

ERM Create a Pipe Delimited Text File Using Windows 10 QRG - Employer

Use this Quick Reference Guide (QRG) to create a pipe delimited text file (txt) from a comma separated values (csv) file to upload information into the Employer Reporting and Management (ERM) application.

These instructions are for working with an Excel workbook/spreadsheet.

Pipe Delimited Text File Topics Covered

- Setup Microsoft Control Panel
- Export from Excel
- Save as Text File from Notepad

NOTE: Microsoft will no longer support Windows 10 after October 2025; however, the files you create for ERM upload, because their final format is a pipe delimited (|) file created either from Excel or Notepad, can continue to be used for ERM uploads.

1 Setup Microsoft Control Panel

- Click in the **Search Windows** field and type **Region** and press **Enter** (Figure 1). The **Region** window displays (Figure 2). The **Formats** tab is the default.
- Click the **Additional settings** button. The **Customize Format** window displays (Figure 3). The **Numbers** tab is the default.

Figure 1: Search Windows, Region

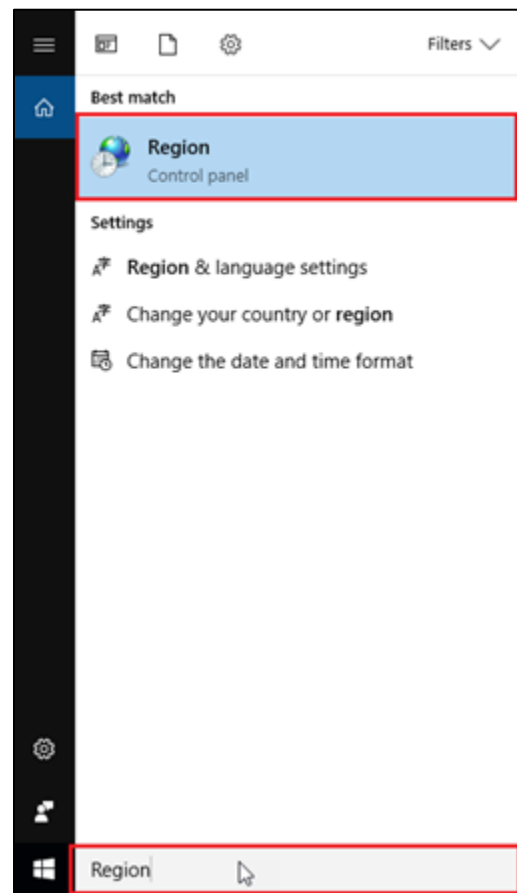
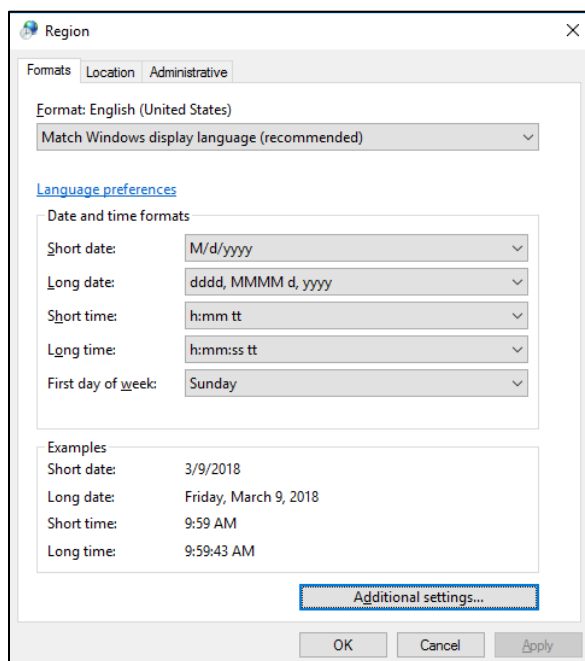


Figure 2: Region window, Formats tab



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Figure 3: Customize Format

- On the **Customize Format** window, on the **Numbers** tab (Figure 3), go to the **List separator** field and click the ▼. Select the pipe delimiter (|) from the options.
- Click **Apply** then click **OK**.
- On the **Numbers** tab (Figure 5), go to the **List separator** field and click the ▼. Select the pipe delimiter (|) from the options.
- Click **Apply** then click **OK**.

