

From EULER Project

PmWiki: FAQ

This page will attempt to summarize some of the more commonly asked questions. The answers are on the corresponding pages (see link). If you have a question which isn't answered here, you can leave your question on the [Questions](#) page or search for documentation using the [search](#) facility. More documentation can be found on the [documentation index](#) page.

Introduction

What is PmWiki?

PmWiki is a wiki-based system for collaborative creation and maintenance of websites. See [PmWiki](#).

What can I do with it?

PmWiki pages look and act like normal web pages, except they have an "[Edit](#)" link that makes it easy to modify existing pages and add new pages into the website, using [basic editing](#) rules. You do not need to know or use any HTML or CSS. Page editing can be left open to the public or restricted to small groups of authors. Feel free to experiment with the [Text Formatting Rules](#) in the "[Wiki sandbox](#)". The website you're currently viewing is built and maintained with PmWiki.

What are the requirements?

See the [PmWiki requirements](#) page.

Where can I find documentation?

See the [documentation index](#) page.

How can I download PmWiki?

See the [download](#) page.

How do I install PmWiki?

Instructions for installation are on the [installation page](#).

How do I get help with PmWiki?

See [Mailing lists](#) and [How to get assistance](#).

Basic PmWiki editing rules

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 = '
';` 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.

Creating New Pages

How do I create a new page?

Typing `[[my new page]]` will create a link to the new page. There's [a lot you can do](#) with double bracket links.

Why do some new pages have a title with spaces like "Creating New Pages" and others end up with a WikiWord-like title like "CreatingNewPages"?

The default page title is simply the name of page, which is normally stored as "CreatingNewPages." However, you can override a page's title by using the `(:title Creating New Pages:)` markup. This is especially useful when there are special characters or capitalization that you want in the title that cannot be used in the page name.

Links

How do I create a link that will open as a new window?

Use the `%newwin%` wikistyle, as in:

```
%newwin% http://example.com/ %% http://example.com/
```

How do I create a link that will open a new window, and configure that new window?

This requires javascript. See [Cookbook:PopupWindow](#).

How do I place a mailing address in a page?

Use the `mailto:` markup, as in one of the following:

<pre>* mailto:myaddress@example.com * [[mailto:myaddress@example.com]] * [[mailto:myaddress@example.com email me]] * [[mailto:myaddress@example.com?subject=Some subject email me]]@]</pre>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• myaddress@example.com• mailto:myaddress@example.com• email me• email me@
---	---

The markup

`[[mailto:me@example.com?cc=someoneelse@example.com&bcc=else@example.com&subject=Subject&body=Pre-set body | display text]] =]` lets you specify more parameters like the message body and more recipients (may not work in all browsers and e-mail clients).

See also [Cookbook:EProtect](#) or [Cookbook:ProtectEmail](#) for information on protecting email addresses from spammers.

How can I enable links to other protocols, such as `nnntp:`, `ssh:`, `xmpp:`, etc?

See [Cookbook:Add Url schemes](#)

How do I make a WikiWord link to an external page instead of a WikiPage?

Use link markup. There are two formats:

```
[[http://example.com/ | WikiWord]]
[[WikiWord -> http://example.com/]]
```

How do I find all of the pages that link to another page (i.e., backlinks)?

In the wiki search form, use `link=Group.Page` to find all pages linking to `Group.Page`.

Use the `link=` option of the [\(:pagelist:\)](#) directive, as in

```
(:pagelist link=SomePage list=all:)    -- show all links to SomePage
(:pagelist link={$FullName} list=all:) -- show all links to the current page
```

What link schemes does PmWiki support?

See [PmWiki:Link schemes](#)

How do I open external links in a new window or mark them with an icon?

See [Cookbook:External links](#)

How can I use an image as a link?

Use `[[Page|Attach:image.jpg]]` or `[[http://site | http://site/image.jpg]]` See [Images#links](#)

Images

Is it possible to link an image on PmWiki without using a fully qualified URL?

Yes. For images that are attachments, the general format is `Attach:Groupname/image.gif`. To link to an image that is on the same server, use `Path:/path/to/image.gif`.

Can I attach a client image file on PmWiki?

Yes, see [Uploads](#).

How can I include a page from another group that contains an attached image?

Include the page in the normal way, ie `(:include GroupName.Pagename:)`. In the page to be included (that contains the image) change `Attach:filename.ext` to `Attach:{$Group}./filename.ext`.

Why, if I put an image with `rframe` or `rfloat` and immediatly after that I open a new page section with `!` the section title row is below the image instead of on the left side?

Because the CSS for **headings** such as `!` contains an element **clear:both** which forces this behaviour. Redefine the CSS locally if you want to stop this happening, but I think the bottom border (that underlines the heading) would need further re-definition. I just use bolding for the title, and 4 dashes below `----` to separate a new section, and it saves the effort of fiddling with the core definitions.

Unlike the **lframe** and **rframe** directives, **cframe** does not fully honour the width setting. While the frame itself resizes to match the request, the enclosed image does not, and retains its original width. Effect is the same in IE and Fx. I've added an example beneath the standard example above.

Is it possible to disallow all images? I already disabled uploads but I also want to disallow external images from being shown on my wiki pages.

Yes, add to `config.php`

```
DisableMarkup('img');
$ImgExtPattern = "$^";
```

How can I make it so that when I place an image in a page, the block of text it is in is a `<p>` (paragraph) rather than a `<div>` (division)?

If you just want it to happen for a single image (instead of all), then try putting `[==]` at the beginning of the line, as in:

```
[==] http://www.pmwiki.org/pub/pmwiki/pmwiki-32.gif
```

Having `[==]` at the beginning of a line forces whatever follows to be part of a paragraph.

Is there any way to use relative paths for images?

See [Cookbook:RelativeLinks](#) and [\\$EnableLinkPageRelative](#).

Is there a way to attach a BMP and have it display rather than link?

PmWiki supports `.bmp` images out of the box. If you insist on using an uppercase extension see [Cookbook:AddImageType](#).

Is there a way to have a table to the left or right of an image?

Yes, see [TableAndImage](#).

Uploads

When I upload a file, how do I make the link look like "file.doc" instead of "[Attach:file.doc](#) Δ"?

Use parentheses, as in `[[(Attach:) file.doc]]`. There is also a configuration change that can eliminate the `Attach:` -- see [Cookbook:AttachLinks](#).

Why can't I upload files of size more than 50kB to my newly installed PmWiki?

Out of the box PmWiki limits the size of files to be uploaded to 50kB. Add

```
$UploadMaxSize = 1000000; # limit upload file size to 1 megabyte
```

to your *config.php* to increase limit to 1MB (for example). See [UploadsAdmin](#) for how to further customize limits. Note that both PHP and web servers also place their own limits on the size of uploaded files. Why does my upload exit unexpectedly with "Incomplete file received"?

You may be running out of space in a 'scratch' area, used either by PmWiki or by PHP. On *nix, check that you have sufficient free space in `/tmp` and `/var/tmp`.

How do I make it so that the upload link still allows one to make another upload (if someone wants to replace the old version of a file with a newer version, for example). Currently you only get the upload link when there is no file in the upload directory.

Use the [Attach page action](#), and click on the delta symbol (Δ) shown against each of files listed. If you can't see the attach action either uploads are not enabled, you are not authorized to upload, or the attach action has been commented out or is missing. See also [available actions](#).

