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How to become a BlueSpice hacker

This article is written to help novice developers learn the skills needed to contribute to BlueSpice development.

Why should you contribute?

When you are actively involved in a project you get the opportunity to shape its future. Changes are caused by actions. You will certainly receive a big "thank you" and you will be publicly credited related to your work. Even more, you are helping a lot of users who will thank you quietly or loudly.

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Join in

Like in every other project there are lots of possibilities to participate. Here a few examples of what you could do in the BlueSpice project.

Improving the code quality

- Doc blocs: Write with us documenting blocs in the source code. This helps us to complete the code and check for discrepancies. More about the [MediaWiki DocBlocks](#) at wikimedia.
- Coding conventions: Help to enforce coding conventions. We use the [Coding Conventions of MediaWiki](#).
- Security: has high priority. Please help to improve it. Therefore you should have a look at [Security for developers](#).

Bugfixes

Look for minor and major bugs. And if you already programmed the solution, well, all the better! Here you can find some help on [debugging in MediaWiki](#)

Code Review

Help us to review code contributions. Therefore you have to be familiar with gerrit. Find more information at "setting up a development environment" und "committing changes".

- [BlueSpice Extensions](#)
- [BlueSpice Foundation](#)
- [BlueSpice Skin](#)

Small addition

A lot of the existing extensions want to be developed and provide opportunities to extend the functionality. What we have in mind:

Dashboard Widgets, Statics, Sidebar, Widgets, etc.

Own extensions

Of course you can develop your own BlueSpice extensions. Please follow the MediaWiki workflow. You will find a good tutorial on MediaWiki pages like this one [MediaWiki developing extensions MediaWiki](#). These notes should also be consulted for developing BlueSpice. Please create a separate repository in gerrit that is named like this:

```
mediawiki/skins/BlueSpiceYourExtension
```

Translations

Translations are needed all the time. Please contact the community of [translatewiki.net](#).

This is how it works

Commit changes

There are two possibilities to supply patches.

1. Mail to Hallo Welt!

Send an e-mail with your patch in ([git format-patch](#)) to support@hallowelt.com. We will commit the change for you in git where it has to go through a standardized process.

2. Actively participating via Git

We follow the procedure that is also common in the MediaWiki developer community:

- Get a developer account for MediaWiki
- Install git-review
- check out the BlueSpice code
- Commit your changes
- Changes are verified in Gerrit
- When everything is ok, your changes will be accepted

On MediaWiki.org you will find a [short](#) and a [extended](#) tutorial.

The BlueSpice code can be found in these repositories:

```
mediawiki/extensions/BlueSpiceFoundation.git  
mediawiki/extensions/BlueSpiceExtensions.git  
mediawiki/skins/BlueSpiceSkin.git
```

and this is how you check out:

```
git clone ssh://USERNAME@gerrit.wikimedia.org:29418/mediawiki/extensions/BlueSpiceFoundation.git
```

In the repositories of BlueSpice it is necessary to have the "+2" or "Merge" permission before you can commit code to the product by yourself. Please ask Markus Glaser if you feel you need this kind of access (glaser@hallowelt.biz).

If you want to write own extensions for BlueSpice please ask for an own repository [here](#). Please follow the naming convention.

```
mediawiki/extensions/BlueSpiceMyWidget.git
```

See also

- https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/How_to_become_a_MediaWiki_hacker

