

**NAME**

Encode::MIME::Header -- MIME 'B' and 'Q' header encoding

**SYNOPSIS**

```
use Encode qw/encode decode/;
$utf8    = decode('MIME-Header', $header);
$header  = encode('MIME-Header', $utf8);
```

**ABSTRACT**

This module implements RFC 2047 Mime Header Encoding. There are 3 variant encoding names; MIME-Header, MIME-B and MIME-Q. The difference is described below

	decode()	encode()
MIME-Header	Both B and Q	=?UTF-8?B?....?=
MIME-B	B only; Q croaks	=?UTF-8?B?....?=
MIME-Q	Q only; B croaks	=?UTF-8?Q?....?=

**DESCRIPTION**

When you `decode(=?encoding?X?ENCODED WORD?)`, *ENCODED WORD* is extracted and decoded for *X* encoding (B for Base64, Q for Quoted-Printable). Then the decoded chunk is fed to `decode(encoding)`. So long as *encoding* is supported by Encode, any source encoding is fine.

When you encode, it just encodes UTF-8 string with *X* encoding then quoted with `=?UTF-8?X?....?=`. The parts that RFC 2047 forbids to encode are left as is and long lines are folded within 76 bytes per line.

**BUGS**

It would be nice to support encoding to non-UTF8, such as `=?ISO-2022-JP?` and `=?ISO-8859-1?` but that makes the implementation too complicated. These days major mail agents all support `=?UTF-8?` so I think it is just good enough.

Due to popular demand, 'MIME-Header-ISO\_2022\_JP' was introduced by Makamaka. There are still too many MUAs especially cellular phone handsets which does not grok UTF-8.

**SEE ALSO**

*Encode*

RFC 2047, <http://www.faqs.org/rfcs/rfc2047.html> and many other locations.