VisualEditor

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VisualEditor

Is an editor you can use without having to enter special markup.

Status: stable
Developer: MediaWiki
Extension type: MediaWiki
Edition: BlueSpice free
Dependencies: MediaWiki
License: MIT
Activated: No
Category: Editor

Documentation on MediaWiki.org

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Description

**VisualEditor** is a WYSIWYG editor that enables you to edit wiki pages without having to enter special markup (like HTML, wiki tags). The editor menu bar resembles those of commonly used word processing programs.

Usage / Features

When activated, clicking the "edit" button will load the visual editor instead of the wiki text editor.

If this is not the case, for example because you are using a form to edit the page, the VisualEditor is also available via the "arrow" menu next to the edit button under "Edit".

Technical information

Configuration

The VisualEditor uses the Node.js service Parsoid. Because this service cannot be installed in some cases, this extension is deactivated by default.

After successful installation and configuration, the visual editor can be activated as described [here](#).

Rights (permissions)

Requirements

VisualEditor requires [BlueSpiceFoundation](#).

User manual

For detailed description and usage please visit our help page.

Try free our BlueSpice [BlueSpiceDemo](#).

MIT

The **MIT License** is a permissive free software license originating at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

A common form of the MIT License is this (taken from the Open Source Initiative's website; this is identical to the "Expat License", and different from the license used in the X source code):

```plaintext
Copyright (c) <year> <copyright holders>

Permission is hereby granted, free of charge, to any person obtaining a copy
```
Git is a version management tool that can be used, among other things, to record changes to files and restore them if necessary.

Git is required for some extensions if they are to be obtained directly from the publisher and are not to be installed using a ready-made installation package.

**Linux**

Under Debian/Ubuntu you can install Git with the following command:

```
apt install git
```

**Windows**

**Download Git for Windows**

Download the latest version of Git (64-bit Git for Windows Setup) from the [official project website](#).
Installation of Git under Windows

Install Git into the folder `{bluespice\bin\git` with the default settings of the installer. Please pay attention to our notes on the page Folder structure under Windows, which we use in this complete installation manual - do not use spaces and special characters in folder names.

Reference: BlueSpiceFoundation

The extension BlueSpiceFoundation is the interface between BlueSpice and Mediawiki. It provides basic functions for the individual BlueSpice extensions.

If you install any BlueSpice extension in a MediaWiki environment - that is outside of BlueSpice free or BlueSpice pro - the reference information for the extension will indicate if it requires BlueSpiceFoundation.

Technical information

Requirements

This extension requires ExtJSBase.

For download info, visit mediawiki.org.

Manual: VisualEditor

BlueSpice uses the MediaWiki extension VisualEditor as editing tool. This sophisticated editor supports all common edit tasks that you can expect in a wiki environment.

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<td>2 Shortcuts</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Inserting other content</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Wiki-specific content</td>
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</table>
Text editing

Typical text formatting options such as **bold**, *italics*, or text color are available as a context menu. When you highlight text, a menu with common formatting elements appears. For example, you can apply a different text color.

![Applying text color]

**Shortcuts**

If you want to apply multiple formatting options at the same time, shortcuts are often the quickest way. For example, to show text in bold and italic, highlight the text and press Ctrl+b (for "**bold**") and Ctrl+i (for "*italics*"). Even a link can be quickly inserted by pressing Ctrl+k. Pressing Ctrl+b again will cancel the bold. Multiple formats can be removed after text selection with Ctrl+m.

All available keyboard shortcuts are marked accordingly in VisualEditor next to each menu item.

![Menu items with shortcuts]
Inserting other content

Many typical page elements such as images, files and tables can be integrated into your page from the *Insert* menu.

If you want to learn more about inserting these elements, go to the following help pages:

- Images
- Files (PDF, xls, doc, ...)
- Tables
- Templates

Wiki-specific content

Some functions in the "Insert" menu are little known from traditional word processing, but are quite typical for working with a wiki. Therefore, they are briefly introduced here. Find more information on the help pages here in the helpdesk or at mediawiki.org:

- **Comment**: Add comments to the page. These are only visible in the source code.
- **Gallery**: A simple picture gallery can support many process flows.
- **Magic word**: Wiki features such as signature, word counter, category tree or even process diagrams with draw.io can be integrated as a "magic word”.
- **Your signature**: Only works on pages that allow signatures. Pages in the Namespace "Pages" are not included.
- **Codeblock**: Programming code is displayed here in clean code blocks, optionally with line numbers.
- **References list**: 
- **Chemical formula**: 
- **Math formula**: An editor opens for entering a mathematical formula.

