4. Structuring content

4.4 Extension/BlueSpicePageTemplates

A page template applies a predefined content structure and layout to new pages. That way, certain page types can be applied during page creation to produce consistent sets of related pages.

Characteristics

Page templates are especially useful for frequently used content formats such as logs, reference pages, product descriptions, or short manuals. When a page is created with a page template, the page becomes "detached" from the original page template. This means that subsequent changes to the template will not affect pages that have originally been created with that page template. This distinguishes page templates from regular templates.

In general, page templates:

- used for new pages only
- can be limited to certain namespaces
- can force a namespace for new pages
- are based on templates in the Template namespaces
- integrate with the extension Page Forms

Creating a page template

Administrators can create new page templates, as well as edit and remove existing ones in the Page templates manager, located under Global actions.
Note: Every page template depends on an actual page in the namespace Template. This template must exist before creating a page template.

A new page template can be created by clicking the "Plus" button above the template list.

Template fields

When creating or editing a page template, the following information needs to be provided:

- **Name** - the name of the template
- **Description** - a short description of the template
- **Namespace** - list of the namespace where the template is active
- **Template** - page from the Template namespace from which to pull the data
Using page templates

A list of available templates appears when a user creates a new page. It is shown below the "Empty page" default template. Selecting one of these page templates will create the new page that is prefilled with the content that is transcluded from the actual template page.
Configuration

In the Config manager, you can change the following settings:

- **Force target namespace:**
- **Hide default templates:** Hides the default *Empty page* template.

Related info

- Reference:BlueSpicePageTemplates

Manual:Template

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What is a template?

A template is a type of reusable content that can be integrated into other pages of the wiki. It can be content-based (text template) or structure-based (layout template) or a combination of both.

A simple example is a notification box that looks identical on all pages, but contains different content on each page where it is used (layout template):

Tip: Message goes here

A template can also be used as the source for a page template.

Characteristics of a template

- Allows inserting reusable content with a placeholder
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- Is usually located in the namespace "Template"
- Can have parameters
- Often contains logic
- Used to maintain a "look and feel"

Creating and including a template

A new template is created like a regular page, but in the namespace Template.

**Example:** Simple template for a notification box

A template is then included in a page by putting the name of the template (i.e., the title of the template page without the namespace prefix "Template:")) in two curly brackets:{{NotificationBox}}

**Note:** Template names are case-sensitive.

Editing a template

Changes to a template affect all pages that include this template. Before existing templates are changed, it is recommended that you check which pages use the template. To find these pages, you can go to Page tools > Toolbox > What links here.

Built-in variables

Each MediaWiki has a number of built-in variables that are not pages in the "template:" namespace, but are still used as templates.

For example, the variable {{CURRENTTIME}} returns the the current UTC time.

Further notes

- The use of a template is basically a transclusion. It is also possible to use pages as templates that are not in the Template namespace. However, this is to be done wisely, since some functions require that the pages are in the template namespace.
- Templates can also be used to define the output of semantic query. For more information, go to Semantic MediaWiki. (This is an example where the pages must necessarily be in the template namespace.)
- The complete list of all pages of the wiki that are located in this namespace can be found on the page Special:Templates.
Related info

- [meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Help:Template](http://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Help:Template)

Reference: Page Forms

**Page Forms** (known until November 2016 as **Semantic Forms**) is an extension to MediaWiki that allows users to add, edit and query data using forms.

It was originally created as an offshoot of the Semantic MediaWiki extension to be able to edit templates that store their parameters via SMW. However, it can now also work with the alternative Cargo extension, or with neither extension installed.

Very simply, Page Forms allows you to have **forms for creating and editing pages** on your wiki, as well as **for querying data**, all **without any programming**. Forms can be created and edited not just by administrators, but by users themselves.

The main components of Page Forms functionality are form definition pages, which exist in a separate namespace, 'Form:'. These are pages consisting of markup code which gets parsed when a user goes to a form. Since forms are defined strictly through these definition pages, users can themselves create and modify forms, without the need for any actual programming.

The Page Forms extension is mostly used to add and edit calls to infobox-style **templates** within pages. A form allows a user to populate a pre-defined set of templates, as well as page sections, for any page; if Cargo or Semantic MediaWiki are used, the data within the templates can then be stored and queried.

Forms can also be used to edit the data in an existing page, and you can enable an “formedit” tab to show up on any page.

Page Forms also supports **autocompletion of fields**, so users can easily see what the previously-entered values were for a given field. This greatly helps to avoid issues of naming ambiguity, spelling, etc.

