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## 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
- 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

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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

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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

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- 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

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

## Page template

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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.

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## Characteristics

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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](#).

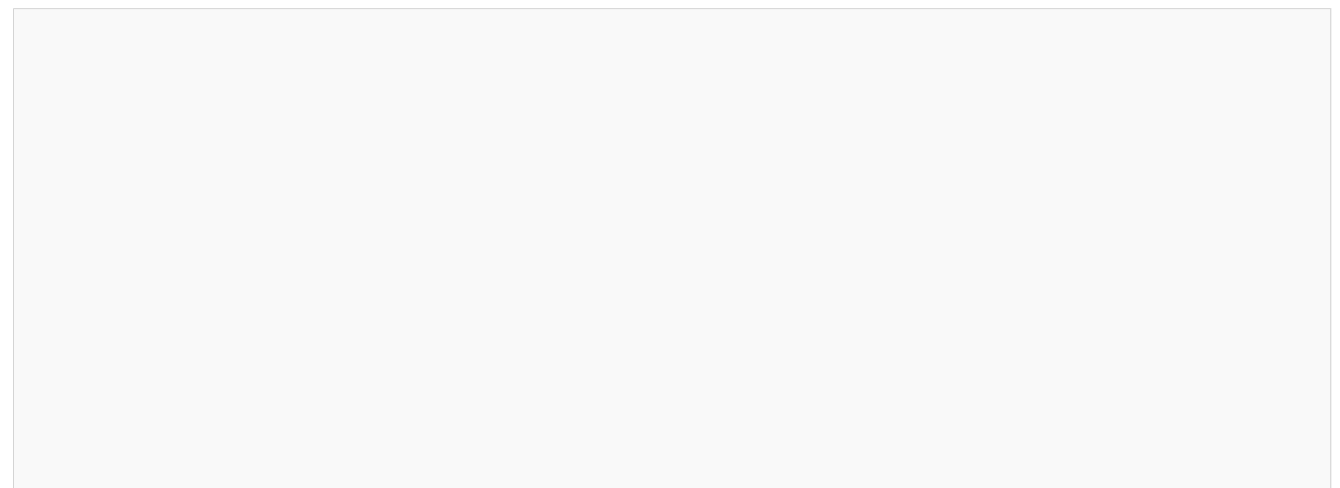
In general, page templates:

- 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

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Administrators can create new page templates, as well as edit and remove existing ones in the *Page templates* manager, located under *Global actions*.



The screenshot displays the 'Page templates administration' interface in BlueSpice 3. On the left, a dark blue sidebar lists various management tools, with 'Page templates' circled in orange. The main content area features a table with the following structure:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Label	Description	Namespace	Template	Actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Organisation profile	Create and document ...	(Pages)	<a href="#">Template:Organisatio...</a>	

Below the table, there are navigation controls for 'Page 1 of 1' and a 'Displaying 1 - 1 of 1' indicator. At the bottom of the page, there are links for 'Privacy policy', 'About BlueSpice', 'Disclaimers', and 'Analysis service', along with logos for 'MediaWiki', 'BlueSpice', and 'Semantic MediaWiki'.