Switching between edit modes

When creating or editing a page, the page loads in visual editing mode. If you are familiar with the code language of MediaWiki ("Wikitext"), you can easily switch to source editing mode using the "Switch editor" button:
MediaWiki reference

Since VisualEditor is a standard MediaWiki extension, you can also read a documentation of functionality on MediaWiki. Here in the BlueSpice Helpdesk, we only give some hints and tips for using the editor.

Hints and tips

VisualEditor is optimized for editing web pages. That's why it has exactly the features that are often needed to create a wiki page. The consistent formatting of content supports the readability of your wiki content.

Text formatting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Text formatting</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Undo function    | Left arrow: Undo last action (greyed out: there is no last action yet)  
Right arrow: Restore last action (greyed out: there's nothing to restore yet) |
| Format Paragraph | Here text can be defined as heading or specific paragraph type. *Note:* If you work in a table, the options will change accordingly (content cell and header cell): |
| Style text       | If no text has been selected before clicking on the "A" button and on a button, the text will be formatted from the current position of the cursor.  
| Insert hyperlink  | If no text was selected before the hyperlink dialog was opened, the link will be generated with a number:  
[1] To subsequently change the hyperlink description, just click on the link to open the edit menu. In a table, you may need to double-click the cell first and then click the hyperlink again. |
Text formatting

cite

The citation menu is used to insert references (also called itemizations or footnotes) within the text.

Structure

Insert special content

Paste Special Content

Insert menu

Use the “insert” menu to insert various media (images, videos) and text formats:

media

Inserting pictures and videos

(Details on MediaWiki)

templates

Include a template in the page.

tables

Tables are an important tool for formatting tabular page content.

comment

Comments are not visible to readers, but only in edit mode. A comment can be inserted anywhere on a page. The comment can be edited by clicking on it.

And this is what a comment looks like:

Gallery
### Paste Special Content

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Magic word</th>
<th>With a &quot;magic word&quot; you can include certain variables or so-called behavioral switches in your page. For example, you can display the word count:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Learn more about the function Magic Word”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Overview of all Magic Words in the visual editor.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your signature</th>
<th>This option can only be used in discussions. It allows to add a signature at any point of a discussion.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code block</th>
<th>With code block various code examples can be entered, like e.g. in HTML syntax. The code is then displayed properly formatted:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><code>&lt;span style=&quot;color: red&quot;&gt;red text&lt;/span&gt;</code></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>References list</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chemical formula</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Math formula</th>
<th>It opens an editor for entering a mathematical formula.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Special:MyFirstPage">info on MediaWiki</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special Characters</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Page options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page Options</th>
<th>The options menu allows editing of all page settings.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Page Options
### Page Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Options</th>
<th>This button allows the page settings and page information to be updated simultaneously within a dialog box.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Categories</td>
<td>Here you assign the page to one or more categories <a href="#">Categories</a>. The page will appear accordingly on all linked category pages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page Settings</td>
<td>Page redirection: When the page is redirected, the content of the page is no longer displayed, but the target page is loaded directly. This setting can also be used to display or remove the table of contents at the top of the page. The table of contents is automatically generated by the headings on the page. When a page has more than three headings, the table of contents appears automatically by default.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Settings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Languages</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Templates used</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>View as right-to-left</td>
<td>Support for languages that are read from right to left. Clicking this button right-side formats the page text. Click again to set the text flush left.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find and replace</td>
<td>Words or characters can be searched and replaced directly on the page. The &quot;Undo&quot; button can be used to cancel the change.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Troubleshooting: Visual editing is disabled

If you only see code editing, please contact an administrator of your wiki. The following settings must be checked in this case:

- Global settings via the configuration manager
- Namespace management settings
- Parsoid service on the server