What are magic words (or MagicWords)?

A "magic word", also known as MagicWord, is a symbol recognized by the MediaWiki software. It triggers the software to do something other than display that symbol or transclude a page with that name, but instead to use the symbol directly.

There are different types of MagicWords:

- **Behavior switch** (or "Double underscore"): __TOC__
- **Variable**: {{FULLPAGENAME}}
- **Tag**: <gallery>
- **Parser function**: {{#ifeq:x|y|true|false}}
The 4 types of MagicWords

Behavior switch

**Characteristics of a behavior switch**

- **Purpose:** controls the layout or behavior of the page
- **Syntax:** __NOTOC__

**Description**

A behavior switch includes or omits certain elements of the page. It is also known as "double underscore". Behavior switches can be put anywhere in the source code of the designated page (usually at the end of the page). The behavior switch __TOC__ produces as output the table of contents exactly where it was inserted on the page.

Variable

**Characteristics of a variable**

- **Purpose:** returns information about the page, wiki, or date
- **Syntax:** {{PAGENAME}}

**Description**

Variables contain (simple) dynamic data. If a template name conflicts with a variable, the variable is used. For example, you have the variable {{PAGENAME}}. In that case, you have to transclude the template with the same name as {{Template:PAGENAME}}.

Parser Function

**Characteristics of a parser function**

- **Purpose:** simple "programming language" for page content (mainly in templates)
- **Syntax:** {{#if:{{field|}} | {{field|}} | N/A }}

**Description**

Parser functions are similar to variables, but take one or more parameters. Example:
They are used for simple logic only, since they are hard to read and to maintain on a larger scale. If complex logic is required, consider Lua scripts in the "Module" namespace (mediawiki.org/wiki/Extension:Scribunto) and invoke using {{#invoke:...}}

Parser functions can also be "tag-like", e.g. {{#ask:...}} from SemanticMediaWiki. For more information, refer to the MediaWiki help pages mediawiki.org/wiki/Help:Extension:ParserFunctions and mediawiki.org/wiki /Help:Magic_words#Parser_functions.

Tag

Characteristics of a tag

- **Purpose**: often used for custom development to process dynamic content
- **Syntax**: <smartlist />

Description

Tags are implemented in PHP as part of a MediaWiki extension. Tags with "bs:" prefix come from BlueSpice (see Reference:BlueSpiceTagSearch). All others come from MediaWiki or from third-party extensions, e.g. the extension SyntaxHighlight.

How to add a magic word

Magic words are inserted directly in the source code. Some frequently used magic words can also be added directly with the VisualEditor *Insert* > *Magic word* menu item:
TagSearch allows the integration of a configurable search field in the page content. This search field relies on ExtendedSearch.
Usage / features

The configurable search field can be integrated into a content page with a tag. This tag has the following configuration options:

- **Placeholder**: Default text that is shown in the search field.
- **Type**: List of valid result types. Possible values: wikipage, specialpage, repofile, externalfile, socialentity.
- **Namespaces**: Sets the searched namespaces. You can indicate it by ID or by the name of the namespace. Multiple entries are possible, separated by a pipe symbol (|). Default: As set in the ExtendedSearch.
- **Categories**: Sets the searched categories. Multiple entries are possible, separated by a pipe symbol (|). Default: No category is defined.
- **Search operator**: Search operator for the Categories field. Possible values: AND/OR. Default: AND.

**Tag**: `<bs:tagsearch />`
Technical information

Configuration

This extension offers no additional configurations.

Rights (permissions)

This extension does not require any special rights.

Requirements

TagSearch requires BlueSpiceFoundation and BlueSpiceExtendedSearch.

More info

For detailed description and usage, visit our help page.

Demo

Try inserting a search tag in our BlueSpiceDemo.

Reference: SyntaxHighlight

**SyntaxHighlight** adds customizable syntax highlighting functionality.

It is powered by the Pygments library and supports hundreds of different programming languages and file formats.

For more information please visit MediaWiki.
The extension **InsertMagic** provides a dialog for inserting Magic Words in the [visual editor](#).

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## Inserting magic words

In edit mode, click on *Insert* in the editor toolbar and select *Magic word* from the dropdown menu.

![Insert Magic words](image)

Once the magic word is selected in the list on the left, a description, including usage examples, will appear on the right.
After saving the dialog, further parameters can be set for the selected magic word or tag.

Related info

- Category tree
- Checklists
- Count things
- Drawio
- Page access
- Sign here
- Smartlist
- Tag cloud
- Tag search
- Reference:BlueSpiceInsertMagic