

# The Technical Wishes Project: Stories from the heart of community centered software development

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Goat User Story:

*As a goat, I would like goats to replace cats as the lingua franca of the internet*



# Community centered Software Development and Engineering

# Back to the future

# How a technical wishes poll

became the starting point for the

Technical Wishes Project

# How we created a concept on

the road

# How this became a model for

the international wishlist approach



# A poll initiated by the German-speaking community

Hauptseite  
Themenportale  
Von A bis Z  
Zufälliger Artikel

Mitmachen  
Artikel verbessern  
Neuen Artikel anlegen  
Autorenportal  
Hilfe  
Letzte Änderungen  
Kontakt  
Spenden

Drucken/exportieren  
Buch erstellen  
Als PDF herunterladen  
Druckversion

Werkzeuge  
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Permanenter Link  
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Sprachen   
[Links hinzufügen](#)

## Wikipedia:Umfragen/Technische Wünsche

< Wikipedia:Umfragen

Diese Umfrage war zeitlich beschränkt: Vom 1. September 2013 bis 30. November 2013

- Phase 1: Wünsche sammeln bis 2. Hälfte Oktober
- Phase 2: Wünsche priorisieren/bewerten durch Unterschrift bis 30. November
- Phase 3: Sichtung und Bearbeitung der Top 20 durch Wikimedia Deutschland seit Februar 2014

### Inhaltsverzeichnis [\[Verbergen\]](#)

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- 5 Auswertungsphase
- 6 Quo vadis, technische Wünsche, oder: Tech on Tour

### Problemstellung [\[Bearbeiten\]](#)

Der Großteil der Softwareentwicklung für MediaWiki geschieht heutzutage durch angestellte Programmierer der *Wikimedia Foundation* bzw. für Wikidata durch Mitarbeiter von Wikimedia Deutschland. Was genau gemacht wird, ist öffentlich einsehbar: [mw:Wikimedia Engineering](#).

Bei den Autoren des Projektes zur Erstellung einer Enzyklopädie namens Wikipedia regt sich immer mehr Widerstand gegen „von oben“ verordnete neue Features, weil manches im Betastadium als Standard aktiviert wird oder einfach für unnötig erachtet wird.

Dem Autor dieser Umfrage ([Raymond](#)) ist jedoch kein gezieltes Befragen der Community nach ihren technischen Wünschen bekannt. Welche Features für MediaWiki fehlen, sind dringend nötig oder wünschenswert?

First prototype of the technical wishlist process

nd die Chapter weitergegeben wird in der Hoffnung, dass die WMF erkennt, wo den Autoren eben möchten, sind herzlich eingeladen, sich ihrem Budget entsprechend Punkte

## Voting for *option to watch changes in category membership*

- Möglichkeit, eine Kategorie auf neue Artikel hin zu beobachten ([Bug 7148](#))
  1.  **Pro** [Rookjameson \(Diskussion\)](#) 21:53, 1. Nov. 2013 (CET)
  2.  **Pro** -- [. ϕ . hugarheimur](#) ***RIP Klara Winter*** 10:33, 4. Nov. 2013 (CET)
  3.  **Pro** --[Hoff1980 \(Diskussion\)](#) 11:31, 9. Nov. 2013 (CET)
  4.  **Pro** --[Reinhard Müller \(Diskussion\)](#) 18:16, 13. Nov. 2013 (CET)
  5.  **Pro** [IW](#) 18:45, 15. Nov. 2013 (CET)
  6.  **Pro** --[Karl432 \(Diskussion\)](#) 00:37, 26. Nov. 2013 (CET)
  7.  **Pro** ... [«« Man77 »»](#) 01:25, 29. Nov. 2013 (CET)
  8.  **Pro** [Patrick Stützel \(Diskussion\)](#) 14:18, 30. Nov. 2013 (CET)

# Key elements:

# Initiative and discussion of technical requests by the community

# Priorization/voting by the community and estimation/priorization by the WMDE Team (what is feasible, what not, what can be addressed when and how)

# Continuous support by WMDE's Software Development Department (estimation, communication, coordination, development)

# Close collaboration, transparent development and communication process





# Improving a process on the road

- # Getting to know each other
- # Discussing technical needs
- # Reviewing the first technical wishes  
poll
- # Collecting ideas for a good process
- # Explaining workflows in software  
development