How do I hide the "Attach:" for all attachments

See [Cookbook:AttachLinks](#), note that this does not currently work for `[[Attach:my file.ext]]`.

How to avoid problems with non-ASCII characters in attachment names (i.e. "Zażółć gęślą jaźń.doc")?

```
See $UploadNameChars = "-\w. !+=#"; # allow exclamations, equals, plus, and hash
```

How can I link a file that have a 4-letter file extension such like 'abc.pptx'?

See [Cookbook:Upload Types](#)

How can I prevent others from using the url's of my images on their site

See [Cookbook:Prevent Hotlinking](#)

Tables

How do I create a basic table?

Tables are created via use of the double pipe character: `||`. Lines beginning with this markup denote rows in a table; within such lines the double-pipe is used to delimit cells. In the examples below a border is added for illustration (the default is no border).

Basic table

```
|| border=1 rules=rows frame=hsides
|| cell 1 || cell 2 || cell 3 ||
|| cell 1 || cell 2 || cell 3 ||
```

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

How do I create cell headers?

Header cells can be created by placing `!` as the first character of a cell. Note that these are *table headers*, not *headings*, so it doesn't extend to `!!`, `!!!`, etc.

Table headers

```
|| border=1 rules=cols frame=vsides
||! cell 1 ||! cell 2 ||! cell 3 ||
|| cell 1 || cell 2 || cell 3 ||
```

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

How do I create an advanced table?

See [table directives](#)

My tables are by default centered. When I try to use `!lalign=left` they don't align left as expected.

Use `!lstyle="margin-left:0px;"` instead.

How can I specify the width of columns?

You can define the widths via custom styles, see [Cookbook:FormattingTables](#) and `$TableCellAttrFmt`. Add in `config.php` : `$TableCellAttrFmt = 'class=col\'$TableCellCount'`;

And add in `pub/css/local.css` :

```
table.column td.col1 { width: 120px; }
table.column td.col3 { width: 40px; }
```

How can I display a double pipe `"||"` in cell text using basic table markup?

Escape it with `[=| |=]` to display `||` unchanged.

Table directives

Can I define table headers using the table directive markup?

No, but you can with [Cookbook:AdvancedTableDirectives](#). See [Pm's reply](#) to pending [PITS:00535](#)

Is it possible to do nested tables?

Yes, if you nest simple tables inside advanced tables. See also [Cookbook:AdvancedTableDirectives](#).

Is it possible to add background images to tables and table cells?

Yes, see [Cookbook:BackgroundImages](#).

Wiki Styles

Access Keys

How can I change the keyboard shortcuts for editing and saving a page?

See [Customizing access keys](#).

I have a Wikisite Site.Sidebar which is embedded in the skin template. The use of `%item accesskey="x"% [Groupname/Sitename]]` doesn't work here. Has anyone an idea why, and what I could do?

Use just `%accesskey="x"% [PmWiki.PmWiki]]%%` (no "item", closed with `%%`).

Page Directives

Can I get `(:redirect:)` to return a "moved permanently" (HTTP 301) status code?

Use `(:redirect PageName status=301:)`.

Is there any way to prevent the "redirected from" message from showing at the top of the target page when I use `(:redirect:)`?

From version 2.2.1 on, set in `config.php` `$EnableRedirectQuiet=1`; and in the page `(:redirect OtherPage quiet=1:)` for a quiet redirect.

Is there any method for redirecting to the equivalent page in a different group, i.e. from `BadGroup/thispage` => `GoodGroup/thispage` using similar markup to `(:redirect Goodgroup.{Name}:)`?

`(:redirect Goodgroup.{Name}:)` works if you want to put it in one page.

If you want it to work for the entire group, put `(:redirect Goodgroup.{*Name}:)` into `Badgroup.GroupHeader` - however, that only works with pages that really exist in `Goodgroup`; if you visit a page in `Badgroup` without a corresponding page of the same name in `Goodgroup`, instead of being redirected to a nonexistant page, you get the redirect Directive at the top of the page.

With `(:if exists Goodgroup.{*Name}:)(:redirect Goodgroup.{*Name}:)(:ifend:)` in `Badgroup.GroupHeader` you get redirected to `Goodgroup.Name` if it exists, otherwise you get `Badgroup.Name` without the bit of code displayed.

Include Other Pages

What's the maximum number of includes that can exist in a page?

My site seems to stop including after 48 includes. (\$MaxIncludes)

By default, PmWiki places a limit of 50 include directives for any given page, to prevent runaway infinite loops and other situations that might eat up server resources. (Two of these are GroupHeader and GroupFooter.) The limit can be modified by the wiki administrator via the \$MaxIncludes variable.

Is there any way to include from a group of pages without specifying by exact name, e.g. between Anchor X and Y from all pages named IFClass-* ?

This can be achieved using page lists.

There appears to be a viewing issue when the included page contains the (:title:) directive.

As of version 2.2.0, the *last* title in the page overrides previous ones. In future versions, this may be configurable, but for the moment, best is to place your (:title :) directive at the bottom of the page, after any includes.

Conditional Markup

Page specific variables

Is there a variable like \$LastModified, but which shows me the creation time?

No, but you can create one in config.php. For instance:

```
# add page variable {$PageCreationDate} in format yyyy-mm-dd
$FmtPV['$PageCreationDate'] = 'strftime("%Y-%m-%d", $page["ctime"]);'
```

If you like the same format that you define in config.php with \$TimeFmt use

```
$FmtPV['$Created'] = "strftime(\$GLOBALS['TimeFmt'], \$page['ctime']);"
```

Wiki Group

How can I get rid of the 'Main' group in urls for pages pointing to Main?

See Cookbook:Get Rid Of Main.

How can I limit the creation of new groups?

See Cookbook:Limit Wiki Groups.

Why doesn't [[St. Giles and St. James]] work as a link? (It doesn't display anything.)

Because it contains periods, and destroys PmWiki's file structure, which saves pages as Group.PageName. Adding those periods disrupts this format. Links may only contain words. If you need a link precisely as

shown, the page must be named eg StGilesAndStJames then you can use the (:title:) directive to have the page's title appear with periods (:title St. Giles and St. James:). (Although modern US and UK grammar now tend to drop the period to simplify style).

How can I delete a wiki group?

Normally you can't, as this requires an admin with server-side access to delete the file that makes up the group's RecentChanges page. But there is an option method of making it possible to delete RecentChanges pages from within the wiki if the admin enables the code found on [Cookbook:RecentChanges Deletion](#).

How can I delete a wiki group's Group.RecentChanges page?

Normally you can't, as this requires an admin with server-side access to delete a file. But there is an optional method of making it possible to delete RecentChanges pages from within the wiki if the admin enables the code found on [Cookbook:RecentChanges Deletion](#).

Group Headers

How do I set one header for all pages/groups?

The header for each page is controlled by the [\\$GroupHeaderFmt](#) variable. Thus a site-wide groupheader can be added with

```
$GroupHeaderFmt = '(:include {$SiteGroup}.SiteHeader
                    basepage={*$FullName}):) (:nl:)' . $GroupHeaderFmt;
```

Note that single quotes must be used so that \$Group (which is part of the default contents of [\\$GroupHeaderFmt](#)) will be substituted properly by PmWiki, and that this applies to all variables ending in \$. . .Fmt. See also the [Cookbook:AllGroupHeader](#) page.

