

From EULER Project

PmWiki: Basic PmWiki editing rules

The pages on this site are Wiki Wiki Web pages, which means that pages can be created and edited by multiple authors. To edit a page, click the **Edit** link that exists **somewhere** on the page, usually in the header or footer. Some pages may be password-protected, depending on the system's security policies, but many systems allow open editing of pages.

PmWiki is not WYSIWYG - When editing a page, you see the *markup text* that describes the content of the page. The basic rules for page markup are simple:

1. Use a blank line to start a new paragraph more.
2. To make a list, start each line with # for numbered (ordered) lists or * for bulleted (unordered) lists more.
3. To make a heading, start a line with two or more ! marks; !! is a subheading, and !!! is a sub-subheading more.
4. To emphasize text, enclose it in 2 or 3 *single quotes*; ' 'text ' ' for italics or ' ' 'text ' ' ' for bold more.
5. To make a link to another page, enclose the page's name in double brackets; for example [[basic editing]] links to this page more.
6. To make a link to another site, type its address, such as http://example.com/ more.

If you want to experiment with editing a page, try it on the Wiki Sandbox. You can edit the Wiki Sandbox without affecting anything important on this site. If you do edit other pages, it's courteous to **sign** your contribution; using ~~~ effectively 'signs' the name that you provide in the Author field on the Page Edit form.

Examples of common markups

The table below demonstrates many of the common markups used to format pages. The right column shows the effect of the markup, the left column shows what to write to achieve the effect. More details are available from the text formatting rules and other documentation pages. An exhaustive list of default markup is available as the markup master index.

Paragraphs and line breaks

What to type	What it looks like
Consecutive lines will be merged together as part of the same paragraph.	Consecutive lines will be merged together as part of the same paragraph.
One or more empty lines will start a new paragraph.	One or more empty lines will start a new paragraph.
Two backslashes at the end of a line \\ force a line break.	Two backslashes at the end of a line force a line break.
Or use this markup: [[<<]] to force a break.	Or use this markup: to force a break.

Further reading:

- [text formatting rules](#) for more information on linebreaks, indented or hanging paragraphs.
- [wiki styles](#) for centered or right justified paragraphs and "floating" text (boxes), borders and much more.

Lists

Start each line with # for numbered (ordered) lists or * for bulleted (unordered) lists:

<pre>* Bullet list * Another item ** More asterisks produce sub-items ** etc.</pre>	• Bullet list • Another item ◆ More asterisks produce sub-items ◆ etc.
<pre># Numbered lists # Another item ## more hashes produce sub-items</pre>	1. Numbered lists 2. Another item 1. more hashes produce sub-items
<pre># List types # can be mixed ** numbered list with unordered sub-list</pre>	1. List types 2. can be mixed ◆ numbered list with unordered sub-list

Learn more about [lists](#) (including [definition lists](#)) and [list styles](#).

Headings

Headings are useful for creating a "well-structured" page. They're not just for making big text.

What to type	What it looks like
<pre>!! Major Subheading !!! Minor Subheading !!!! And More !!!!! Subheadings</pre>	Major Subheading Minor Subheading And More Subheadings

Text Emphasis

To emphasize, enclose text in apostrophes (single-quote marks), not double-quotes.

What to type	What it looks like
<code>'Emphasize'</code> (italics),	<i>Emphasize</i> (italics), strong (bold), <i>very strong</i> (bold italics).

```
'''strong''' (bold),  
''''very strong'''' (bold italics).
```

Links

To make a link to another page, enclose the page's name in double square brackets.

What to type What it looks like

Practice editing in the `[[wiki sandbox]]` Practice editing in the wiki sandbox

Note that words are automatically *capitalized* in page titles. The link above links to the page WikiSandbox.

Text after a pipe (|) is used as the link text:

Practice editing in the `[[WikiSandbox | practice area]]`. Practice editing in the practice area.

Endings become part of the link text, parentheses hide parts of the link name:

`[[wiki sandbox]]es.` wiki sandboxes.

`[[ (wiki) sandbox ]]`. sandbox.

When linking to a page in a different WikiGroup, provide the group name, followed by a separator, and then the page name:

`[[Main.Wiki Sandbox]]` shows group + name Main.Wiki Sandbox shows group + name

`[[Main/Wiki Sandbox]]` shows only name Wiki Sandbox shows only name

Links to external sites

bare url: `http://google.com` bare url: `http://google.com(approve sites)`

link text: `[[http://google.com | Google]]` link text: `Google(approve sites)`

Colons make InterMap (also called InterWiki) links to other wikis:

What's an `[[Wikipedia:aardvark]]`, What's an Wikipedia:aardvark, anyway?
anyway?

