

Migrate from MyISAM to InnoDB

Context: [InnoDB](#) and [MyISAM](#) are [storage engines](#) for the databases supported by Tiki: [MariaDB](#), [MySQL](#) and [Percona Server for MySQL](#).

Tiki uses the database for two types of data:

1. The actual data: wiki pages, blog posts, files (unless you configure to store in filesystem) etc.
 - For Tiki data, MyISAM has been used since the beginning of Tiki (2002). In 2017, the default storage engine became [InnoDB](#).
2. The [Unified Index](#): a copy of your data in a format optimized for search
 - For the unified index, MyISAM has been used since the beginning of Tiki (2002). In 2024 [Tiki28](#), it becomes [InnoDB](#). As a user, you don't need to configure anything. It is all automatic.

MyISAM still works just fine and will for many years. And you can easily convert later.

Migration steps:

1. Make sure you are not using the deprecated tiki-searchresults.php feature (preference name `feature_search_fulltext` and removed after [Tiki26](#)), but instead use `tiki-searchindex.php` (preference name: `feature_search`)
2. Do a full backup of your current database/installation
3. Alter the database engine for all tables to InnoDB using `db/tiki_convert_myisam_to_innodb.sql`

Performing the conversion with phpMyAdmin may cause a PHP timeout. Running the script with the `mysql` command avoids that:

```
mysql -u userName -p databaseName < db/tiki_convert_myisam_to_innodb.sql
```

Nevertheless, step 4 may fail converting the `tiki_files` table if `innodb_log_file_size` is not high enough. In one case, 25 MB was insufficient (80 MB sufficed).

The source code lives here: https://gitlab.com/tikiwiki/tiki/-/blob/master/db/tiki_convert_myisam_to_innodb.sql (This is for master, so you may want to look for corresponding file for your Tiki version)

In a future version, we will have a [Console](#) script: https://gitlab.com/tikiwiki/tiki/-/merge_requests/4915