

## The Trac Wiki System

Trac has a built-in wiki system which you can use for organizing knowledge and information in a very flexible way by [creating pages](#) containing an intuitive and easy to learn textual markup. This text markup is also used in all other parts of the system, not only in [wiki pages](#), but also in [ticket](#) description and comments, [check-in log messages](#), [milestone](#) descriptions and [report](#) descriptions, even in third-party extensions. It allows for formatted text and hyperlinks in and between all Trac modules.

Editing wiki text is easy, using any web browser and a simple [formatting system](#), rather than more complex markup languages like HTML. The reasoning behind its design is that HTML, with its large collection of nestable tags, is too complicated to allow fast-paced editing, and distracts from the actual content of the pages. Note though that Trac also supports [HTML](#), [reStructuredText](#) and [Textile](#) as alternative markup formats, which can eventually be used in parts of a page (so called wiki "blocks").

The main goal of the wiki is to make editing text easier and *encourage* people to contribute and annotate text content for a project. Trac also provides a simple toolbar to make formatting text even easier, and supports the [universal edit button](#) of your browser.

The wiki itself does not enforce any structure, but rather resembles a stack of empty sheets of paper, where you can organize information and documentation as you see fit, and later reorganize if necessary. As contributing to a wiki is essentially building hypertext, general advice regarding HTML authoring apply here as well. For example, the [Style Guide for online hypertext](#) explains how to think about the [overall structure of a work](#) and how to organize information [within each document](#). One of the most important tip is "make your HTML page such that you can read it even if you don't follow any links."

Learn more about:

- [WikiFormatting](#) rules, including advanced topics like [WikiMacros](#) and [WikiProcessors](#)
- How to use [WikiPageNames](#) and other forms of [TracLinks](#) which are used to refer in a precise way to any resource within Trac

If you want to practice editing, please use the [SandBox](#). Note that not all Trac wikis are editable by anyone, this depends on the local policy; check with your Trac administrators.

Before saving your changes, you can *Preview* the page or *Review the Changes* you've made. You can get an automatic preview of the formatting as you type when you activate the *Edit Side-by-side* mode (you have to Preview the page for the setting to take effect). *There is a [configurable delay](#) between when you make your edit and when the automatic preview will update.*

Some more information about wikis on the web:

- A definition of [Wiki](#), in a famous wiki encyclopedia
- The [History](#) of the original wiki
- A wiki page explaining [why wiki works](#)

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See also: [TracGuide](#)