



Editing Wikipedia

The “wiki” in Wikipedia means anyone can edit any page at any time, even without creating an account. A system called wiki markup can change the text, format content and add links to other articles.

Anyone is invited to edit, as long as they abide by some general guidelines.

Neutral Point of View

Everything on Wikipedia must be written from a neutral point of view. Articles must not take sides, but instead should describe — accurately and without bias — all the significant viewpoints on the topic published in reliable sources. Argumentation or advocacy does not belong in Wikipedia articles.

Verifiability

Information in Wikipedia needs to be verifiable, based on reliable published sources. Include citations for the information you add, so that others can check it for themselves. Preferred sources include third-party material with a reputation for fact-checking:

- books published by academic presses
- peer-reviewed academic journals
- international news outlets

Copyright

All contributions to Wikipedia are required to be freely licensed, so they can be edited and redistributed worldwide. It's important that content contributed to Wikipedia is written in your own words except for brief quotations. Public domain and other free content material are allowed to be added directly into Wikipedia.

Getting Started with Editing

1 Edit (or Edit Source)

This brings you to the wiki markup for the article. Editing without creating an account is fine, though your Internet address will be recorded. Creating an account will hide your Internet address and provides a way to engage others in collaborative dialogue.

2 Wiki markup basics

Wiki markup is a simple language for precise control over the content and appearance of the page such as basic formatting and creating links to articles. Here are the basics of wiki markup formatting:

```
[[Library]]           Link to Wikipedia article Library
''Economist''        Italicize Economist
'''aperture'''       Bold face aperture
== Education ==      Section heading Education
```

```
Place article in the Museums category
[[Category:Museums]]
```

```
External link to Internet Archive
[http://archive.org Internet Archive]
```

```
Reference to book
<ref>Reif, 1995, p.45</ref>
```

```
Advanced reference to online resource
<ref>{{Cite news|title = Can Wikipedia Survive?|url = http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/21/opinion/can-wikipedia-survive.html|newspaper = The New York Times|date = 2015-06-20|first = Andrew|last = Lih}}</ref>
```

3 Saving with summary

Select “Show preview” to see how your edits will appear before saving. When you are done, write a one-line “Edit summary” to describe your changes and click “Submit changes.” This helps others examine the edit history of an article to determine what has been modified.

Editing Innovations

A lot has changed since Wikipedia's early days to make editing easier

Visual Editor

In 2013, a new visual editing system was launched, allowing people to directly modify Wikipedia pages, without using complex wiki markup language.

Citations and References

A system called Citoid helps to convert URL web links into fully formatted citations using the Zotero open source reference management system.

FOR MORE INFO

WEB: <http://enwp.org/WP:EDIT>
<http://enwp.org/H:MARKUP>