NOTE: For other files that need to be comma delimited, return to the **List separator** field and change it back to show a comma (,).

2 Export from Excel

- Launch Excel. For the purposes of this exercise Figure 4 is the Excel file.
- In the Excel file, go to the last populated cell in Row 1 and move to the cell that follows and use the Spacebar. This will insert a required pipe delimiter to separate records once the file is exported.
- Save the file as a delimited file by clicking **File > Export > Change file type > CSV (Comma delimited)**. See Figure 5.
- Click the **Save As** button (Figure 5) and the Save As window displays (Figure 6).

Figure 4: Excel File

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB
1	10312008	5																										
2	80	9000000	PERF	000000000		Smith	1300.00		39.00	81.90								10012008	10312008	R								
3	80	9000000	PERF	111111111		Warren	1300.00		39.00	81.90								10012008	10312008	R								
4	80	9000000	PERF	222222222		Spark	1300.00		39.00	81.90								10012008	10312008	R								
5	80	9000000	PERF	333333333		Taylor	1300.00		39.00	81.90								10012008	10312008	R								
6	80	9000000	PERF	444444444		Baker	1300.00		39.00	81.90								10012008	10312008	R								

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Figure 5: Export to CSV

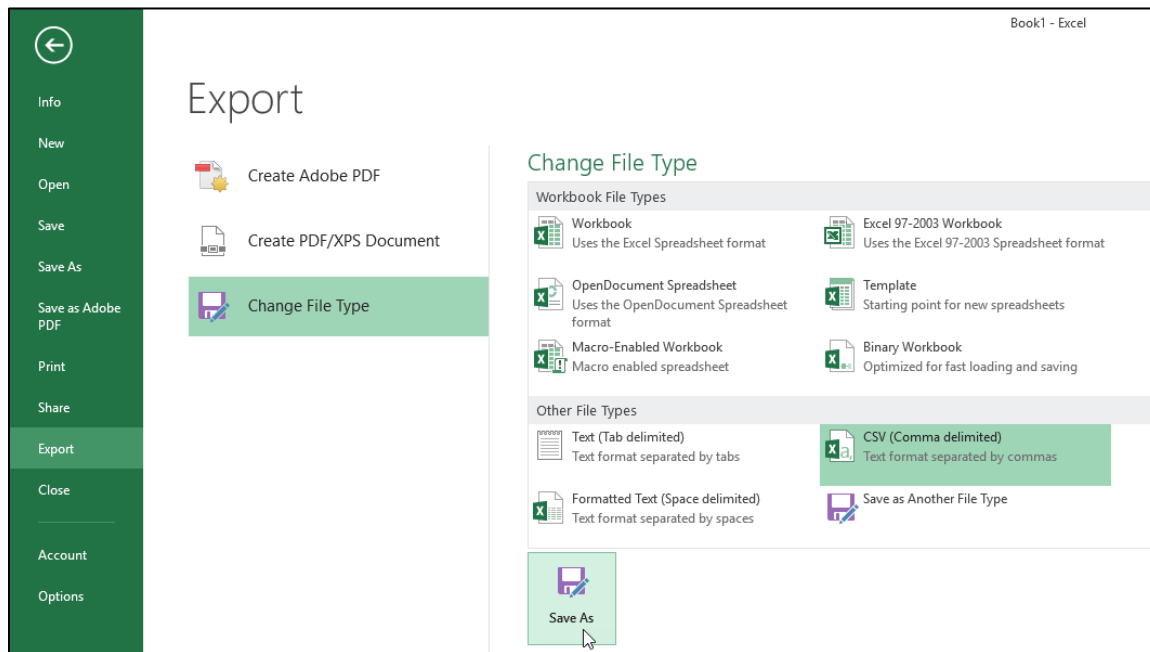
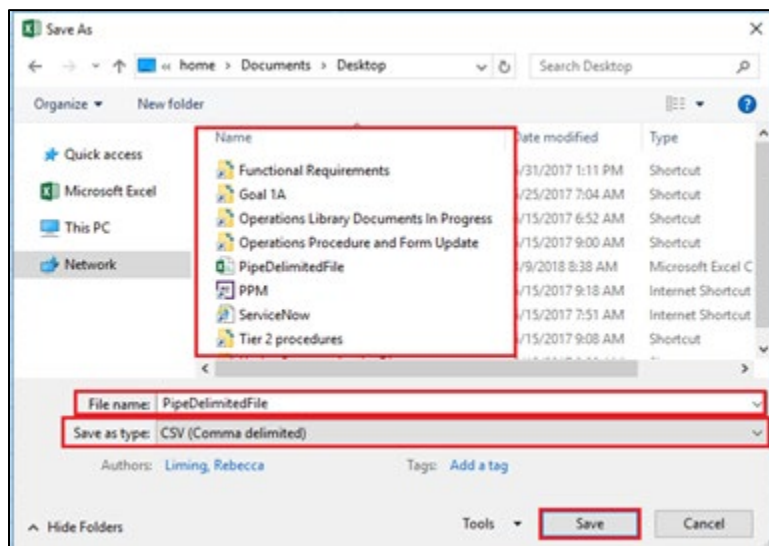