Any form of markup is valid in [\\$GroupHeaderFmt](#), thus one can do

```
$GroupHeaderFmt .= "Global markup text here.";
Would this then work for site footers?
```

```
$GroupFooterFmt = '(:include {$SiteGroup}.SiteFooter
                    basepage={*$FullName}):) (:nl:)' . $GroupFooterFmt;
```

Wiki Trails

What's the difference between a [PageList](#) and a WikiTrail?

The pagelist directive dynamically generates a list of pages. There are many ways to generate the list, including using a WikiTrail as the source. The pagelist directive then displays the pages that match the criteria using an optional template - for example displaying each page name on a separate line as a link or including the entire content. The pagelist directive currently does not have built-in navigation markup that you can put on the pages in the list. By contrast, WikiTrails are simply specified via links on an "index" page and you *can* put previous-next navigation markup on each page. The two serve very different purposes. WikiTrails are useful for specifying the pages in [web feeds](#), for creating a "tour" through a predefined set of pages, and many other things.

Page History

Is there a way to remove page history from page files?

1. Administrators can clean page histories using the [Cookbook:ExpireDiff](#) recipe.
2. Administrators with FTP file access can download individual pages from the wiki.d directory, open them in a text editor, manually remove history, and re-upload the files to wiki.d/ directory. Care must be exercised, when manually editing a page file, to preserve the minimum required elements of the page and avoid corrupting its contents. See [PageFileFormat#creating](#).
3. Edit the page. Select *all* the contents of the edit text area and cut them to the clipboard. Enter `delete` into the text area and click on the *save and edit* button. Select *all* the contents of the edit text area and paste the contents of the clipboard over them. Click on the *save* button. This will remove all of the page's history up to the final save in which the pasted material is re-added.

How can I restrict viewing the page history (`?action=diff`) to people with edit permission?

In the *local/config.php* file, set

```
$HandleAuth['diff'] = 'edit';
```

In case of this restriction is set up on a farm, and you want to allow it on a particular wiki, set in your *local/config.php* :

```
$HandleAuth['diff'] = 'read';
```

Passwords

How can I password protect all the pages and groups on my site? Do I really have to set passwords page by page, or group by group?

Administrators can set passwords for the entire site by editing the *config.php* file; they don't have to set passwords for each page or group. For example, to set the entire site to be editable only by those who know an "edit" password, an administrator can add a line like the following to *local/config.php*:

```
$DefaultPasswords['edit'] = crypt('edit_password');
```

For more information about the password options that are available only to administrators, see [PasswordAdmin](#).

I get http error 500 "Internal Server Error" when I try to log in. What's wrong?

This can happen if the encrypted passwords are not created on the web server that hosts the PmWiki.

The `crypt` function changed during the PHP development, e.g. a password encrypted with PHP 5.2 can not be decrypted in PHP 5.1, but PHP 5.2 can decrypt passwords created by PHP 5.1.

This situation normally happens if you prepare everything on your local machine with the latest PHP version and you upload the passwords to a webserver which is running an older version.

The same error occurs when you add encrypted passwords to *local/config.php*.

Solution: Create the passwords on the system with the oldest PHP version and use them on all other systems.

How can I create private groups for users, so that each user can edit pages in their group, but no one else (other than the admin) can?

Administrators can use the [AuthUser](#) recipe and add the following few lines to their local/config.php file to set this up:

```
$group = FmtPageName('$Group', $pagename);
$DefaultPasswords['edit'] = 'id:'.$group;
include_once("$FarmD/scripts/authuser.php");
```

This automatically gives edit rights to a group to every user who has the same user name as the group name.

How come when I switch to another wiki within a farm, I keep my same authorization?

PmWiki uses PHP sessions to keep track of authentication/authorization information, and by default PHP sets things up such that all interactions with the same server are considered part of the same session.

An easy way to fix this is to make sure each wiki is using a different cookie name for its session identifier. Near the top of one of the wiki's local/config.php files, before calling authuser or any other recipes, add a line like:

```
session_name('XYZSESSID');
```

You can pick any alphanumeric name for XYZSESSID; for example, for the cs559-1 wiki you might choose

```
session_name('CS559SESSID');
```

This will keep the two wikis' sessions independent of each other.

Deleting Pages

Deleting [Wiki Groups](#) & [Categories](#): Once I create a Group or Category, how can I get rid of that group or category?

An admin can just remove the unwanted pages from wiki.d/. Normally, doing it via the wiki doesn't resolve the problem, since it counts as an "update" which causes the [Recent Changes?](#) page to be re-created, but it is possible to modify the site's configuration to allow deletion of the group's RecentChanges page -- see [Cookbook:RecentChangesDeletion](#).

PmWiki Installation

Should I rename pmwiki.php to index.php?

Renaming pmwiki.php is not recommended. Instead, create an *index.php* file that contains this single line

```
<?php include_once('pmwiki.php');
```

How do I make pmwiki.php the default page for a website?

Create an *index.php* file that runs PmWiki from a subdirectory (*pmwiki/* for example) and place it in the site's web document root (the main directory for the website).

```
<?php chdir('pmwiki'); include_once('pmwiki.php');
```

Note: You will also need to explicitly set the `$PubDirUrl` variable (e.g. to `"http://example.com/pmwiki/pub"`) in *local/config.php*.

How do I enable "Clean URLs" that are shorter and look like paths to my wiki pages? Why does pmwiki.org appear to have a directory structure rather than "?n=pagename" in URLs?

See [Cookbook:CleanUrls](#).

Is it possible to move wiki.d to /tmp/persistent/foo/wiki.d (a new sourceforge rule)?

Sourceforge suggests moving everything to */tmp/persistent/new-folder-of-your-choice/* and creating a symbolic link to the new folder on /tmp . It works -- see [Cookbook:SourceForgeServers](#).

How can I run PmWiki on a standalone (offline, portable) machine ?

See [Cookbook:Standalone](#) or [Cookbook:WikiOnASTick](#).

Upgrades

How can I determine what version of PmWiki I'm running now?

See [version](#) - Determining and displaying the current version of PmWiki (pmwiki-2.2.4).

How can I test a new version of PmWiki on my wiki without changing the prior version used by visitors?

The easy way to do this is to install the new version in a separate directory, and for the new version set (in *local/config.php*):

```
$WikiLibDirs = array(&$WikiDir,  
    new PageStore('/path/to/existing/wiki.d/{$FullName}'),  
    new PageStore('wikilib.d/{$FullName}'));
```

This lets you test the new version using existing page content without impacting the existing site or risking modification of the pages. (Of course, any recipes or local customizations have to be installed in the new version as well.)

Then, once you're comfortable that the new version seems to work as well as the old, it's safe to upgrade the old version (and one knows of any configuration or page changes that need to be made).

Uploads Administration

How do I disable uploading of a certain type of file?

Here's an example of what to add to your *local/config.php* file to disable uploading of .zip files:

```
$UploadExtSize['zip'] = 0; # Disallow uploading .zip files.
```

How do I attach uploads to individual pages or the entire site, instead of organizing them by [wiki group](#)?

Use the [\\$UploadPrefixFmt](#) variable (see also the [Cookbook:UploadGroups](#) recipe).

```
$UploadPrefixFmt = '/$FullName'; # per-page
```

```
$UploadPrefixFmt = ''; # site-wide
```

For [\\$UploadDirQuota](#) - can you provide some units and numbers? Is the specification in bytes or bits?

