

# How do the common controls convert between ANSI and Unicode?

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Commenter Chris Becke asks how the common controls convert ANSI parameters to Unicode, since the common controls are Unicode internally. Everything goes through `CP_ACP`, pretty much by definition. The ANSI code page is `CP_ACP`. That's what ACP stands for, after all. Now, there are some function families that do not use ANSI. The console subsystem, for example, prefers the OEM character set for its 8-bit strings, and file system functions can go either way, based on the setting controlled by the `SetFileAPIsToANSI` and `SetFileAPIsToOEM` functions.

In the scenario Chris describes, I suspect that the problem is not the ANSI-to-Unicode conversion but rather that the font selected into the listview didn't support the necessary characters.

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