Figure 6: Save As



- On the **Save As** window, select the directory where the file is to be saved.
- Enter the **File name**.
- Select **CSV (Comma delimited) (*.csv)** from the **Save as type** drop down list if it has not already defaulted to that.
- Click **Save**.

3 Save as Text (*.txt) File from Notepad

This can be done two ways.

- Launch Notepad and choose **File > Open** and select the csv file that was saved.
- Highlight the csv file that was saved and right click. Select **Open with > Notepad**.

The results are the same, the csv file opens in Notepad (Figure 10).

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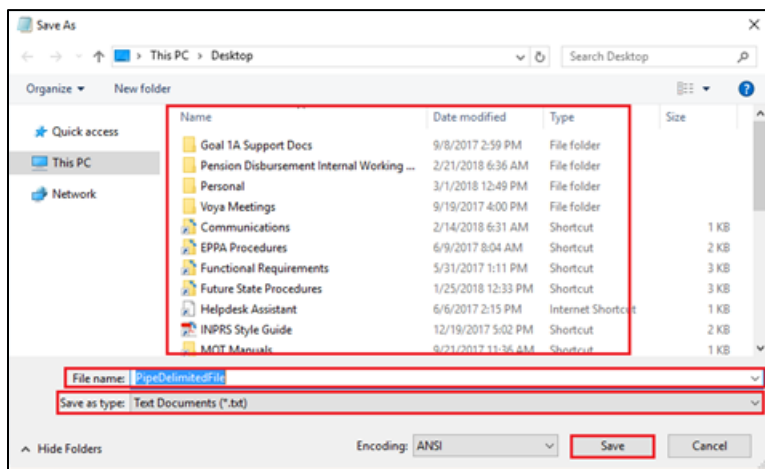
Notice the pipe delimiters (|) between the fields and at the end of each record. There are also pipe delimiters beyond the data. In order to remedy this, do the following:

- Highlight the populated lines in Notepad, stopping with the last delimiter at the end of the last populated field.
- Use **File > Copy** or **Ctrl + C** to copy the selected data onto the clipboard.
- Close Notepad choosing **Do not save**.
- Open Notepad again.
- In Notepad click **Ctrl + V** to paste the data into the file.
- Click **File > Save as**. The **Save As** window displays.
- Make sure the correct directory is selected.
- Make sure the **File name** is correct.
- Make sure that **Save as type** is **Text Documents (*.txt)**.
- Click **Save**.

Figure 10: *.csv File in Notepad

```
10312008|5|
80|9000000|PERF|000000000|SMITH|1300.00|39.00|81.90|||||||10012008|10312008|R|
80|9000000|PERF|111111111|WARREN|1300.00|39.00|81.90|||||||10012008|10312008|R|
80|9000000|PERF|222222222|SPARK|1300.00|39.00|81.90|||||||10012008|10312008|R|
80|9000000|PERF|333333333|TAYLOR|1300.00|39.00|81.90|||||||10012008|10312008|R|
80|9000000|PERF|444444444|BAKER|1300.00|39.00|81.90|||||||10012008|10312008|R|
```

Figure 11: Save As, Text Documents (*.txt)



Provided all the data fields are present in the export, this file is now in the format required to use in the ERM upload.