdom



WaterMark

JaruGT


37 Man, United States



WaterMark

Manuella


28 Woman, United States



WaterMark

mimijones

27 Woman, United States



WaterMark

Above picture is a sample of home page.

4.1 Managing Templates

osDate is using Smarty to manage templates of user interface. System has all template files under the folder /templates/default. All admin files are in /templates/default/admin folder.

When you make a new template using the design you have, you should create a new folder /templates/yourskin. Then copy only those tpl files which you want to change from /templates/default folder to /templates/yourskin folder and make changes. You will require to copy default.css, index.tpl and page_hdr*.tpl which are needed for your template design. Ensure you copy only the needed tpl file.

For example:

If you want to change the simple search parameter acceptance portion in the front page, just copy /templates/default/searchprofile.tpl file to /templates/yourskin/ folder and make changes in /templates/yourskin/searchprofile.tpl file. System will automatically recognize the modified file.

4.2 Small Profile display options

osDate provide for 2 options for displaying brief profile details. The desired method can be set in site's Global Settings for each block of displays.

4.2.1 Mini



This display is earlier used method itself and controlled by the file userresultviewsmall.tpl .

4.2.2 Tiny

This method is used to display 4-5 profiles in the display block and is controlled by smallprofile.tpl file.



In addition to these, the birthday profiles display block uses a different method of display controlled by min_profile.tpl.

4.3 Site Name

Site Name is given in Admin->Tools->Global Settings. This may change the size and width based on your skin. If you want to remove site title, remove the contents of site title in Global Settings. You may add it as a picture in the index.tpl template file.

4.4 Simple/Quick search

This allows any users to search for profiles quickly. Just select the options available and search. This is managed using searchprofile.tpl template file. Any modification you want to do, it should be done in this file. However, ensure it fits in the available space based on your template design. Search is done by searchmatch.php program. If you add/remove any search criteria, then you should modify this program also to reflect the changes.

If you have loaded zip codes for the country in the country list, then Near Zip will be accepted. System calculates the area based on the value you have given for the Site's Global Parameter **Display profiles within xx miles/kilometers of Zip Code given for simple search?** Please set this parameter to a reasonable value to avoid huge number of profiles being returned.

4.5 Managing Gender options

You can manage the gender options given in signup and searches. It is defining the gender of the searching person and gender you are looking for.

Note that following gender codes are predefined and should be left as such.

- M – Male
- F – Female
- C – Couple
- B – Both males and females
- G – Group
- A – All genders

For changing the gender of the person/profile (signup gender), edit the English language file and the language file you use and modify the array defined for signup_gender_values

```
$lang['signup_gender_values'] = array(
    'M' => 'Man',
    'F' => 'Woman',
    'C' => 'Couple',
    'G' => 'Group'
);
```

Same way, for modifying the looking gender values, modify the array definition for `signup_gender_look`.

```
$lang['signup_gender_look'] = array(
    'M' => 'Man',
    'F' => 'Woman',
    'C' => 'Couple',
    'G' => 'Group',
    'B' => 'Man or Woman',
    'A' => 'Any Gender'
);
```

Ensure all values defined in `signup_gender_values` array are available in `signup_gender_look` array also. If you define more values of combinations in `signup_gender_look` array, then you **MUST MAKE APPROPRIATE CHANGES** in search programs (`advsearch.php`, `searchmatch.php`, `mymatches.php`). Also following query in `init.php` and `/templates/yourskin/stats.tpl` file should be modified to reflect changed gender codes.

```
$row = $osDB->getRow( 'select sum(if(gender=\M\,1,0)) as gents, sum(if(gender=\F\,1,0)) as females, sum(if(gender=\C\,1,0)) as couples from ! where active = ? and status in (?, ?)', array( USER_TABLE, '1', 'active', get_lang('status_enum','active') ) );
```

You may need to modify the `getsnap.php` to add the default picture for the gender if you add any new Gender code.