# Key learnings and findings

**Wikipedia is a hobby.**

**Collaboration (with employees) should be fun!**



Lost in information

# Views of editors on software development in the Wikimedia world

# Too much information in too many locations

# Some informations are passed on, others not

# Often no clearly defined contact, no consistent responsibilities

# Complicated technical language, mostly in English

# Confusion about who is developing what (WMF teams, volunteer developers)

# Often no information what is feasible in software development and what isn't

# Communication and collaboration framework

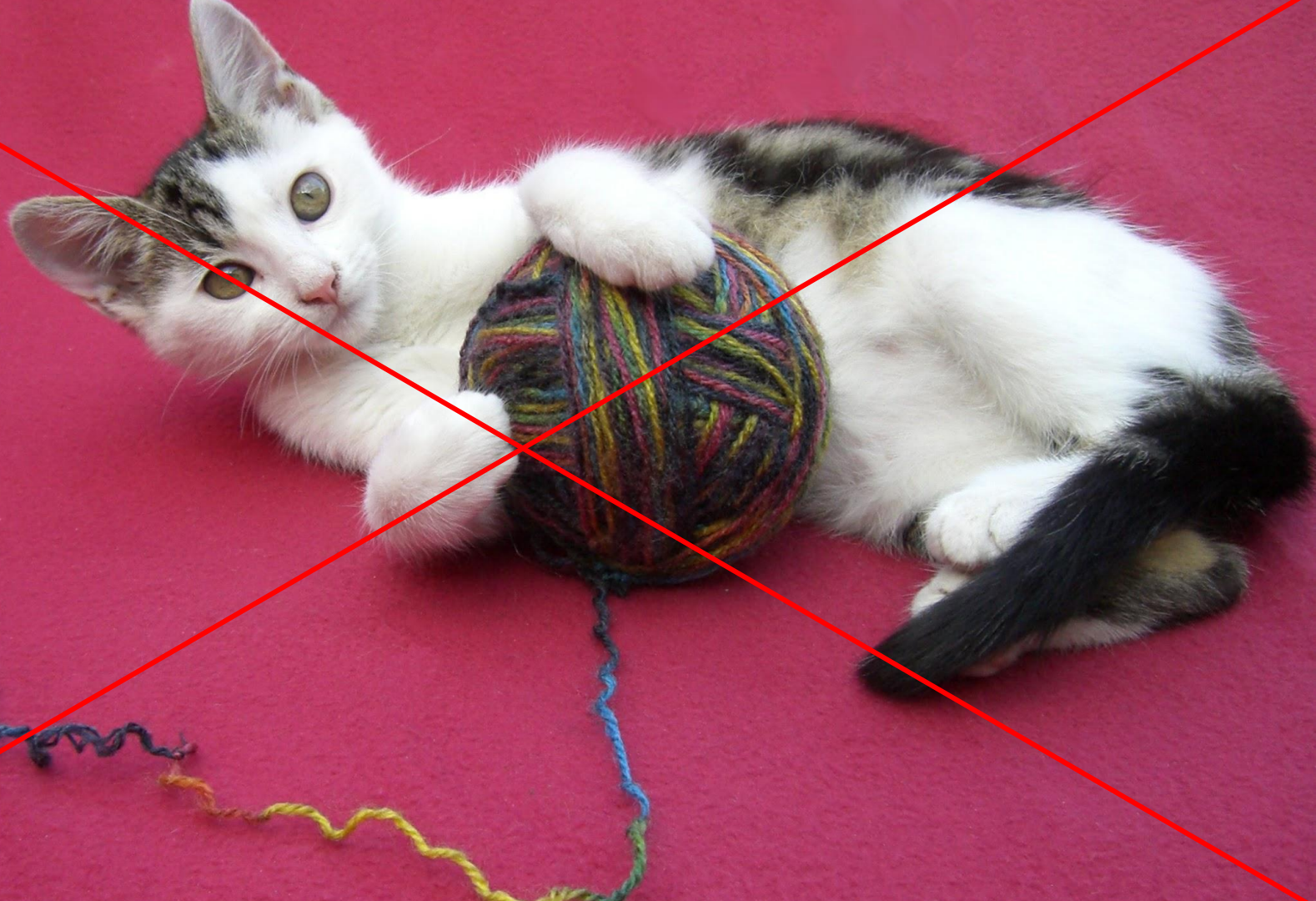
# Provide information and use information channels that are accessible to a high number of editors

