

From EULER Project

PmWiki: Text Formatting Rules

Table of contents

- [Paragraphs](#)
- [Indented Paragraphs \(*Quotes*\)](#)
- [Bulleted and Numbered Lists](#)
- [Definition Lists](#)
- [Whitespace Rules](#)
- [Horizontal Line](#)
- [Emphasis](#)
- [References](#)
- [Headings](#)
- [Escape sequence](#)
- [Special characters](#)
- [Tables](#)

This page provides a more **complete** list of some of the markup sequences available in **PmWiki**. Note that it's easy to create and edit pages without using any of the markups below, but *if* you ever need them, they're here.

To experiment with the rules, *please* try editing the [Wiki Sandbox](#).

Paragraphs

To create paragraphs, simply enter text. Use a blank line to start a new paragraph.

Words on two lines in a row will **wrap and fill** as needed (the normal XHTML behavior). To turn off the automatic filling, use the (:linebreaks:) directive above the paragraph.

- Use \ (single backslash) at the end of a line to join the current line to the next one.
- Use \\ (two backslashes) at the end of a line to force a line break.
- Use \\\ (three backslashes) at the end of a line to force 2 line breaks.
- Use [[<]] to force a line break that will clear floating elements.

Indented Paragraphs (*Quotes*)

Arrows (->) at the beginning of a paragraph can be used to produce an indented paragraph. More hyphens at the beginning (--->) produce larger indents.

```
->Four score and seven years ago our fathers placed upon this continent  
a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that  
all men are created equal.
```

Four score and seven years ago our fathers placed upon this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Inverted Arrows (-<) at the beginning of a paragraph can be used to produce a paragraph with a hanging indent. Adding hyphens at the beginning (---<) causes all the text to indent.

```
-<Four score and seven years ago our fathers placed upon this continent  
a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that  
all men are created equal.
```

Four score and seven years ago our fathers placed upon this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

```
--<Four score and seven years ago our fathers placed upon this continent  
a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that  
all men are created equal.  And that food would be good too.
```

Four score and seven years ago our fathers placed upon this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. And that food would be good too.

Blocks of text to which (:linebreaks:) has been applied can be indented by preceding the first line of the block with indentation arrows (->) and aligning subsequent lines under the first. An unindented line stops the block indentation. See [Cookbook:Markup Tricks](#) for an example.

Bulleted and Numbered Lists

Bullet lists are made by placing asterisks at the left margin. Numbered lists are made by placing number-signs (#) at the left margin. More asterisks/number-signs increases the level of bullet:

```
* First-level list item  
** Second-level list item  
### Order this  
#### And this (optional)  
### Then this  
** Another second-level item  
* A first-level item: cooking  
## Prepare the experiment  
### Unwrap the pop-tart  
### Insert the pop-tart into the toaster  
## Begin cooking the pop tart  
## Stand back
```

- First-level list item
 - ◆ Second-level list item
 1. Order this
 1. And this (optional)
 2. Then this
 - ◆ Another second-level item
- A first-level item: cooking
 1. Prepare the experiment
 1. Unwrap the pop-tart
 2. Insert the pop-tart into the toaster
 2. Begin cooking the pop tart
 3. Stand back

```
# A list is terminated  
by the first line that is not a list.  
# Continue a list item by lining  
up the text with leading whitespace.  
# Use a forced linebreak \\\
```

to force a newline in your list item.

1. A list is terminated

by the first line that is not a list.

1. Continue a list item by lining up the text with leading whitespace.
2. Use a forced linebreak
to force a newline in your list item.

Use list styles to control numbering of ordered lists

```
## Text between list items can cause numbering to restart
## %item value=3% this can be dealt with
```

1. Text between list items can cause numbering to restart
3. this can be dealt with

Also see: ListStyles, Cookbook:WikiStylesPlus

Definition Lists

Powerful new* feature

When you define terms using this markup
PmWiki will recognize them as PageTextVariables
that you can use on any page or PageList.

* Added in PmWiki version 2.2.0

Definition lists are made by placing colons at the left margin (and between each term and definition):

```
:term:definition of term
::second-level item: definition of 2nd-level item
```

```
term
    definition of term
    second-level item
        definition of 2nd-level item
```

Whitespace Rules

Whitespace indentation in lists. Any line that begins with whitespace *and aligns* with a previous list item (whether bulleted, numbers or definitional) is considered to be "within" that list item. Text folds and wraps as normal, and the (:linebreaks:) directive is honored.

```
# First-level item\\
  Whitespace used to continue item on a new line
# Another first-level item
  # Whitespace combined with a single # to create a new item one level deeper
```

1. First-level item
 Whitespace used to continue item on a new line
2. Another first-level item
 1. Whitespace combined with a single # to create a new item one level deeper

Otherwise, lines that begin with whitespace are treated as *preformatted text*, using a monospace font and not generating linebreaks except where explicitly indicated in the markup. Note to administrators: Starting with version 2.2.0-beta41, this feature can be modified using `$EnableWSPre`. (Another way to create preformatted text blocks is by using the `[@...@]` markup.)

Horizontal Line

Four or more dashes (----) at the beginning of a line produce a horizontal line.