Data in a page that doesn't fit into the form, like a free-form text description of the page's subject, isn't ignored when the page is edited with a form; rather, it is placed into a separate input box called "free text".

Page Forms also includes a wide variety of other functionality related to forms.
Config manager

About Config manager

With the Config manager, a wiki user with sysop rights can manage all BlueSpice wiki-wide settings in one place. In the navigation, it is located under Global navigations > Management > Config manager. This link loads the page Special:ConfigManager.
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Layout

Filter options

All settings can be accessed through the following filter options:

- **Feature:** group by type of functionality the setting belongs to (search, administration...)
- **Extension:** group by extension name
- **Package:** group by BlueSpice edition and services (BlueSpice free, BlueSpice pro, Matomo)

All settings are available in any type of grouping. Changing the grouping type does not add or remove setting options. It just groups them differently.
After settings are adjusted, they can be saved by clicking *Save*, or reset to the default settings by clicking *Reset*.

### Searching for settings

A search bar is located above the list of settings. Type in a keyword such as "logo" to find the corresponding setting. The search returns settings regardless of the currently selected group.

**Note:** The search field has to be empty if you want to see the filter menu instead of the search.

![Config manager search box](image)

### Settings by extension

**BlueSpiceFoundation**

- **Logo path:** The logo image should be stored in the `/images` folder of your installation. If you store it in the `/skins` folder of your BlueSpice installation, it could be overwritten with an upgrade.

**To upload the logo directly in the wiki:**

1. **Upload** the logo on the page *Extended file list (Special:ExtendedFilelist)*. This is a link under the *Global actions* navigation.
2. **Search** for the logo name in the extended file list.
3. **Click** on the thumbnail image of the logo. This opens the logo on a separate page.
4. **Copy** the relative logo path from the address bar. In a typical Wiki configuration, this path starts with `/w/...`

5. **Paste** the logo path into the text field for the logo.

6. **Click** **Save**.
7. **Refresh** the page (Strg+F5).

- **Favicon path:** The favicon image should be stored in the `/images` folder of your installation. If you store it in the /skins folder of your BlueSpice installation, it could be overwritten with an upgrade. **Favicon images** have the file extension `.ico`.  
  
  
  
  
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- **Allowed file extensions:** For security reasons, the types of files that users can upload are restricted. Here, you can allow additional file formats. If a file format is blacklisted in the server configuration, adding this file extension here will not allow this file type to be uploaded. See mediawiki.org/wiki/Manual:Page_title for more info.

- **Allowed image extensions:** The standard web image types are listed here. In general, you want to restrict image uploads to web images. See developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/Media/Formats/Image_types for more on browser-supported image types.

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**BlueSpiceAbout**

- **Show link "About BlueSpice" in the main menu:** Shows or hides the link to the page AboutBlueSpice in the main navigation.

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**BlueSpiceArticleInfo**

BlueSpiceArticleInfo, together with BlueSpiceAuthors, BlueSpiceReaders, and BlueSpiceExtendedSearch is part of the Page information in the quality management tools.

- **Update interval in seconds:** Sets the refresh rate for the "Last edit" value. By default, this date is updated every 10 seconds via JavaScript.
BlueSpiceAuthors

BlueSpiceAuthors, together with BlueSpiceArticleInfo and BlueSpiceReaders, is part of the Page information in the quality management tools.

- **Display authors**: Show or hide authors on the page information page.

![Page authors in page information](image)

BlueSpiceAvatars

An avatar image is automatically generated if the user does not upload a profile picture or if the user decides to create an avatar image in the preferences.

- **Generator**
  - **InstantAvatar**: Generates an avatar image based on using the initials of the Real name or the Username
  - **Identicon**: Generates an avatar image based on parts of the user's IP address.

![Identicon](image)
BlueSpiceBookshelf

- **Use the display title from book source on article:** Shows the title from the book navigation as page title instead of the page name.

  ![Book display title](image)

  **Note:** If the page additionally contains a `{{DISPLAYTITLE}}` tag, the display title of the page is shown instead of the book title.

- Prepend article table of contents and headlines with book numberation
- Supress namespace prefix of book articles in output

BlueSpiceChecklist

- **Mark checklist changes as minor edit:** If this setting is active, changes to a checklist (for example, checking a checkbox) in view mode are logged as minor edits. If this setting is inactive, a change to the checklist is recorded as a regular version in the page history.