What is the number for 100K? 1 Meg? 1 Gig? 1 Terabyte?

Units are in bytes.

```
$UploadDirQuota = 100*1024;          # limit uploads to 100KiB
$UploadDirQuota = 1000*1024;        # limit uploads to 1000KiB
$UploadDirQuota = 1024*1024;        # limit uploads to 1MiB
$UploadDirQuota = 25*1024*1024;     # limit uploads to 25MiB
$UploadDirQuota = 2*1024*1024*1024; # limit uploads to 2GiB
```

Is there a way to allow file names with Unicode or additional characters?

Yes, see [\\$UploadNameChars](#)

Where is the list of attachments stored?

It is generated on the fly by the

markup.

How can I find orphaned or missing attachments

See [Cookbook:Attachlist enhanced](#)

How can I prevent hotlinking of my uploaded images

See [Cookbook:Prevent Hotlinking](#)

I have limited the max upload size to 8 Mb in config.php, however only files smaller than 2M can be uploaded.

Check your php.ini for *upload_max_filesize*

```
upload_max_filesize = 8M
```

Security

How do I report a possible security vulnerability of PmWiki?

Pm wrote about this in [a post to pmwiki-users from September 2006](#). In a nutshell he differentiates two cases:

1. The possible vulnerability isn't already known publicly: In this case please contact Pm by private mail.
2. The possible vulnerability is already known publicly: In this case feel free to discuss the vulnerability in public (e.g. on [pmwiki-users](#)).

See [his post mentioned above](#) for details and rationals.

What about the botnet security advisory at <http://isc.sans.org/diary.php?storyid=1672>([approve sites](#))?

Sites that are running with PHP's *register_globals* setting set to "On" and versions of PmWiki prior to 2.1.21 may be vulnerable to a botnet exploit that is taking advantage of a bug in PHP. The vulnerability can be closed by turning *register_globals* off, upgrading to PmWiki 2.1.21 or later, or upgrading to PHP versions 4.4.3 or 5.1.4.

In addition, there is a test at [PmWiki:SiteAnalyzer](#) that can be used to determine if your site is vulnerable.

Wiki Vandalism

Assumptions

you are using a [Blocklist](#) and [Url approvals](#).

You don't want to resort to [password](#) protecting the entire wiki, that's not the point after all.

Ideally these protections will be invoked in `config.php`

How do I stop pages being [deleted](#), eg password protect a page from deletion?

Use [Cookbook:DeleteAction](#) and password protect the page deletion [action](#) by adding

`$DefaultPasswords['delete'] = '*';` to `config.php` or password protect the action with `$HandleAuth['delete'] = 'edit';`

or `$HandleAuth['delete'] = 'admin';` to require the edit or admin password respectively.

How do I stop pages being replaced with an empty (all spaces) page?

Add `block: /\^s*$/` to your [blocklist](#).

how do I stop pages being completely replaced by an inane comment such as *excellent site, great information*, where the content cannot be blocked?

Try using the newer [automatic blocklists](#) that pull information and IP addresses about known wiki defacers.

(OR) Try using [Cookbook:Captchas](#) or [Cookbook:Captcha](#) (note these are different).

(OR) Set an edit password, but make it publicly available on the [Site.AuthForm](#) template.

How do I password protect all common pages in all groups such as recent changes, search, group header, group footer, and so on?

Insert the following lines into your `local/config.php` file. Editing these pages then requires the admin password.

```
## Require admin password to edit RecentChanges (etc.) pages.
if ($action=='edit'
    && preg_match('/\\.(Search|Group|Header|Footer)|(All)?RecentChanges)$/', $pagename))
{ $DefaultPasswords['edit'] = crypt('secret&nbsp;phrase'); }
```

Note that all `GroupAttributes` pages are protected by the `attr` password.

Alternative: you can require 'admin' authentication for these pages:

```
## Require admin password to edit RecentChanges (etc.) pages.
if ($action=='edit'
    && preg_match('(Search|Group|Header|Footer)|(All)?RecentChanges)', $pagename))
{ $HandleAuth['edit'] = 'admin'; }
```

How do I password protect the creation of new groups?

See [Cookbook:Limit Wiki Groups](#)

How do I password protect the creation of new pages?

See [Cookbook:Limit new pages in Wiki Groups](#)

How do I take a whitelist approach where users from known or trusted IP addresses can edit, and others require a password?

Put these lines to local/config.php:

```
## Allow passwordless editing from own turf, pass for others.
if ($action=='edit'
    && !preg_match("^90.68.", $_SERVER['REMOTE_ADDR']) )
{ $DefaultPasswords['edit'] = crypt('foobar'); }
```

Replace 90.68. with the preferred network prefix and foobar with the default password for others.

How do I password protect [page actions](#)?

See [Passwords](#) for setting in config.php

```
$HandleAuth['pageactionname'] = 'pageactionname'; # along with :
$DefaultPasswords['pageactionname'] = crypt('secret phrase');
or
```

```
$HandleAuth['pageactionname'] = 'anotherpageactionname';
```

How to make a rule that allows only authors to edit their own wiki page in [Profiles?](#) group?

Add this to your *local/config.php*

```
$name = PageVar($pagename, '$Name');
$group = PageVar($pagename, '$Group');
if($group=='Profiles') $DefaultPasswords['edit'] = 'id:'. $name;
```

How do I moderate all postings?

Enable [PmWiki.Drafts](#)

- Set [\\$EnableDrafts](#), this relabels the "Save" button to "Publish" and a "Save draft" button appears.
- Set [\\$EnablePublish](#), this adds a new "publish" authorization level to distinguish editing from publishing.

How do I make a read only wiki?

In config.php set an "edit" password.

How do I restrict access to uploaded attachments?

See

- instructions for denying public access to the uploads directory
- see Cookbook:Secure attachments

Custom InterMap

Are InterMap names case sensitive?

Yes, thus eAdmin: is a different InterMap link than EAdmin:.

How can I achieve a *localmap.txt* mapping with the effect of `Pics: Path:/somepathto/pics/?`

Use the following:

```
Pics: /somepathto/pics/
```

How can I define an InterMap in PHP?

Use the following:

```
$LinkFunctions['PmWikiHome:'] = 'LinkIMap';
$IMap['PmWikiHome:'] = 'http://pmwiki.org/wiki/$1';
```

Custom Markup

How can I embed JavaScript into a page's output?

There are several ways to do this. The Cookbook:JavaScript recipe describes a simple means for embedding static JavaScript into web pages using custom markup. For editing JavaScript directly in wiki pages (which can pose various security risks), see the JavaScript-Editable recipe. For JavaScript that is to appear in headers or footers of pages, the skin template can be modified directly, or `<script>` statements can be inserted using the \$HTMLHeaderFmt array.

How would I create a markup (*(:nodiscussion:)*) that will set a page variable (*(\$HideDiscussion)*) which can be used by (*:if enabled HideDiscussion:*) in .PageActions?

