

# MySQL Error Number 1005 Can't create table 'sometable' (errno: 150)

Since translate5 is working with foreign key constraints, it can happen that the DB returns the above mentioned error on creating a table or modifying a column related to a foreign key.

Basically the SQL command

```
SHOW INNODB STATUS;
```

called directly after the above error, gives a little bit more information as the error message itself.

For a whole list of possible reasons for the error see [http://verysimple.com/2006/10/22/mysql-error-number-1005-cant-create-table-mysqldb-328\\_45frm-errno-150/](http://verysimple.com/2006/10/22/mysql-error-number-1005-cant-create-table-mysqldb-328_45frm-errno-150/)

Reasons for this error can using datatype A on column one and datatype B using on foreign key column. This can be recognized fast by comparing the table and field definitions.

Not so obviously is the fact, that if your are trying to use a varchar field (or string type in general) as a foreign key field, the charsets and collations have also to be the same on both fields.

**That led to the convention, that table create statements must have a charset!**

To check and modify table and database charsets, the following commands can be used:

**Get database default character\_set:**

```
SELECT default_character_set_name FROM information_schema.SCHEMATA WHERE schema_name =  
"<DATABASE_NAME>" ;
```

**Get all columns not configured as utf8mb4:**

```
SELECT TABLE_CATALOG, TABLE_SCHEMA, TABLE_NAME, COLUMN_NAME, COLLATION_NAME, CHARACTER_SET_NAME from  
information_schema.columns where CHARACTER_SET_NAME != 'utf8mb4';
```

**Change the default character set and collation of a database:**

```
ALTER DATABASE <database_name> CONVERT TO CHARACTER SET utf8mb4 COLLATE utf8mb4_unicode_ci;
```

**Additional Errors produced due the missing charset:**

```
SQLSTATE[HY000]: General error: 1267 Illegal mix of collations (latin1_swedish_ci,IMPLICIT) and  
(utf8_general_ci,COERCIBLE) for operation '=', query was:
```