Links to nonexistent pages? are displayed specially, to invite others to create the page.

PmWiki supports more link types and a lot of display options, see Links to learn more.

Preformatted text

Preformatted text is displayed using a monospace font and not generating linebreaks except where explicitly indicated in the markup.

Note that very long lines of preformatted text can cause the whole page to be wide.

For preformatted text with markup (e.g. emphasis) being processed, start each line with a space:

Lines that begin with a spece are formatted exactly as typed in a <code>'''fixed-width'''</code> font.	Lines that begin with a spece are formatted exactly as typed in a fixed-width font.
--	--

Text Emphasis

If you don't want Wiki markup to be processed, use [`@ @`]. Can also be used inline.

```
[@                               Text escaped this way has
Text escaped this way has the HTML ''code'' style
the HTML ''code'' style
@]
```

Escape sequence

If you don't want Wiki markup to be processed, but lines reformatted use [`= =`]. Can also be used inline.

```
[=                               markup is "not" processed but lines are reformatted
markup is ''not'' processed
but lines are reformatted
=]
```

Horizontal line

```
Four or more dashes at          Four or more dashes at the beginning of a line
the beginning of a line
----
produce a "horizontal rule"      produce a "horizontal rule"
```

Tables

Simple tables use double pipe characters to separate cells:

```
|| border=1
||! head 1 ||! head 2 ||! head 3 ||
|| cell 1  || cell 2  || cell 3  ||
```

head 1	head 2	head 3
cell 1	cell 2	cell 3

See [simple tables](#) and [advanced tables](#) to learn more about the rich feature set of PmWiki tables.

Images

See [Images](#)

Character formatting

What to type What it looks like

* @@Monospaced text@@	• Monospaced text
* Text with '^superscripts^'	• Text with superscripts
* Text with '_subscripts_'	• Text with subscripts
* deleted {-strikethrough-} text	• deleted strikethrough text
* inserted {+underline+} text	• inserted <u>underline</u> text
* [+big+], [++bigger++] text	• big, bigger text
* [-small-], [--smaller--] text	• small, smaller text

Use [WikiStyles](#) to change the text color .

Page titles

- The `(:title:)` directive sets the page's title to something other than its page name.

`(:Title Basic PmWiki editing rules:)` The title of this page is Basic PmWiki editing rules, spaced as The title of this page is `{ $Title }`, Basic PmWiki editing rules. spaced as `{ $Titlespaced }`.

Page Description

- The `(:Description Page summary here:)` directive sets the page description. The description is used by search engines, and can displayed in search results and in [page lists](#).

`(:Description PmWiki's basic edit syntax:)` The summary description of this page is PmWiki's basic edit syntax.
The summary description of this page is `{ $Description }`.

I'm new to PmWiki, where can I find some basic help for getting started?

The [Basic Editing](#) page is a good start. From there, you can just follow the navigational links at the bottom of the page (they are called [Wiki Trails](#)) to the next pages, or to the [Documentation Index](#) page, which provides an outline style index of essential documentation pages, organized from basic to advanced.

How do I include special characters such as Copyright (©) and Trademark (® or ™) on my wiki pages?

See [special characters](#) on how to insert special characters that don't appear on your keyboard.

Why are separate lines of text in the markup combined into a single line on output?

PmWiki normally treats consecutive lines of text as being a paragraph, and merges and wraps lines together on output. This is consistent with most other wiki packages. An author can use the `(:linebreaks:)` directive to cause separate lines of markup text to be kept as separate lines in the output. A wiki administrator can set in `config.php` `$HTMLPNewline = '<br/>';` to force literal new lines.

Can I just enter HTML directly?

By default (and by design), PmWiki does not support the use of HTML elements in the editable markup for wiki pages. There are a number of reasons for this described in the [PmWiki Philosophy](#) and [PmWiki:Audiences](#). Enabling HTML markup within wiki pages in a collaborative environment may exclude some potential authors from being able to edit pages, and pose a number of display and security issues. However, a site administrator can use the [Cookbook:Enable HTML](#) recipe to enable the use of HTML markup directly in pages.

Where can I find more documentation?

See the [documentation index](#) and the [markup master index](#) pages.

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