Emphasis and character formatting

- Enclose text in doubled single-quotes ("text"), i.e., *two apostrophes*, for emphasis (usually *italics*)
- Enclose text in tripled single-quotes ("text"), i.e. *three apostrophes*, for strong (usually **bold**)
- Enclose text in five single-quotes ("text"), or triples within doubles (*five apostrophes*), for strong emphasis (usually ***bold italics***)
- Enclose text in doubled at-signs (@@text@@) for monospace text
- Use `[+large+]` for large text, `[++larger++]` for larger, `[-small-]` for small text, and `[--smaller--]` for smaller.
- Emphasis can be used multiple times within a line, but cannot span across markup line boundaries (i.e., you can't put a paragraph break in the middle of bold text).
- `'~italic~'` and `'*bold*'` are available if enabled in config.php

Other styling

```
'+big+', '-small-', '^super^', '_sub_',
{+insert or underscore+},
{-delete or strikethrough or strikeout-}
big, small, super, sub,
insert or underscore,
delete or strikethrough or strikeout
```

- ``WikiWord WikiWord` neutralisation

See also [Wiki Styles](#) for advanced text formatting options.

References

- Use words and phrases in double brackets (e.g., `[[text formatting rules]]`) to create links to other pages on this wiki.
- On some PmWiki installations, capitalized words joined together (e.g., [WikiWords](#)) can also be used to make references to other pages without needing the double-brackets.
- Precede URLs with "http:", "ftp:", "gopher:", "mailto:", or "news:" to create links automatically, as in <http://www.pmichaud.com/toast>.
- URLs ending with .gif, .jpg, or .png are displayed as images in the page
- Links with arbitrary text can be created as either `[[target | text]]` or `[[text -> target]]`. *Text* can be an image URL, in which case the image becomes the link to the remote *url* or [WikiWord](#).
- Anchor targets within pages (#-links) can be created using `[[#target]]`.

See [Links](#) for details.

Headings

Headings are made by placing an exclamation mark (!) at the left margin. More exclamation marks increase the level of heading. For example,

```
! Level 1 Heading
!! Level 2 Heading
!!! Level 3 Heading
!!!! Level 4 Heading
!!!!! Level 5 Heading
```

Level 1 Heading

Level 2 Heading

Level 3 Heading

Level 4 Heading

Level 5 Heading

Note that level 1 heading is already used as page title (at least in the PmWiki skin), so you should start with level 2 headings to create well formed, search enging optimized web pages.

See [Cookbook:Numbered Headers](#) for numbered headings.

Escape sequence

Anything placed between [= and =] is not interpreted by PmWiki, but paragraphs are reformatted. This makes it possible to turn off special formatting interpretations and neutralise WikiWords that are not links (even easier is to use a tick ` in front, like `WikiWord).

For preformatted text blocks, use the `[@...@]` markup. It does neither reformat paragraphs nor process wiki markup:

```
[@
Code goes here like [[PmWiki.PmWiki]]
'$CurrentTime $[by] $AuthorLink: [= $ChangeSummary=]'; #just some code
@]

Code goes here like [[PmWiki.PmWiki]]
'$CurrentTime $[by] $AuthorLink: [= $ChangeSummary=]'; #just some code
```

It is also useful to use `[= =]` within other wiki structures, as this enables the inclusion of new lines in text values. The example below shows how to include a multi-line value in a hidden form field.

```
(:input hidden message "[=Line1
Line2=]" :)
```

Special Characters

When creating pages it's common to use commercial trademarks, copyright, umlaut, and other non-keyboard symbols. therefore it's important that you have the means to input these special characters.

ISO Standard codes

PmWiki supports the HTML special character listings by the w3c. W3C Page of Special Character codes ISO standard.[\(approve sites\)](#)

Here are some samples:

```
&#169; | &#188; | &#189; | &#174; | &#181; |
&#168;

© | ¼ | ½ | ® | µ | ¨

&#198; | 32&#176; | Un&#239;ted St&#228;tes | &#182; |
&#165;Yen | PmWiki&#8482;

Æ | 32° | Ünited Stätes | ¶ | ¥Yen | PmWiki™
```

For a nice table of the same codes that show the codes with the output go to the Noble Desktop[\(approve sites\)](#) special character page.

Other ways to do it:

Character Map

Find the "Character Map" utility in your computer's System Tools folder. Click the symbol you're interested in, and note the keystroke information at the bottom of the box. You execute these by *holding "Alt"* while keying the numbers *on the numerical keypad* of your keyboard (not the numbers across the top of the board).

© = Alt+0169 = © | ® = Alt+0174 = ® | ° = Alt+0176 = ° (degrees).

Paste

- Use Word or another desktop application to create your text with the special characters that you want. Copy and paste the text to the wiki page you're editing or creating.

- Find an instance of a special character in an online document; copy and paste the character to your wiki page: ©

There's a list of special characters at [PmWiki:SpecialCharactersList](#). There's another illustration at [PmWiki:Characters](#)

Tables

Tables are defined by enclosing cells with '|'. A cell with leading and trailing spaces is centered; a cell with leading spaces is right-aligned; all other cells are left-aligned. An empty cell will cause the previous cell to span multiple columns. (There is currently no mechanism for spanning multiple rows.) A line beginning with '!' specifies the table attributes for subsequent tables. A '!' as the first character in a cell provides emphasis that can be used to provide headings. This is interesting stuff.

```
||border=1 width=50%
|!Table|!Heading|!Example| | | | |
|!Left  || Center || Right||
|A      ||! a B  ||      C||
||      || single ||      ||
||      || multi span ||||
```

Table	Heading	Example
Left	Center	Right
A	a B	C
	single	
	multi span	

See [Table Directives](#) for advanced tables.

Can't find it here?

See [Markup Master Index](#)

Retrieved from <https://www-sop.inria.fr/mascotte/EULER/wiki/pmwiki.php/PmWiki/TextFormattingRules>
Page last modified on July 12, 2009, at 05:35 PM