Remove Special Characters Developer Reference

Developers · https://wpfactory.com/docs/special-characters-developer-reference/

This developer reference lists the hooks, stored data and query helpers in Remove Special Characters From Permalinks (URLs) for WordPress (free 1.1.1 and Pro 1.0.8). There is nothing to configure here in the admin; the Pro settings live at **Settings > Special Characters** and the bulk tool at **Tools > Remove Characters**.

How the save-time cleanup is wired

The free plugin (and the copy bundled inside Pro) hooks `WPFactory\RSCFP\Core::insert_post_data()` to the core filter `wp_insert_post_data` at priority 10. The callback returns the data unchanged when the post has no ID, when it is a revision, or when the decoded `post_name` contains only `a-z`, `A-Z`, `0-9`, hyphen, underscore and dot. Otherwise it stores the current permalink path in post meta, then rebuilds `post_name` with `remove_accents()`, a regular expression that deletes everything outside that set, and `sanitize_title_with_dashes()`.

Because the filter runs after WordPress has already made the slug unique, the cleaned slug is not checked for uniqueness again.

Hooks

Hook	Type	Version	Description
`trscfp_init`	Filter	Free (and the free code inside Pro)	Return anything other than `true` to stop the save-time cleanup from initializing. It is applied while the plugin file loads, so add your callback in a must-use plugin. It does not disable Pro's settings, bulk tool or redirects.

Hook	Type	Version	Description
`trscfp_on_activation`	Action	Free	Fires on the first `admin_init` after the free plugin is activated. The plugin uses it to show its promotional notice.
`trscfp_on_deactivation`	Action	Free	Fires when the free plugin is deactivated.
`trscfp_remove_button`	Action	Pro	Fired on `admin_init` when the **Remove special characters** form is submitted. Pro attaches `Special_Characters::create_characters_removal_bkg_process()`, which cancels any running queue and queues every matching published post.

Stored data

Key	Where	Description
`_trscfp_original_post_name`	Post meta	The post's permalink path relative to the home URL, without a trailing slash, recorded just before the slug is cleaned (free and Pro). Overwritten on each cleanup. Pro's Force Redirection matches the 404 request path against this value.
`trscfp_general`	Option (Pro)	Array with `redirect` (`on` or `off`, default `off`) and `email` (default: site admin email).
`trscfp_on_activation`	Option (free)	Temporary flag set on activation and deleted on the next admin page load.

Query helper (Pro)

Pro filters `posts_where`. Any `WP_Query` with the query var `trscfp` set to `post_name` gets an extra condition `post_name REGEXP '[^a-zA-Z0-9-_.]'`, which returns only posts whose slug contains special characters (URL-encoded slugs match because of the `%` sign).

```
$query = new WP_Query( array(
	'post_type'      => 'any',
```

```
    'post_status'    => 'publish',
    'posts_per_page' => -1,
    'fields'         => 'ids',
    'trscfp'         => 'post_name',
) );
```

Background process (Pro)

The bulk tool uses the WP Background Processing library with the action `trscfp_remove`, so its identifier is `wp_trscfp_remove`. The library's standard filters use that prefix, for example `wp_trscfp_remove_default_time_limit` (seconds per batch, default 20) and `wp_trscfp_remove_cron_interval` (health check interval in minutes, default 5). The health check cron event is `wp_trscfp_remove_cron`. When the queue completes, an email is sent to the `email` setting with `wp_mail()`.

Redirects (Pro)

`WPFactory\RSCFP\Pro\Redirect::handle_redirects()` runs on `template_redirect`. It acts only when `is_404()` is true, the `redirect` setting is `on` and the request path is not empty. It then queries published posts of any type whose `_trscfp_original_post_name` equals `$wp->request` and issues `wp_redirect( get_the_permalink(), 301 )` for the first match.

Examples

Turn off the save-time cleanup

Place this in a file in `wp-content/mu-plugins/` so it loads before the plugin:

```
add_filter( 'trscfp_init', '__return_false' );
```

Read a post's original path

```
$old_path = get_post_meta( $post_id, '_trscfp_original_post_name', true );
```



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- Getting Started with Remove Special Characters From Permalinks