Add the following section of code to your config.php

```
SDV($HideDiscussion, 0);           #define var name
Markup('hideDiscussion', '<{$var}',
      '/\\(:nodiscussion:\\)/e', 'setHideDiscussion(true)');
function setHideDiscussion($val) {
    global $HideDiscussion;
    $HideDiscussion = $val;
}
```


This will enable the (:if enabled HideDiscussion:) markup to be used. If you want to print the current value of {\$HideDiscussion} (for testing purposes) on the page, you'll also need to add the line:

```
$FmtPV['$HideDiscussion'] = '$GLOBALS["HideDiscussion"]';
```

PmWiki only supports tool tips for external links, can I use custom markup to add tool tips to internal links?

Yes, add the following custom markup to your config.php:

```
Markup('%title%', 'inline', '/%title%(.?)"(.?)"(.?)"%"/, '<span title="$2">$1$3</span>'); # Add tool tips to internal links, Example: %title%[[link"tool tip"]]%%
```

Use the markup with internal links such as:

```
%title%[[CookBook "cool" | Example]]%%
```

See also [Cookbook:LinkTitles](#).

It appears that (.*?) does not match newlines in these functions, making the above example inoperable if the text to be wrapped in contains new lines.

If you include the "s" modifier on the regular expression then the dot (.) will match newlines. Thus your regular expression will be "/STUFF(.*?)s". That s at the very end is what you are looking for. If you start getting into multi-line regexes you may be forced to look at the m option as well - let's anchors (^ and \$) match not begin/end of strings but also begin/end of lines (i.e., right before/after a newline).

How do I get started writing recipes and creating my own custom markup?

[\(alternate\) Introduction to custom markup for Beginners](#)

Internationalizations

If my wiki is internationalized by *config.php*, how do I revert a specific group to English?

Use `$XLLangs = array('en');` in the group's [per group customization](#) file.

If my wiki is in English and I want just one page, or group, in Spanish do I say

```
XLPage('es', 'PmWikiEs.XLPage');
```

in the group or page configuration file?

Yes, that is usually the best method. If you were doing this with many scattered pages, or with several languages, you might find it easier to maintain if you load the translations all in config.php like this:

```
XLPage('es', 'PmWikiEs.XLPage');
XLPage('fr', 'PmWikiFr.XLPage');
XLPage('ru', 'PmWikiRu.XLPage');
$XLLangs = array('en');
```

Then in each group or page configuration file, you'd just use `$XLLangs = array('es');` to set the language to use (in this case, Spanish). Note that though this method is easier to maintain, its somewhat slower because it loads all the dictionaries for each page view, even if they won't be used.

What does the first parameter of this function stand for? How can it be used?

The XLPAGE mechanism allows multiple sets of translations to be loaded, and the first parameter is used to distinguish them.

For example, suppose I want to have translations for both normal French and "Canadian" French. Rather than maintain two entirely separate sets of pages, I could do:

```
XLPage('fr', 'PmWikiFr.XLPAGE');
XLPage('fr-ca', 'PmWikiFrCa.XLPAGE');
```

PmWikiFr.XLPAGE would contain all of the standard French translations, while PmWikiFrCA.XLPAGE would only need to contain "Canada-specific" translations -- i.e., those that are different from the ones in the French page.

The first parameter distinguishes the two sets of translations. In addition, a *config.php* script can use the \$XLLangs variable to adjust the order of translation, so if there was a group or page where I only wanted the standard French translation, I can set

```
$XLLangs = array('fr', 'en');
```

and PmWiki will use only the 'fr' and 'en' translations (in that order), no matter how many translations have been loaded with XLPage().

Tools for PmWiki Localization

You can help to localize PmWiki in your language in the original site:

- [Localization](#)
- [Translation Portal](#)

Local Customizations

There's no "config.php"; it's not even clear what a "local customisation file" is!

The "sample-config.php" file in the "docs" folder, is given as an example. Copy it to the "local" folder and rename it to "config.php". You can then remove the "#" symbols or add other commands shown in the documentation. See also [PerGroup Customizations](#).

Can I change the default page something other than Main.HomePage (\$DefaultPage)?

Yes, just set the \$DefaultPage variable to the name of the page you want to be the default. You might also look at the \$DefaultGroup and \$DefaultName configuration variables.

```
$DefaultPage = 'ABC.StartPage';
```

How do I get the group / page name in a local configuration file (e.g. *local/config.php*)?

Use the following markup in pmwiki-2.1.beta21 or newer:

```
## Get the group and page name
$pageName = ResolvePageName($pageName);
$page = PageVar($pageName, '$FullName');
$group = PageVar($pageName, '$Group');
```

```
$name = PageVar($pagename, '$Name');
```

Can I remove items from the wikilib.d folder on my site?

Yes, the files in *wikilib.d/* can be safely removed. They'll reappear again when you upgrade, however.

How do I customize my own 404 error page for non-existent pages?

To change the text of the message, try editing the [Site.PageNotFound](#) page.

Is the order of customizations in config.php important? Are there certain things that should come before or after others in that file?

Yes, the following has been recommended on the mailing list:

- first define any custom PageStore class, like SQLite, CompressedPageStore or PerGroupSubDirectories,
- next include_once scripts/xlpage-utf-8.php,
- next call XLPage() which needs the definitive (rw) [\\$WikiDir](#) already set in order to find the wiki page containing the translations,
- next include authuser.php (if needed), because PmWiki caches some group and page authorization levels when a page is accessed,
- next include any other scripts and recipes,
- any direct function call in config.php, like ResolvePageName(), PageTextVar(), PageVar(), RetrieveAuthPage(), or others, if possible, should be done near the end of config.php.

*Note, each part is **not** required, but if your wiki needs it, this is the recommended order in config.php.*

Per Group Customizations

How can I apply CSS styles to a particular group or page?

Simply create a *pub/css/Group.css* or *pub/css/Group.Page.css* file containing the custom CSS styles for that group or page.

Why shouldn't passwords be set in group (or page) customization files?

The reason for this advice is that per-group customization files are only loaded for the current page. So, if `$DefaultPasswords['read']` is set in *local/GroupA.php*, then someone could use a page in another group to view the contents of pages in GroupA. For example, Main.WikiSandbox could contain:

```
(:include GroupA.SomePage:)
```

and because the *GroupA.php* file wasn't loaded (we're looking at Main.WikiSandbox --> *local/Main.php*), there's no read password set.

The same is true for page customization files.

Isn't that processing order strange? Why not load per page configuration last (that is after global configuration an per group configuration)?

Many times what we want to do is to enable a certain capability for a group of pages, but disable it on a specific page, as if it was never enabled. If the per-group config file is processed first, then it becomes very difficult/tedious for the per-page one to "undo" the effects of the per-group page. So, we load the per-page file before the per-group.

If a per-page customization wants the per-group customizations to be performed first, it can use the techniques given in [PmWiki.PerGroupCustomizations](#) (using `include_once()` or setting `$EnablePGCust = 0`).

Skins

How do I change the Wiki's default name in the upper left corner of the Main Page?

Put the following config.php

```
$WikiTitle = 'My Wiki Site';
```

The *docs/sample-config.php* file has an example of changing the title.

How can I embed PmWiki pages inside a web page?

Source them through a PHP page, or place them in a frame.

How do I change the font or background color of the hints block on the Edit Page?

Add a CSS style to *pub/css/local.css*: `.quickref {background:...; color:... }`. The hints are provided by the [Site.EditQuickReference](#) page, which is in the PmWiki or Site wikigroup. Edit that page, and change the "bgcolor" or specify the font "color" to get the contrast you need.