4.6 Setting age limits

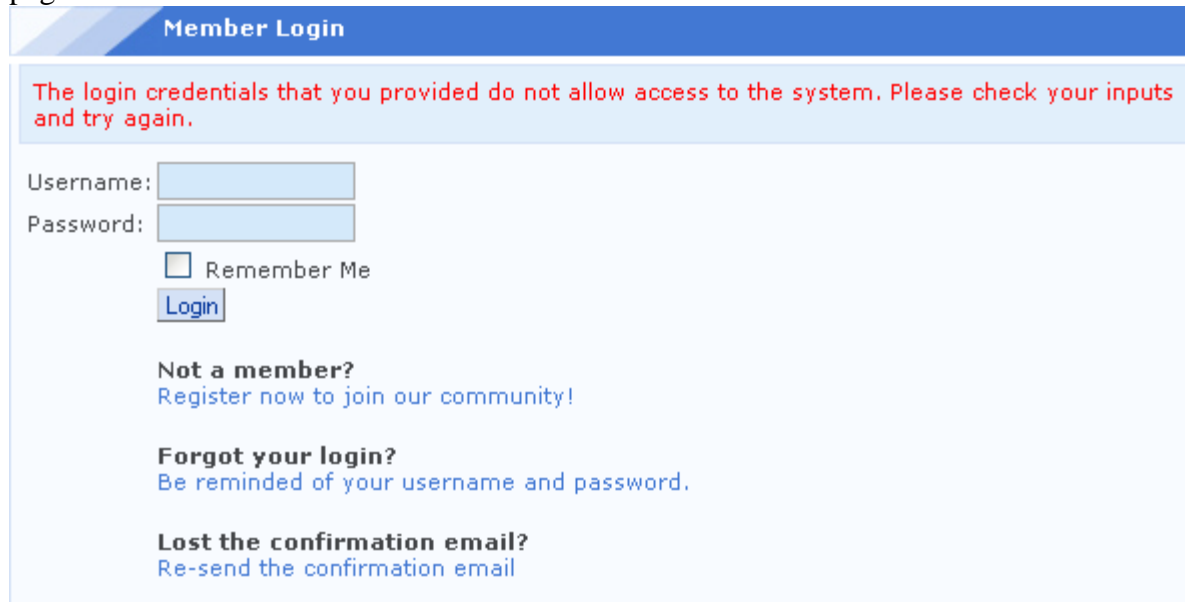
The higher and lower age of for searches can be adjusted by setting following parameters in Admin Site's Global Settings.

Default value for start age range in quick search sets the starting age and **Default value for end age range in quick search** sets the end age value.

These parameters are different from the actual age range for profiles which are set by Global Parameters **Starting value of year in birth date field** (maximum age) and **End value in year of birth date field** (minimum age).

4.7 Member Login

osDate 2.5 allow you to use either the email address or username as login id. You just need to enter any one of these two with password. System will check for correctness based on the value entered. If entered username/email address and password is wrong, system will display the error page shown below.



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Member Login". At the top, a red error message states: "The login credentials that you provided do not allow access to the system. Please check your inputs and try again." Below this, there are input fields for "Username:" and "Password:". A checkbox labeled "Remember Me" is positioned below the password field. A blue "Login" button is located below the checkbox. Further down, there are three links: "Not a member? Register now to join our community!", "Forgot your login? Be reminded of your username and password.", and "Lost the confirmation email? Re-send the confirmation email".

Here the user can reset the password by clicking the link for Password Reminder link. If the user missed confirmation email, new confirmation link can be requested using the link for confirmation email.

4.8 Managing Languages

osDate provide for using multiple languages. Only the displayed captions and permanent texts will be converted into the language of choice, if that language is available in the system. User entered data will not be converted.

4.8.1 Add the language as an option

Edit /temp/myconfigs/config.php file and add new language in following definitions arrays.

```
/* Define Language Options */
$language_options = array(
    'bulgerian' => 'Bulgerian',
    'chinese'   => 'Chinese',
    'dutch'     => 'Dutch',
    'english'   => 'English',
    'french'    => 'French',
```

```
'german'      => 'German',
'greek'       => 'Greek',
'hungarian'   => 'Hungarian',
'italian'     => 'Italian',
'japanese'    => 'Japanese',
'norwegian'   => 'Norway',
'portuguese'  => 'Portuguese',
'romanian'    => 'Romanian',
'russian'     => 'Russian',
'spanish'     => 'Spanish',
'swedish'     => 'Swedish',
'turkish'     => 'Turkish'
);
```

```
$language_files = array(
    'bulgerian' => 'lang_bulgerian/lang_main.php',
    'chinese'   => 'lang_chinese/lang_main.php',
    'dutch'     => 'lang_dutch/lang_main.php',
    'english'   => 'lang_english/lang_main.php',
    'french'    => 'lang_french/lang_main.php',
    'german'    => 'lang_german/lang_main.php',
    'greek'     => 'lang_greek/lang_main.php',
    'hungarian' => 'lang_hungarian/lang_main.php',
    'italian'   => 'lang_italian/lang_main.php',
    'japanese'  => 'lang_japanese/lang_main.php',
    'norwegian' => 'lang_norwegian/lang_main.php',
    'portuguese' => 'lang_portuguese/lang_main.php',
    'romanian'  => 'lang_romanian/lang_main.php',
    'russian'   => 'lang_russian/lang_main.php',
    'spanish'   => 'lang_spanish/lang_main.php',
    'swedish'   => 'lang_swedish/lang_main.php',
    'turkish'   => 'lang_turkish/lang_main.php'
);
```

```
/* For converting languages to other formats */
```

```
$language_conversion = array(
    'bulgerian' => 'bg',
    'chinese'   => 'ch',
    'dutch'     => 'nl',
    'english'   => 'en',
    'french'    => 'fr',
    'german'    => 'de',
    'greek'     => 'el',
    'hungarian' => 'hg',
```

```
'italian'      => 'it',  
'japanese'    => 'jp',  
'norwegian'   => 'nw',  
'portuguese'  => 'pt',  
'romanian'    => 'ro',  
'russian'     => 'ru',  
'spanish'     => 'es',  
'swedish'     => 'sw',  
'turkish'     => 'tr'  
);
```

Ensure the name you use here is the correct language name. This is the name you will use throughout the system for this language.