Page template manager

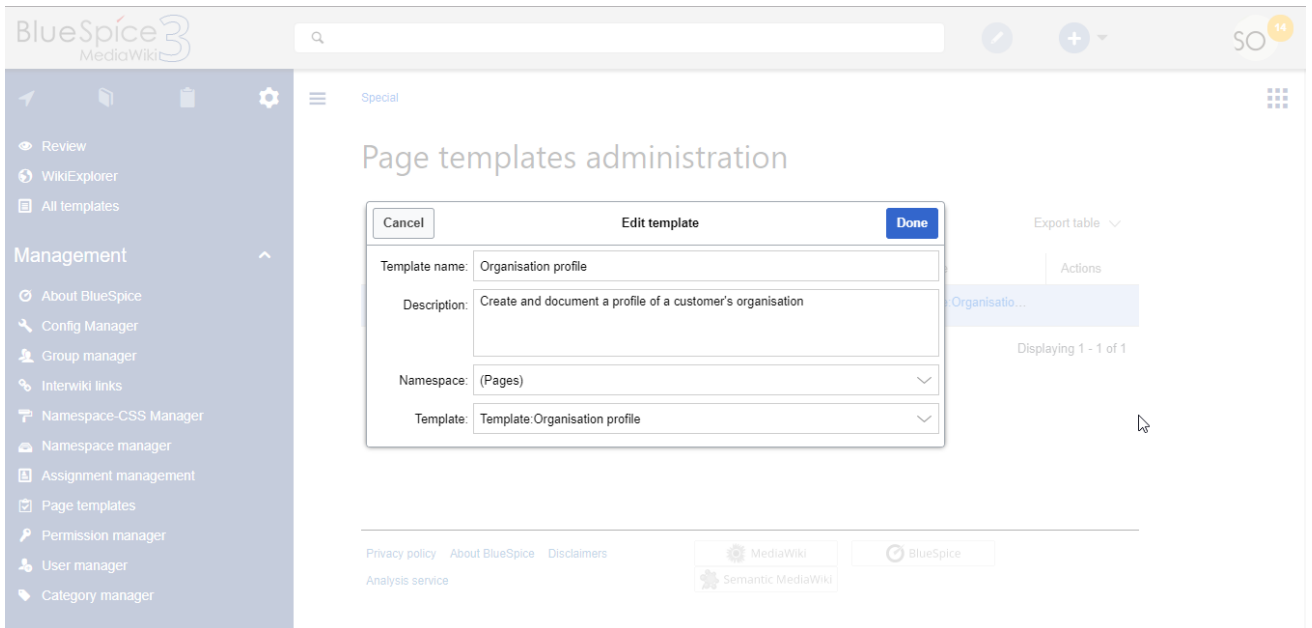
**Note:** Every page template depends on an actual page in the namespace Template. This template must exist before creating a page template.

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

## Template fields

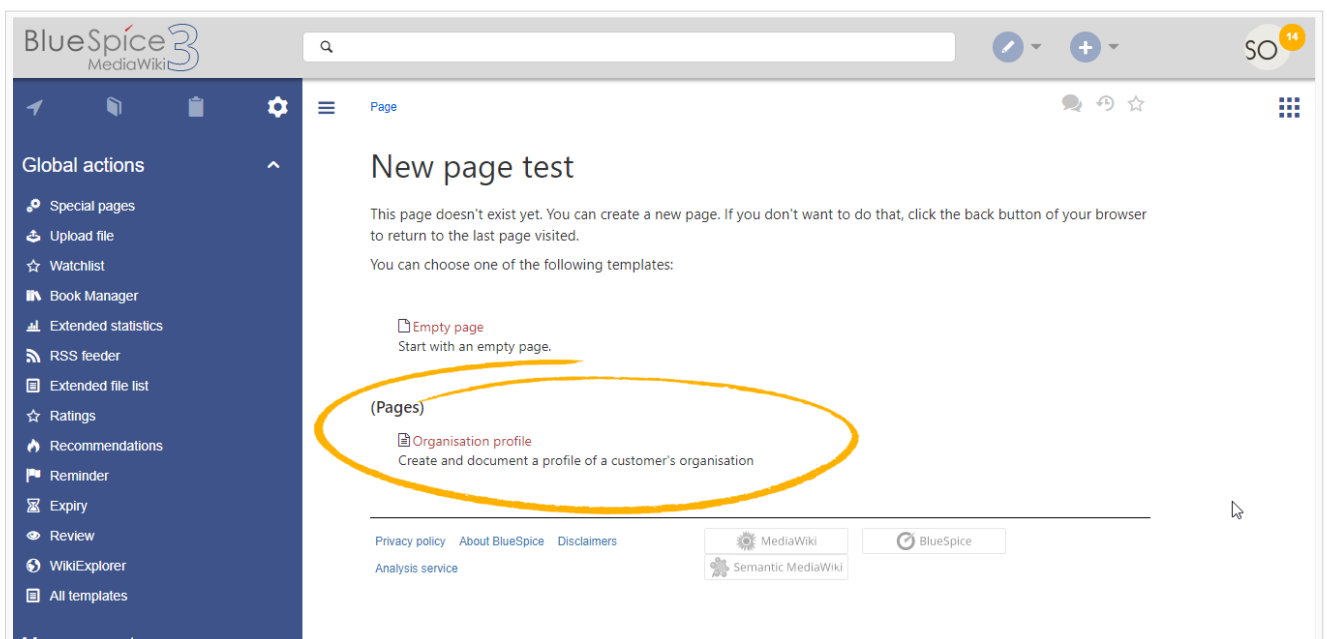
When creating or editing a page template, the following information needs to be provided:

- **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.