Skin Templates

How do I customize the CSS styling of my PmWiki layout?

See [Skins](#) for how to change the default PmWiki skin. See also [Cookbook:Skins](#), where you will find pre-made templates you can use to customize the appearance of your site. You can also create a file called *local.css* in the *pub/css/* directory and add CSS selectors there (this file gets automatically loaded if it exists). Or, styles can be added directly into a local customization file by using something like:

```
$HTMLStylesFmt[] = '.foo { color:blue; }';
```

Where can the mentioned "translation table" be found for adding translated phrases?

See [Internationalizations](#).

Is it possible to have the edit form in full page width, with no sidebar?

If the sidebar is marked with `<!--PageLeftFmt-->`, adding `(:noleft:)` to `Site.EditForm` will hide it when a page is edited.

Can I easily hide the Home Page title from the homepage?

Yes, you can use in the wiki page either `(:title Some other title:)` to change it or `(:notitle:)` to hide it.

Web Feeds

How do I include text from the page (whole page, or first X characters) in the feed body? (note: markup NOT digested)

```
function MarkupExcerpt($pagename) {
    $page = RetrieveAuthPage($pagename, 'read', false);
    return substr(@$page['text'], 0, 200);
}

$FmtPV['$MarkupExcerpt'] = 'MarkupExcerpt($pn)';
$FeedFmt['rss']['item']['description'] = '$MarkupExcerpt';
```

Q: Does this mean if I want to include the time in the rss title and "summary" to rss body I call \$FeedFmt twice like so:

```
$FeedFmt['rss']['item']['description'] = '$LastSummary';
$FeedFmt['rss']['item']['title'] = '{$Group} / {$Title} @ $ItemISOTime';
```

From mailing list Feb 13, 2007, a response by Pm: Yes

How can I use the RSS <enclosure> tag for podcasting?

For podcasting of mp3 files, simply attach an mp3 file to the page with the same name as the page (i.e., for a page named Podcast.Episode4, one would attach to that page a file named "Episode4.mp3"). The file is automatically picked up by ?action=rss and used as an enclosure.

The set of potential enclosures is given by the \$RSSEnclosureFmt array, thus

```
$RSSEnclosureFmt = array('{$Name}.mp3', '{$Name}.wma', '{$Name}.ogg');
allows podcasting in mp3, wma, and ogg formats.
```

How to add "summary" to the title in a rss feed (ie. with ?action=rss)?

Add this line in you local/config.php

```
$FeedFmt['rss']['item']['title'] = '{$Group} / {$Title} :
$LastModifiedSummary';
```

How to add "description" to the title in an rss feed, and summary to the body?

Add these lines to your local/config.php

```
$FeedFmt['rss']['item']['title'] = '{$Group} / {$Title} :
{$Description}';
$FeedFmt['rss']['item']['description'] = '$LastModifiedSummary';
```

NOTES:

- you need to replicate these lines for each type (atom, rdf, dc) of feed you provide.
- the RSS **description**-tag is not equivalent to the pmWiki *\$Description* variable, despite the confusing similarity.

Some of my password-protected pages aren't appearing in the feed... how do I work around this?

From a similar question on the newsgroup, Pm's reply:

The last time I checked, RSS and other syndication protocols didn't really have a well-established interface or mechanism for performing access control (i.e., authentication). As far as I know this is still the case.

PmWiki's WebFeeds capability is built on top of pagelists, so it could simply be that the `$EnablePageListProtect` option is preventing the updated pages from appearing in the feed. You might try setting `$EnablePageListProtect=0`; and see if the password-protected pages start appearing in the RSS feed.

The "downside" to setting `$EnablePageListProtect` to zero is that anyone doing a search on your site will see the existence of the pages in the locked section. They won't be able to read any of them, but they'll know they are there!

You could also set `$EnablePageListProtect` to zero only if `?action=rss`:

```
if ($action == 'rss') $EnablePageListProtect = 0;
```

This limits the ability to see the protected pages to RSS feeds; normal pagelists and searches wouldn't see them.

Lastly, it's also possible to configure the webfeeds to obtain the authentication information from the url directly, as in:

```
.../Site/AllRecentChanges?action=rss&authpw=secret
```

The big downside to this is that the cleartext password will end up traveling across the net with every RSS request, and may end up being recorded in Apache's access logs.

How to add feed image?

Add the following to *local/config.php* (this example is for `?action=rss`):

```
$FeedFmt['rss']['feed']['image'] =
" <title>Logo title</title>
<link>http://example.com/</link>
<url>http://example.com/images/logo.gif</url>
<width>120</width>
<height>60</height>";
```

Do not forget NOT to start with a '<' as there would be no `<image>` tag around this... See [here](#).

How do I insert RSS news feeds into PmWiki pages?

See [Cookbook:RssFeedDisplay](#).

How can I specify default feed options in a configuration file instead of always placing them in the url?

For example, if you want `?action=rss` to default to `?action=rss&group=News&order=-time&count=10`, try the following in a [local customization](#) file:

```
if ($action == 'rss')
    SDVA($_REQUEST, array(
```

```
'group' => 'News',
'order' => '-time',
'count' => 10));
```

Are there ways to let people easily subscribe to a feed?

On some browsers (Mozilla Firefox), the visitor can see an orange RSS icon in the address bar, and subscribe to the feed by clicking on it. To enable the RSS icon, add this to `config.php` :

```
$HTMLHeaderFmt['feedlinks'] = '<link rel="alternate" type="application/rss+xml"
    title="$WikiTitle" href="$ScriptUrl?n=Site.AllRecentChanges&action=rss" />
<link rel="alternate" type="application/atom+xml" title="$WikiTitle"
    href="$ScriptUrl?n=Site.AllRecentChanges&action=atom" />';
```

You can also add such a link, for example in your SideBar,

```
[[Site.AllRecentChanges?action=atom | Subscribe to feed]].
```

Can I create an RSS feed for individual page histories?

See [Cookbook:PageFeed](#).

FAQ

Troubleshooting

Why am I seeing strange errors after upgrading?

Make sure all of the files were updated, in particular *pmwiki.php*.

This question sometimes arises when an administrator hasn't followed the advice, which used to be less prominent, on the [installation](#) and [initial setup tasks](#) pages and has renamed *pmwiki.php* instead of creating an *index.php* wrapper script. If you have renamed *pmwiki.php* to *index.php*, then the upgrade procedure won't have updated your *index.php* file. Delete the old version and create a wrapper script so it won't happen again.

Sometimes an FTP or other copy program will fail to transfer all of the files properly. One way to check for this is by comparing file sizes.

Be sure all of the files in the *wikilib.d/* directory were also upgraded. Sometimes it's a good idea to simply delete the *wikilib.d/* directory before upgrading. (Local copies of pages are stored in *wiki.d/* and not *wikilib.d/*.)

I'm suddenly getting messages like "Warning: fopen(wiki.d/.flock): failed to open stream: Permission denied..." and "Cannot acquire lockfile"... what's wrong?

Something (or someone) has changed the [permissions](#) on the *wiki.d/.flock* file or the *wiki.d/* directory such that the webserver is no longer able to write the lockfile. The normal solution is to simply delete the *.flock* file from the *wiki.d/* directory -- PmWiki will then create a new one. Also be sure to check the permissions on the *wiki.d/* directory itself. (One can easily check and modify permissions of the *wiki.d/* directory in FileZilla([approve sites](#)) (open-source FTP app) by right-clicking on the file > File attributes)

My links in the sidebar seem to be pointing to non-existent pages, even though I know I created the pages. Where are the pages?