# Build language bridges

# Clearly communicate what resources are available, and why not every technical request is feasible

# Clearly communicate who is the contact for which area and the areas where there are no contacts and/or resources

# Stimulate and facilitate cooperation and an exchange of information between volunteers, chapter and WMF employees



# How to identify technical needs

# Polling is a (very) good method to collect and prioritize technical requests

# Onwiki is the best place to conduct a survey, to gather feedback, to communicate about product status (“Phabricator is not home”)

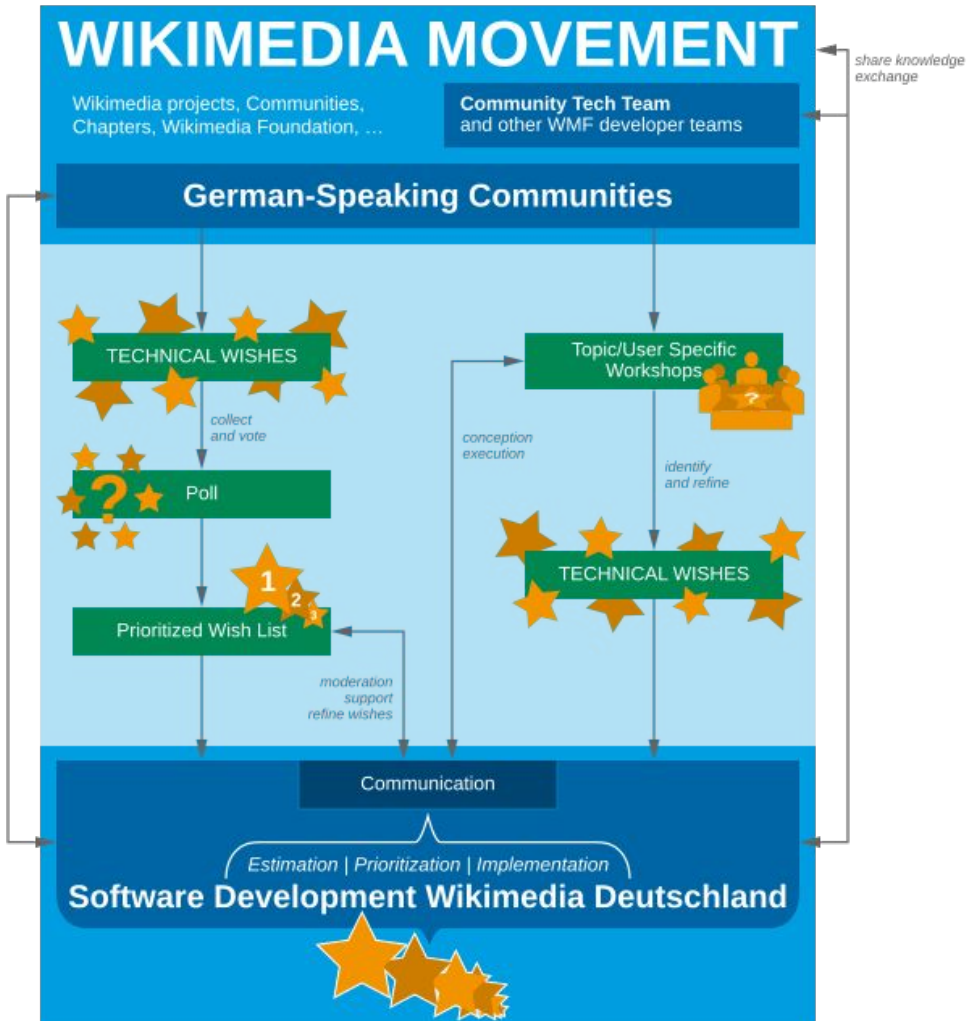
# A survey might exclude editors without any technical knowledge