Selecting a page template

## Configuration

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In the [Config manager](#), you can change the following settings:

- **Force target namespace:** The page template is always created in the target namespace, no matter what namespace is provided during page creation.
- **Hide default templates:** Hides the default *Empty page* template.

## Related info

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- [Reference:BlueSpicePageTemplates](#)

## Template/Example/Notification Box

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Redirect to:

- [Manual:Template/Example/Notification Box](#)

## Manual:MagicWords/list

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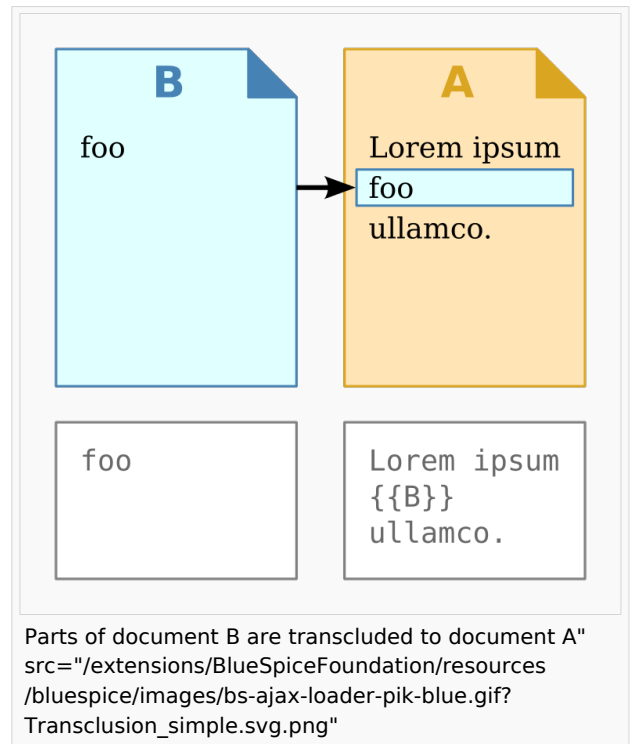
The page you are looking for does not exist.

Please take a look at our existing [help topics](#).

If you are a contributor and want to create the page, simply log in now.

## Transclusion

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### What is a transclusion?

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Transclusion means the inclusion of the content of one page (the transclude) in the content area of another page. Most often, templates are used to achieve a transclusion. If the content of the transclude is changed, the alteration is visible on all sites containing the transclusion.

### Scope of application

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By using transclusions, you can **maximize the consistency** in your wiki, **minimize redundancy**, and **optimize your workflows and code**. The use of transclusions is especially indicated for the following cases:

- Banner: It will be displayed on other pages through transclusion
- Table: Parts of it or whole tables will be displayed on other pages through transclusion

## The functions of transclusions

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To use a transclusion, the transclude has to be implemented on the target page by entering the transcludes name in curly braces.

```
{{Transclude}}
```

This causes the target page to show the content of the transclude. Future changes made on the transclude will also appear on the target page.

## Transclusions with Parameters

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It is possible to use both named and unnamed parameters with transclusions.

## Partial transclusion

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By using the tags "noinclude", "onlyinclude" and "includeonly" it is possible to only transclude parts of a document.

- `<noinclude>...</noinclude>`
- Allows to exclude the content between the tags of the transclusions
  - `<includeonly>...</includeonly>`
- Allows to transclude the content between the tags, but doesn't show them on the transclusion template.
  - `<onlyinclude>...</onlyinclude>`
- Allows only to transclude the content between the tags.

## Classic revisions with MediaWiki

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Further information can be found on [mediawiki.org](https://mediawiki.org)