Links in the sidebar normally need to be qualified by a WikiGroup in order to work properly (use `[[Group.Page]]` instead of `[[Page]]`).

Also: Make sure you type Side**B**ar with a capital B.

Why am I seeing "Warning: Cannot modify header information - headers already sent . . ." messages at the top of my page.

If this is the first or only error message you're seeing, it's usually an indication that there are blank lines or spaces before the `<?php` or after the `?>` in a local customization file. Double-check the file and make sure there aren't any blank lines or spaces before the initial `<?php`. It's often easiest and safest to eliminate any closing `?>` altogether. On Windows, it may be necessary to use a hex editor to convert LFCR line endings to LF line endings in the `local\config.php` file.

If the warning is appearing after some other warning or error message, then resolve the other error and this warning may go away.

How do I make a PHP Warning about `function.session-write-close` go away?

If you are seeing an error similar to this

```
Warning: session_write_close() [function.session-write-close]:
open(/some/filesystem/path/to/a/directory/sess_[...]) failed: No such file
or directory (2) in /your/filesystem/path/to/pmwiki.php on line NNN
```

PmWiki sometimes does session-tracking using PHP's session-handling functions. For session-tracking to work, some information needs to be written in a directory on the server. That directory needs to exist and be writable by the webserver software. For this example, the webserver software is configured to write sessions in this directory

```
/some/filesystem/path/to/a/directory/
```

but the directory doesn't exist. The solution is to do at least one of these:

- Create the directory and make sure it's writable by the webserver software
- Provide a `session_save_path` value that points to a directory that is writable by the server, e.g.

```
session_save_path('/home/someuser/tmp/sessions');
```

Why is PmWiki prompting me multiple times for a password I've already entered?

Usually this is an indication that the browser isn't accepting cookies, or that PHP's session handling functions on the server aren't properly configured. If the browser is accepting cookies, then try setting `$EnableDiag=1`; in `local/config.php`, run PmWiki using `?action=phpinfo`, and verify that sessions are enabled and that the `session.save_path` has a reasonable value. Note that several versions of PHP under Windows require that a `session_save_path` be explicitly set (this can be done in the `local/config.php` file). You might also try setting `session.auto_start` to 1 in your `php.ini`.

I edited *config.php*, but when I look at my wiki pages, all I see is "Parse error: parse error, unexpected T_VARIABLE in *somefile* on line *number*."

You've made a mistake in writing the PHP that goes into the *config.php* file. The most common mistake that causes the T_VARIABLE error is forgetting the semi-colon (;) at the end of a line that you added. The line number and file named are where you should look for the mistake.

Searches and pagelists stopped working after I upgraded -- no errors are reported, but links to other pages do not appear (or do not appear as they should) -- what gives?

Be sure all of the files in the *wikilib.d/* directory were also upgraded. In particular, it sounds as if the Site.PageListTemplates page is either missing (if no links are displayed) or is an old version (if the links do not appear as they should). Also make sure that read-permissions (attr) are set for the pages Site.PageListTemplates and Site.Search.

Some of my posts are coming back with "403 Forbidden" errors, "Not Acceptable", or "Internal Server Error". This happens with some posts but not others.

Your webserver probably has mod_security([approve sites](#)) enabled. The mod_security "feature" scans all incoming posts for forbidden words or phrases that might indicate someone is trying to hack the system, and if any of them are present then Apache returns the 403 Forbidden error. Common phrases that tend to trigger mod_security include "curl ", "wget", "file(", and "system(", although there are many others.

Since mod_security intercepts the requests and sends the "forbidden" message before PmWiki ever gets a chance to run, it's not a bug in PmWiki, and there's little that PmWiki can do about it. Instead, one has to alter the webserver configuration to disable mod_security or reconfigure it to allow whatever word it is forbidding. Some sites may be able to disable mod_security by placing `SecFilterEngine off` in a *.htaccess* file.

I get the following message when attempting to upload an image, what do I do?

Warning: move_uploaded_file(): SAFE MODE Restriction in effect. The script whose uid is 1929 is not allowed to access /home/onscolre/public_html/pmwikiuploads/Photos owned by uid 33 in /home/onscolre/public_html/pmwiki/scripts/upload.php on line 198

PmWiki can't process your request

?cannot move uploaded file to
/home/onscolre/public_html/pmwikiuploads/Photos/FoundationPupilsIn1958.jpeg

We are sorry for any inconvenience.

Your server is configured with PHP [Safe Mode](#) enabled. Configure your wiki to use a [site-wide uploads prefix](#), then create the *uploads/* directory manually and set 777 permissions on it (rather than letting PmWiki create the directory).

I'm starting to see "Division by zero error in pmwiki.php..." on my site. What's wrong?

It's a bug in PmWiki that occurs only with the tables markup and only for versions of PHP >= 4.4.6 or >= 5.2.0. Often it seems to occur "out of nowhere" because the server administrator has upgraded PHP. Try upgrading to a later version of PmWiki to remove the error, or try setting the following in *local/config.php*:

```
$TableRowIndexMax = 1;
```

Auth User

I get http error 500 "Internal Server Error" when I try to log in. What's wrong?

This can happen if the encrypted passwords are not created on the web server that hosts the PmWiki. The crypt function changed during the PHP development, e.g. a password encrypted with PHP 5.2 can not be decrypted in PHP 5.1, but PHP 5.2 can decrypt passwords created by PHP 5.1. This situation normally happens if you prepare everything on your local machine with the latest PHP version and you upload the passwords to a webserver which is running an older version. The same error occurs when you add encrypted passwords to local/config.php.

Solution: Create the passwords on the system with the oldest PHP version and use them on all other systems.

Can I specify authorization group memberships from with *local/config.php*?

Yes -- put the group definition into the \$AuthUser array (in config.php):

```
$AuthUser['@editors'] = array('alice', 'carol', 'bob');
```

I'm running multiple wikis under the same domain name, and logins from one wiki are appearing on other wikis. Shouldn't they be independent?

This is caused by the way that PHP treats sessions. See [PmWiki.AuthUser#sessions](#) for more details.

Is there any way to record the time of the last login for each user when using AuthUser? I need a way to look for stale accounts.

See [Cookbook:UserLastAction](#).

Though every settings seem correct, authentication against LDAP is not working, and there is nothing in ldap log. What's wrong ?

Be sure ldap php module is installed (on debian apt-get install php(4|5)-ldap ; apache(2)ctl graceful)

The login form asks for username and password, but only password matters.

Username can be left blank and it still signs in under the account. Is this intentional and if so, can I change it so that the username and password must both be entered? - X 1/18/07 Never mind I think this has something to do with using the admin password. I created a test account and it's working ok.

Make sure you are not entering the admin password when testing the account because, if the password is equal to the admin password, it will authenticate directly through the config.php file and skip any other system.

Do note that even with AuthUser activated you can still log in with a blank username and only entering the password. In that case any password you enter will be "accepted" but only passwords which authenticate in the given context will actually give you any authorization rights. Using this capability AuthUser comfortably

coexists with the default password-based system.