# Workshops could provide a more comfortable and supporting atmosphere

# Workshops could be useful to identify technical needs of specific users or smaller Wikimedia project communities

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:WMDE\\_Technical\\_Wishes\\_Concept.pdf](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:WMDE_Technical_Wishes_Concept.pdf)





# Introduction to the German speaking community and discussion of the concept @WikiCon

# Sharing of main learnings and findings with the Community Tech Team

# The technical wishlist approach in (global) practice

**German community wishlist survey:** [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Umfragen/Technische\\_W%C3%BCnsche\\_2015](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Umfragen/Technische_W%C3%BCnsche_2015)  
(September/October 2015)

**International community wishlist survey:** [https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/2015\\_Community\\_Wishlist\\_Survey](https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/2015_Community_Wishlist_Survey) (November/December 2015)

# Local and international survey process

German community wishlist survey: ~ 235 participants, 132 wishes

International community wishlist survey: ~ 630 participants, 107 wishes

Specific challenges of the international survey: Location to conduct the survey, communication channels, language barriers, expectation management

1. Collection and discussion of feature requests (2 weeks)
2. Sorting of requests (1 week)
3. Voting (2 weeks)
4. Analysis and first estimation of the top 10 wishes/top wishes
5. Communication/discussion of results
6. Start with development work in January 2016

## Improve the "copy and paste detection" bot [ edit ]

Currently we have a bot that analysis "all" new edits to en WP for copyright concerns. The output is [here](#). And there is the potential for it to work in a number of other languages.

Problems is that it is not up as reliably as it should be. Also presentation of the concerns could be improved. Would love to see the output turned into an extension and formatted similar to the [en:Special:NewPagesFeed](#)

Currently the output is sort-able by WikiProject. It would be nice to create WikiProject specific modules to go on individual project pages. [Doc James](#) (talk · contribs · email) 03:45, 4 November 2015 (UTC)

### Earlier discussion and endorsements

[\[hide\]](#)

-  **Endorsed** --[Tobias1984](#) (talk) 19:12, 7 November 2015 (UTC)
-  **Oppose** -- not all site have copyright, some have GNU, also some edit include specific "quotations" which may be a valid use. [Yosri](#) (talk) 02:29, 10 November 2015 (UTC)
-  **Endorsed** would love to see this bot on other Wikipedia projects, including RTL wikis, but not as an extension. [4nn1l2](#) (talk) 09:04, 10 November 2015 (UTC)
-  **Oppose** as Wikipedia specific. Yes, copyvio is a serious problem, but MediaWiki has painful shortcomings that should be a higher priority. Improving blocking tools will also reduce the copyvio problem -- when a big chunk of copyvios come from India, we need to be able to effectively block repeated copyvio editors from that part of the world. We can't. [MER-C](#) (talk) 14:47, 10 November 2015 (UTC)

### Votes [ edit ]

1.  **Support** [4nn1l2](#) (talk) 03:00, 30 November 2015 (UTC)
2.  **Support** --[Tobias1984](#) (talk) 11:17, 30 November 2015 (UTC)
3.  **Support** [Lugnuts](#) (talk) 12:00, 30 November 2015 (UTC)
4.  **Support** This is one of the most amazing and Wikipedia-changing automated tools to come to editor attention in some years. Having automated copyright detection should be a priority because of the time that it saves experienced editors and the credibility that it gives to Wikimedia projects. [Blue Raspberry](#) (talk) 16:34, 30 November 2015 (UTC)
5.  **Support** Great idea which is going to save a lot of time. [Bharatiya29](#) (talk) 17:37, 30 November 2015 (UTC)
6.  **Support** This is very important. [Tryptofish](#) (talk) 18:15, 30 November 2015 (UTC)
7.  **Support** [Armbrust](#) (talk) 22:29, 30 November 2015 (UTC)

