

# Conversion program vcf2csv V.20.03

Nowadays, many contacts are found in smartphones and even some button phones know how to export phone numbers to **.VCF** format. However, information systems usually accept import in **.CSV** format. Even an ordinary user works with MS Excel or its equivalent, where there is a possibility accept **.CSV** contacts

To convert a **.CSV** phone number file to a **.VCF** format for a mobile phone I published my csv2vcf program years ago. You can find it on the server slunecnize.cz here

<https://www.slunecnice.cz/sw/csv2vcf/>

Sometimes the reverse conversion program vcf2csv may be useful. I originally designed this program just for my private use, but it turned out to be as useful as his friend csv2vcf.

A **.VCF** file can look like this:

```
BEGIN:VCARD
VERSION:3.0
FN:Ing. Frantisek Kamenicky
N:Kamenicky;Frantisek;;Ing.;
EMAIL;TYPE=INTERNET;TYPE=HOME:f.kamenicky@gmail.com
TEL;TYPE=CELL:+421903452761
END:VCARD
```

Hooray, there is everything I need just for Excel it should be in one line. You could edit it for one contact manually, but you usually have 100 or more contacts in a **.VCF** file. So we leave the job to the program.

## 1. File vcf2csv.ini

Required parameters must be stored in **vcf2csv.ini** .

Firstname= **FN:**

Lastname= **N:**

Email= **EMAIL**

Phone= **TEL**

Here I specify the column names of the resulting table to make it understandable. If I omit the line **Email=EMAIL** here in the definition, then the resulting **.CSV** file does not contain the email address even if it is included in the **.VCF** input file.

The program **vcf2csv** has no graphical extension as the menu and therefore I have to specify the file name where to read data by editing the **vcf2csv.ini** :

Firstname=FN:  
Lastname=N:  
Email=EMAIL  
Phone=TEL  
**gmail.vcf**

If I do nothing more, **vcf2csv** creates a file **gmail.csv** . So it takes the name of the output file from the input file and it looks like this:

```
Firstname,Lastname,Email,Phone  
"Ing. Frantisek Kamenicky","Kamenicky Frantisek Ing.,"f.kamenicky@gmail.com","+421903452761"
```

If you do not specify the name of the column, it is set according to the **.VCF** file as follows:

**FN:**  
Lastname=**N:**  
Phone=**TEL**  
Email=**EMAIL**  
gmail.vcf  
test.csv

```
FN:,Lastname,Phone,Email  
"Ing. Frantisek Kamenicky","Kamenicky Frantisek Ing.,"+421903452761",f.kamenicky@gmail.com"
```

Note that the order of the columns in the output file may not be the same as the order in the **.VCF** file. In the last example, the phone number is before the email address. There are cases that you must follow the order and column names to import into other systems. **vcf2csv** allows this.

In the output file, all semicolon characters in the data are replaced with a space so that it does not complicate the delimiter situation.

The abbreviation **.CSV** stands for "Comma Separated Values". If you need a separator other than a comma, edit the **vcf2csv.ini** file by typing only one character in the next line, for example :

Firstname=FN:  
Lastname=N:  
Phone=TEL  
Email=EMAIL  
gmail.vcf  
|

You can use one of the characters as a delimiter

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

You must then define the appropriate character as a delimiter when importing. The same delimiter is used in the header and in the data.

```
Firstname|Lastname|Phone|Email
"Ing. Frantisek Kamenicky"|"Kamenicky Frantisek Ing."|"+421903452761"|f.kamenicky@gmail.com"
```

Sometimes, it may be helpful to limit the number of converted contacts. A mandatory column marked with an asterisk causes the contact where the data value in that column is empty are missing in the output **.CSV** file.

```
Firstname=FN:
Lastname=N:
Phone=TEL
*Email=EMAIL
gmail.vcf
```

In this example, only the lines where the mail address is defined are in the output file.

In the situation for which I create programm, I needed to merge contacts from two mobile phones. I then had two files, such as **alpha.csv** and **beta.csv**. But after their merger, I lost information where the contact comes from.

This can be solved in the program by writing identifications to the **vcf2csv.ini** file.

```
Firstname=FN:
Lastname=N:
Phone=TEL
Ident=Alpha
gmail.vcf
alfa.csv
```

In each line of the output file, programm create a column with the name **Ident** and value **Alpha** as follows:

```
Firstname,Lastname,Phone,Ident
"Ing. Frantisek Kamenicky","Kamenicky Frantisek Ing.","+421903452761","Alpha"
```

## 2. Conclusion

The program is FREEWARE. However, the author reserves the right to decide where the program will be saved for download. If you plan to save the download to another server, please inform the author.

I make the program available as it suits me. If you have an idea how to improve it, write mail.

The vcf2csv.exe program has the following features in the current version:

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