If you want to require both username and password, then you need to set an admin id **before** including authuser.php:

```
## Define usernames and passwords.
$AuthUser['carol'] = '$1$CknC8zAs$dC8z2vu3UvnIXMfOcGDON0';

## Enable authentication based on username.
include_once('scripts/authuser.php');

# $DefaultPasswords['admin'] = crypt('secret');
$DefaultPasswords['admin'] = 'id:carol';
```

A username and password will then be required before login is successful.

Is there any way to hide IP addresses once someone has logged in so that registered users can keep their IP addresses invisible to everyone except administrators? - X 1/18/07

Not yet.

Is there a way that people could self-register through AuthUser?

You can see [Cookbook:AuthUserSignup](#) for a recipe about this problem.

I would like it that after I have AuthUser turned and a user is authenticated to get on my site, that if I have a password put on a particular page or group that they don't get the AuthUser form to show up (username and password), but only the typical field for password?

See this thread of the mailing list([approve sites](#)).

Passwords Admin

There seems to be a default password. What is it?

There isn't any valid password until you set one. [Passwords admin](#) describes how to set one.

PmWiki comes "out of the box" with `$DefaultPasswords['admin']` set to '*'. This doesn't mean the password is an asterisk, it means that default admin password has to be something that encrypts to an asterisk. Since it's impossible for the `crypt()` function to ever return a 1-character encrypted value, the admin password is effectively locked until the admin sets one in `config.php`.

How do I use passwd-formatted files (like `.htpasswd`) for authentication?

See [AuthUser](#), [Cookbook:HtpasswdForm](#) or [Cookbook:UserAuth](#).

Is there anything I can enter in a `GroupAttributes` field to say 'same as the admin password'? If not, is there anything I can put into the `config.php` file to have the same effect?

Enter '@lock' in `GroupAttributes?action=attr` to require an admin password for that group.

How do I edit protect, say, all `RecentChanges` pages?

see [Security#wikivandalism](#).

How can I read password protect all pages in a group except the HomePage using configuration files?

As described in [PmWiki.PerGroupCustomizations](#) per-group or per-page configuration files should not be used for defining passwords. The reason is that per-group (or per-page) customization files are only loaded for the current page. So, if `$DefaultPasswords['read']` is set in *local/GroupA.php*, then someone could use a page in another group to view the contents of pages in GroupA. For example, *Main.WikiSandbox* could contain:

```
(:include GroupA.SomePage:)
```

and because the *GroupA.php* file wasn't loaded (we're looking at *Main.WikiSandbox* --> *local/Main.php*), there's no read password set.

How can I password protect the creation of new pages?

See [Cookbook:LimitWikiGroups](#), [Cookbook:NewGroupWarning](#), [Cookbook:LimitNewPagesInWikiGroups](#).

How do I change the password prompt screen?

If your question is about how to make changes to that page... edit [Site.AuthForm](#). If your question is about how to change which page you are sent to when prompted for a password, you might check out the [Cookbook:CustomAuthForm](#) for help.

I get http error 500 "Internal Server Error" when I try to log in. What's wrong?

This can happen if the encrypted passwords are not created on the web server that hosts the PmWiki. The crypt function changed during the PHP development, e.g. a password encrypted with PHP 5.2 can not be decrypted in PHP 5.1, but PHP 5.2 can decrypt passwords created by PHP 5.1. This situation normally happens if you prepare everything on your local machine with the latest PHP version and you upload the passwords to a webserver which is running an older version. The same error occurs when you add encrypted passwords to *local/config.php*.

Solution: Create the passwords on the system with the oldest PHP version and use them on all other systems.

I only want users to have to create an 'edit' password, which is automatically used for their 'upload' & 'attr' passwords (without them having to set those independently). How do I do this?

By setting `$HandleAuth` like so:

```
$HandleAuth['upload'] = 'edit';
// And to prevent a WikiSandbox from having it's 'attr' permissions changed
// except by the admin (but allowing editors to change it on their own pages/group)
if(($group=="Site") || ($group=="Main") || ($group=="Category") ||
    ($group=="SiteAdmin") || ($group=="PmWiki") ) {
$HandleAuth['attr'] = 'admin'; // for all main admin pages, set 'attr' to 'admin' password
} else {
$HandleAuth['attr'] = 'edit'; // if you can edit, then you can set attr
}
```

Design Notes

Why doesn't PmWiki use hierarchical / nested groups?

It essentially comes down to figuring out how to handle page links between nested groups; if someone can figure out an obvious, intuitive way for authors to do that, then nested groups become plausible. See [Design Notes](#) and [PmWiki:Hierarchical Groups](#).

Why don't PmWiki's scripts have a closing `?>` tag?

All of PmWiki's scripts now omit the closing `?>` tag. The tag is not required, and it avoids problems with unnoticed spaces or blank lines at the end of the file. Also, some file transfer protocols may change the newline character(s) in the file, which can also cause problems. See also the [Instruction separation](#) page in the [PHP manual](#).

Does PmWiki support WYSIWYG editing (or something like the FCKEditor)?

Short answer: PmWiki provides GUI buttons in a toolbar for common markups, but otherwise does not have WYSIWYG editing. For the reasons why, see [PmWiki:WYSIWYG](#).

Introduction

What is PmWiki?

PmWiki is a wiki-based system for collaborative creation and maintenance of websites. See [PmWiki](#).

What can I do with it?

PmWiki pages look and act like normal web pages, except they have an "[Edit](#)" link that makes it easy to modify existing pages and add new pages into the website, using [basic editing](#) rules. You do not need to know or use any HTML or CSS. Page editing can be left open to the public or restricted to small groups of authors. Feel free to experiment with the [Text Formatting Rules](#) in the "[Wiki sandbox](#)". The website you're currently viewing is built and maintained with PmWiki.

What are the requirements?

See the [PmWiki requirements](#) page.

Where can I find documentation?

See the [documentation index](#) page.

How can I download PmWiki?

See the [download](#) page.

How do I install PmWiki?

Instructions for installation are on the [installation page](#).

How do I get help with PmWiki?

See [Mailing lists](#) and [How to get assistance](#).

Access Keys

How can I change the keyboard shortcuts for editing and saving a page?

See [Customizing access keys](#).

I have a Wikisite Site.Sidebar which is embedded in the skin template. The use of `%item accesskey="x"%[[Groupname/Sitename]]` doesn't work here. Has anyone an idea why, and what I could do?

Use just `%accesskey="x"%[[PmWiki.PmWiki]]%` (no "item", closed with `%`).

Skin Templates

How do I customize the CSS styling of my PmWiki layout?

See [Skins](#) for how to change the default PmWiki skin. See also [Cookbook:Skins](#), where you will find pre-made templates you can use to customize the appearance of your site. You can also create a file called *local.css* in the *pub/css/* directory and add CSS selectors there (this file gets automatically loaded if it exists). Or, styles can be added directly into a local customization file by using something like:

```
$HTMLStylesFmt[] = '.foo { color:blue; }';
```

Where can the mentioned "translation table" be found for adding translated phrases?

See [Internationalizations](#).

Is it possible to have the edit form in full page width, with no sidebar?

If the sidebar is marked with `<!--PageLeftFmt-->`, adding `(:noleft:)` to `Site.EditForm` will hide it when a page is edited.

Can I easily hide the Home Page title from the homepage?

Yes, you can use in the wiki page either `(:title Some other title:)` to change it or `(:notitle:)` to hide it.

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