# Top Community Tech wishlist results

Rank ↕	Proposal ↕	Category ↕	Support ↕	Ticket ↕
1	<b>Migrate dead external links to archives</b>	Bots and gadgets	<b>111</b>	<b>T120433</b>
2	<b>Improved diff compare screen</b>	Editing	<b>104</b>	<b>T121469</b>
3	<b>Central Global Repository for Templates, Lua modules, and Gadgets</b>	Templates	<b>87</b>	<b>T121470</b>
4	<b>Cross-wiki watchlist</b>	Watchlists	<b>84</b>	<b>T5525</b>
5	<b>Numerical sorting</b>	Categories	<b>84</b>	<b>T8948</b>
6	<b>Allow categories in Commons in all languages</b>	Commons	<b>78</b>	<b>T120451</b>
7	<b>Pageview Stats tool</b>	Miscellaneous	<b>70</b>	<b>T120497</b>
8	<b>Global (cross-wiki) user talk page</b>	Talk pages	<b>66</b>	<b>T88416</b>
9	<b>Improve the plagiarism detection bot</b>	Bots and gadgets	<b>63</b>	<b>T120435</b>
10	<b>Add a user watchlist</b>	Watchlists	<b>62</b>	<b>T2470</b>
11	3D models on Wikimedia Commons	Commons	56	<b>T3790</b>
12	Watchlist timed expiry	Watchlists	55	<b>T100508</b>

107 wishes,  
in order of  
support votes

The WMF  
Community Tech  
team is  
responsible for  
evaluating and  
addressing the  
top 10.

The Technical  
Collaboration  
team is helping  
volunteers work  
on wishes #11-  
on.

# Top German community wishlist results

## Ergebnis der Abstimmung

Stimmen (1039)	Wünsche (132)
39	Bessere Lösung von Bearbeitungskonflikten
30	Änderungen im Text bei Abschnittverschiebung anzeigen
28	Globale Echo-Benachrichtigungen
25	Beobachten einzelner Abschnitte, weniger Formatierungsaufwand
25	Schriftgröße mathematischer Formeln vereinheitlichen
24	OSM-Verknüpfungen
23	Halbgeschützte Seite soll nach kurzem Vollschutz automatisch in vorherigen Zustand
22	Identische Formatierung mehrerer Zeilen oder Spalten vereinfachen
21	Dankesfunktion für IPs
21	Bei Speichern Hinweis über abgegebene Benachrichtigungen
20	Tabellen in PDFs
19	Sortierung mehrerer Spalten in Tabellen
19	Permanente Seiten-IDs
19	Benachrichtigung über die Einbindung selbst hochgeladener Fotos
18	Aufrufstatistik überarbeiten

132 wishes,  
in order of  
support votes

The German TCB team  
is responsible for  
evaluating and  
addressing the top 20.

## Requirements [ edit ]

---

**This is a draft of requirements for the new interface; this needs discussion. Come join the discussion on the talk page.**

In this description: "Editor" is the person who made the suspected edit; "user" is the person who's using the EranBot interface to evaluate edits.

### Page structure [ edit ]

- User can sign in using OAUTH, connected to their wiki account. (T132081)
- User can easily browse and select from a list of all of the WikiProjects with edits that need to be checked, in order to filter the items shown on the page. (T132350)
- User can filter items based on triage state (unchecked, Page Fixed, No Action Needed, Requires 2nd Opinion, all items) ([[phab:T132352|T132352]])
- User can sort by oldest/newest. (T132349)
- User has access to all unchecked items in the system, using infinite scroll. (T132348)
- User can see a chronological log (history) of all actions taken using the interface, which can be sorted and filtered by time, editor's name, user's name, and WikiProject. (T132830)
- User can see a brief set of instructions near the top of the page, with a link to more detailed instructions.

### Item structure [ edit ]

- User has easy access to the following links: (T132831)
  - Article title
  - Article history
  - Diff of the suspected edit

[https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Community\\_Tech/Improve\\_the\\_plagiarism\\_detection\\_bot](https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Community_Tech/Improve_the_plagiarism_detection_bot)



# Technical Wishes in international collaboration

# Community Tech Team and WMDE's TCB Team

**Feature requests of both wishlists benefit Wikimedia projects of all languages**

# Regular sync meetings and exchange

# Quarterly planning

# Shared tasks

# Code review support

# Pageviews Analysis

Dates

Latest 10 20 30 60 90 days

2016-03-31 - 2016-04-19

Project

de.wikipedia.org

Platform

All

Agent

User

Pages

× Wikipedia:Hauptseite





Mitmachen

- Artikel verbessern Neuen Artikel anlegen Autorenportal Hilfe Letzte Änderungen Kontakt Spenden