  ![Minor edit](image)

BlueSpiceExtendedSearch

- **External file paths:** External locations to scan for and index files from. These locations are entered in key/value pairs of Physical path and URL prefix.
  - **Physical path:** Storage path. For mounted drives, for example: `X:\Documents`
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- **URL prefix**: All files indexed from the indexed physical location are prefixed in the search results. It should be used if files are available from a web server. By default, the URL prefix is set to the same value as *Physical path*.

- **Use simple autocomplete**: forces a more compact autocomplete (1-column layout, no thumbnail preview).

![Compact Autocomplete](image1.png)

![Regular Autocomplete](image2.png)

- **Automatically set language filter**: This setting applies to multi-language wikis. It returns search results for a user only in the user's language. Users can set their language in their preferences.

- **Exclude patterns**: Files at external file locations can be excluded from search based on regular expression patterns.

**BlueSpiceExtendedStatistics**

- **Exclude these users**: Some user groups, like WikiSysop can skew the statistics, for example the statistics for search queries or because they complete automated maintenance tasks. These types of user groups can be excluded from the statistical results.

- **Maximum number of interval steps**: Sets the size of the x-axis for the results. For a few days, select the interval *Day* or *Calendar Week*, for periods over one year, select *Year* or *Month*. If you do not get any results for your query, try to adjust the interval accordingly.
BlueSpiceInsertCategory

- Insert category with its parents
- Set page categories as default in upload dialog

BlueSpicensertLink

- Allow unmapped links
- Allowed locations for external files
  - Filesystem prefix
  - Web accessible prefix:

BlueSpicePageTemplates

- Force target namespace:
- Hide default templates: Hides the default Empty page template.

BlueSpicePermissionManager

- Backup limit: Sets the number of backups for the permissions manager. Each time the page Special: PermissionManager is saved, a backup is created. If the backup limit is set to 5, the last five versions of the permissions configuration are saved as backups.

BlueSpiceReaders

- Number of readers to display: Sets the number of readers that are displayed on the Page information in the Quality management tools.
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BlueSpiceSaferEdit

- **Interval for lookup for concurrent editings**: Sets the time in seconds for checking if another person is editing the page.
- **Show name of current editor**: Shows or hides the name of the user who is currently editing the page.

BlueSpiceUEModuleBookPDF

- Table of Contents
  - **Only article titles (indent by grade)**: Only shows the article titles in the main contents table of the PDF.

![PDF table of contents without article TOCs](image)

- **Embed article TOCs (No indent of article titles)**: Shows the table of contents for each article in the main contents table of the PDF.

![Embed article TOCs](image)

BlueSpiceUEModuleHTML

- **Hide namespace prefix in PDF**: If activated, the namespace is shown in the HTML main heading.
Note: If the page contains a "displaytitle" tag in the page source, the page display title is shown and this setting has no effect.

BlueSpiceUEModulePDF

- **Hide namespace prefix in PDF**: If activated, the namespace is shown in the PDF main heading for a page.

![Image showing namespace in heading]

Note: If the page contains a "displaytitle" tag in the page source, the page display title is shown and this setting has no effect.

BlueSpiceUniversalExport

- **Metadata (standard, JSON)**: Additional data to be passed to the rendering template in JSON format. This data can be used in the export template. The template itself is maintained server-side.
- **Metadata (override, JSON)**: Allows overriding standard data sent to the rendering template in JSON format. Values that are set by default can be overridden with this option.

BlueSpiceVisualEditorConnector

- **Enable VisualEditor for BlueSpice extensions**
- **Configuration variable to use a simplified save process**
- **Upload type**
  - Original (Here a confirmation of the rights of use/upload is obtained, file name and namespace of the file can be changed, a category can be assigned and a description of the file MUST be given).
  - Simple (No confirmation of required rights is obtained here, the name and namespace of the file can be changed, a description and a category can be assigned, but does not have to be specified)
- One click (No confirmation about required rights is obtained here, the image cannot be renamed and no category can be assigned. Only the namespace can, but does not have to be adjusted before uploading)

**BlueSpiceWhoIsOnline**

- **Time in seconds until a user is marked as offline**: The system checks every $x$ seconds if a user logged out and no longer displayed as online. This can be less frequent than the update interval for newly logged-in users.
- **Update interval in seconds**: The system checks every $x$ seconds for users.

**BlueSpiceExpiry**

- **Show watermark for expired pages in PDF**: Shows the watermark for expired pages in PDFs.
- **Show watermark for expired pages in print version**: Shows the watermark for expired pages when a page is printed.
- **Show watermark for expired pages**: Shows a watermark on the page itself.