4.8.2 Set default language for users

Modify /temp/myconfigs/config.php file and modify the line with the desired language name mentioned in languages array.

```
define( 'DEFAULT_LANG', 'english' );
```

4.8.3 Set default admin language

Default admin language can be set in Site's Global Settings. Once this is set and the page is reloaded, this will be the default language until you clear the browser cache and/or change it in Global Settings.

4.8.4 Create new Language definitions - Option 1

- a) Create a folder for new language in /language folder using the name in the format lang_newlang (**newlang** is your new language name in lower case) e.g. like /language/lang_newlang.
- b) Copy the English language file /language/lang_english/lang_main.php to your new language folder
- c) Edit your new language file /language/lang_newlang/lang_main.php. Change the Encoding and all definition value texts. Ensure the file is saved in utf-8 encoded format.
- d) Using Admin->Manage Languages option, load new language file.

4.8.5 Create New Language definitions – Option 2

After log in to admin, using the Manage Languages option, you can manage language definitions. It will show following page.

Manage Languages

First define a new language and file name in config.php (see \$language_options and \$language_files definitions). Then load the language file to the directory /language/lang_xxxx/ as lang_main.php file before proceeding. (xxxx is the language name in lower case. For example: english, dutch, etc.).

To modify existing language definition, opt for "View/Edit definitions".

To remove already loaded language definitions for one language, select the language and click "Remove from DB".

You can create the fully defined language file using loaded definitions for the selected language by clicking "Generate File" (File will be /temp/lang_xxxx/lang_main.php where xxxx is the language you selected.)

Language: Bulgarian

[Load language](#)
[View/Edit Definitions](#)
[Generate File](#)
[Remove from DB](#)

Choose the language you want to define/modify and click on the **View/Edit Definitions** button. System will display all language keys using English language as Base. It will display definitions given for selected language, if that language is loaded.

Manage Languages > View/Edit Definitions for Bulgarian

Main Key: [Search](#)
Results Per Page 5 [Show](#)

Main Key	Sub Key	Action
about_me		
	За мен	Save
about_me_hlp		
	Въведете кратко описание за себе си, което ще впечатли другите и може да ви помогне да получите повече съобщения.	Save
above_lookagestart		
	Потребители над моята начална възрастова граница	Save
accept_tos		
	Прочел съм и приемам href="javascript:popUpScrollWindow('tos.php','center',650,600);">Условия та за ползване	Save
access_denied		
	Достъп отказан	Save

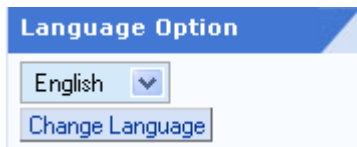
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Change the text for definitions you want to change and save it. Once all changes are over, click on Manage Language option and get back to the screen to manage languages.

Once all changes are done, it is advised to create the language file using the button **Generate File**. This will create a file in /temp folder with the name lang_yourlanguage.php. This newly created file should be copied to /language/lang_yourlanguage/ folder. This will allow you to have a completely defined new language file which may be used to edit and load again.

4.8.6 Language selection box in home page

If you have loaded other languages in addition to English, system will display a language selection box to the user to choose the language they want to use as shown below.



If you don't want this option to appear, edit leftcolumn.tpl file and remove following lines

```
{if $loaded_languages|@count > 1 }  
    {include file="lang_select.tpl"}  
    <br />  
{/if}
```

However, ensure you set the default language for the user before disabling this box.

4.9 Change special offer text

The special offer text as shown below is available in language file (\$lang['offer_text']).

See why osDate is the fastest growing relationship site on the web. Create your osDate profile to begin the exciting journey towards finding your match.

To change this text, you can use any one of the options given in Manage Languages Section described above.

4.10 Site statistics shown in left column

Site Statistics	
Members in Last Week:	0
Total Male Members:	4
Total Female Members:	7
Pictures in Last Week:	0
Members online:	0

osDate shows system statistics summary in the home page as shown above. This statistics will be helpful when your site has grown and there are many members.

You may want to remove this initially. For this, edit leftcolumn.tpl file and remove following lines.

```
{include file="stats.tpl"}  
<br />
```