My Google is in Japanese!

Sonny Ashimori 2014-03-18

Google thinks it's smart

When you point your browser to http://www.google.com/, the server detects your current location based on your IP address. If you are accessing it from Australia, you would be redirected to http://www.google.com.au/, and if you are in the U.K, http://www.google.co.uk/ etc.

If you want to always get to http://www.google.com/ regardless of your current location, point your browser to http://www.google.com/ncr and you will get there. You can bookmark this URL in your browser or make it your default home page.

But that doesn't help when you make a Google search from the address or search field in your web browser. Your search results will still be displayed the language that Google thinks you should use, based on your location. This can be really annoying.

What you can do

You can't stop Google thinking your language is Japanese just because you are in Japan. After all, 99% of Google users in Japan are happy with that auto-detection.

You can set your personal preference and set your preferred language if you keep your browser logged in to your Google account.

If you are having this problem, first, at the Google top page, check that you are logged in to your Google account.

Then click the 設定 (Settings) link near the lower right corner of the page.

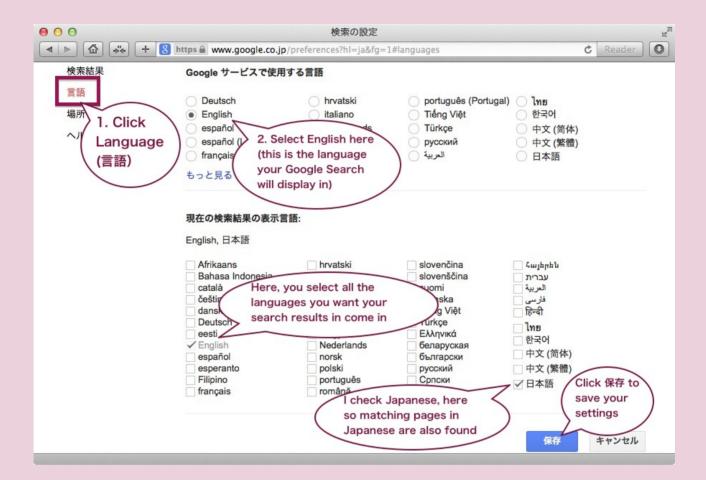
Then, click the 検索設定 (Search Settings) link.



In the next window, click the 言語 (Language) link in the left column.

Then, select English as your preferred language in Google Search. This is the language your search results are displayed in.

Lastly, select the languages that you want the matching pages to be found in. Even though you prefer English as your main language, you may be fluent in several other languages. Then select all the languages you can read comfortably. All matching pages written in these languages, based on your search words, will be found in your search results.



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