**BlueSpiceReview**

- **Only the owner of a review can change it**: If this is unchecked, any user with edit rights can update a workflow.

**BlueSpiceReviewExtended**

- **Workflow will be added to page history**: This enables that workflow votes are listed under the page history with the corresponding version.
BlueSpiceFlaggedRevsConnector

Export

The export settings affect how the pages of a book are generated in the PDF export.

- **Bookshelf: List accepted revisions log:** Shows a log of stable page versions of pages in the PDF and when these pages were put into accepted status. If editors did not provide a comment when accepting the page, the *Stable comment* field for a revision is empty.

![Accepted revisions log](image)

- **Bookshelf: List pages without stable revision:** Displays a list of PDF pages at the beginning of the PDF that only exist as a first draft and have no released version.

![Not stable pages](image)

- **Bookshelf: List pages without FlaggedRevs:** Displays a list of PDF pages that do not have a release mechanism at the beginning of the PDF.
4. Structuring content

- **UEModulePDF: Show FlaggedRevs info below main heading**: Prints the latest revision dates (last acceptance and last edit date) below the heading.

Quality assurance

- **Automatically set the page to stable, when the workflow was finished successfully**: The workflow ends with setting the page status to stable.
- **Automatically delete the workflow, when a page was marked as stable**: The workflow is deleted.
- **Show unstable pages for following groups**: If the group *user* is removed from the BlueSpiceFlaggedRevs configuration, users in this group will not be able to see draft versions when they are added as reviewers in a review process. When the group user is removed, only *sysop* and *reviewer* users can access drafts. If you want other groups, for example *editor*, to see draft versions, you need to add them to the configuration. If no user groups are specified in the configuration field, not even reviewers and sysops users will see a visual status indication of a page. They will have access to drafts through the revision history for the page instead.

Searching and Navigation

- **Indexing only stable versions**: Draft versions are excluded from the search results. If a page does not have a stable version, it is not shown as a search result.

BlueSpiceSocialBlog

- **Use teaser text for blog entries in the timeline**: When you create a blog entry, you can create a teaser text for it by clicking the cogwheel symbol in the blog entry form. If this setting is active, the teaser text will be shown on the page *Special:Timeline* instead of the first part of the content.
BlueSpiceSocialTopics

- **Automatically create all discussion pages.** If a user creates the first discussion topic for a page using the link in the page footer of a wiki page, the needed discussion page is automatically created first.

  A message "This discussion page was created automatically" is inserted on the discussion page.
If this setting is deactivated, the user is directed to the "Create page" default page first.

**BlueSpiceMatomoConnector**

- **Site ID**: Matomo ID of the wiki. You can find the site ID as a url parameter in the browser address bar when you are logged into Matomo.

  ![matomo site ID](date=last7&period=range&idSite=13)

- **Base url**: The url to your Matomo installation.
- **Show opt-out link in footer**: Displays a link in your wiki footer, usually named *Analysis service*.

On the Analysis service page, there is a checkbox that allows a user to opt-out from being tracked for analysis purposes.

![Matomo opt-out checkbox](You may choose to prevent this website from aggregating and analyzing the actions you take here. Doing so will protect your privacy, but will also prevent the owner from learning from your actions and creating a better experience for you and other users.

- **You are not opted out. Uncheck this box to opt-out.**

**Related info**

- **Reference:ConfigManager**

**Reference:BlueSpicePageTemplates**
**BlueSpicePageTemplates** allows users to create new pages from predefined templates to start with a basic page structure.

### Usage / Features

- Create a template (with headers, categories, boxes and other content) in the template namespace.
- Create a page template using the special page Special_PageTemplatesAdmin give the page template a name and a description.
- Each template should be assigned a template from the "Template" namespace that represents the structure of a document.
- Page templates can be assigned to a particular namespace, so that a certain template will only appear when creating pages in that namespace.
- The page template is shown as a choice when a new page is created.
Technical information

Configuration

Some aspects of this extension can be configured on the page Special:BlueSpiceConfigManager, under "Page templates". Here, wiki administrators can:

- Force a target namespace for the page that was created from the template
- Hide default templates

Rights (permissions)

Users must have "pagetemplates-viewspecialpage" permission in order to manage templates.

Requirements

PageTemplates requires BlueSpiceFoundation.

More info

For detailed description and usage, visit our user manual.

Demo

You can create a new page in our BlueSpiceDemo. and select a page template there.