Werkzeuge

- Links auf diese Seite Änderungen an verlinkten Seiten Datei hochladen Spezialseiten Permanenter Link Seiteninformationen Wikidata-Datenobjekt Artikel zitieren

Drucken/exportieren

- Buch erstellen Als PDF herunterladen Druckversion

In anderen Projekten

- Commons Wikiquote

In anderen Sprachen

- Afrikaans Alemannisch Aragonés Englisch العربية مصرى Asturianu Aymar aru Azərbaycanca

# „Brot“ – Versionsunterschied

[gesichtete Version]

Version vom 6. Januar 2016, 16:26 Uhr (Bearbeiten)

Rosenzweig (Diskussion | Beiträge)

(→Zusammensetzung: + fehlendes Wort)

← Zum vorherigen Versionsunterschied

[gesichtete Version]

Version vom 11. Januar 2016, 23:16 Uhr (Bearbeiten) (rückgängig) (danken)

J. Patrick Fischer (Diskussion | Beiträge)

(Vorschlag weiteres Bild, Syntax)

Zum nächsten Versionsunterschied

14:26, 6 Jan 2016 Rosenzweig

→Zusammensetzung: + fehlendes Wort 7 byte



Legend for bar chart: Zusammensetzung, Schwarzbrot, Brotsorten, Land-Bauernbrot, Brot und Politik, Aufbewahrung, Rund ums Brot, Literatur, Weblinks, Brotsorten in Frankreich, Regionale Bezeichnungen des Anschnitts, Krustenbrot, Malfabrot, Brot in Notzeiten, Kulturgeschichtliche Bedeutung, Weitere Bedeutungen, Geschichte, Siehe auch, Vollkornbrot, Brot in der jüdischen und christlichen Symbolik, Trivia, Backprozess, Brot und Salz, Handwerkliche Herstellung, Einzelnachweise

Zeile 1:

```
{{Begriffsklärungshinweis}}
- [[Datei:Mischbrot-1.jpg|thumb| [[Mischbrot|Roggenmischbrot]]]]
- [[Datei:Weißbrot-1.jpg|thumb| Weißbrot]]
- [[Datei:Toastbrot-1.jpg|thumb| [[Toastbrot]]]]
- [[Datei:Knäckebröt-1.jpg|thumb| [[Knäckebröt]]]]
- [[Datei:Fladenbrot-2.jpg|thumb| [[Fladenbrot]]]]
- [[Datei:Work dough.jpg|thumb|Ausrollen des Brotteigs in einer afghanischen Bäckerei]]
```

'''Brot''' ([[:de:Althochdeutsch|ahd.]] prôt, von [[:de:Urgermanisch|urgerm.]] \*brauda-) ist ein traditionelles [[:de:Nahrungsmittel]], das aus einem [[:de:Teig]] aus gemahlenem [[:de:Getreide]] ([[:de:Mehl]]), [[:de:Trinkwasser|Wasser]], einem [[:de:Triebmittel]] und meist weiteren Zutaten gebacken wird. Es zählt zu den [[:de:Grundnahrungsmittel]].n. Das feste, dunkle Äußere des Brotes heißt [[:de:Brotruste|Kruste]] oder Rinde. Das Innere ist die [[:de:Krumme (Backware)|Krumme]]. Brot[[:de:krümel]] heißen auch "Brosamen" (aus dem [[:de:Mittelhochdeutsch]]en) oder "Brösel". Die meisten Brotteige können auch in Form kleinerer, etwa handtellergroßer Portionen als [[:de:Brötchen]] gebacken werden.

== Zusammensetzung ==

Zeile 1:

```
{{Begriffsklärungshinweis}}
+ [[Datei:Mischbrot-1.jpg|mini| [[Mischbrot|Roggenmischbrot]]]]
+ [[Datei:Weißbrot-1.jpg|mini| Weißbrot]]
+ [[Datei:Toastbrot-1.jpg|mini| [[Toastbrot]]]]
+ [[Datei:Knäckebröt-1.jpg|mini| [[Knäckebröt]]]]
+ [[Datei:Fladenbrot-2.jpg|mini| [[Fladenbrot]]]]
+ [[Datei:Work dough.jpg|mini|Ausrollen des Brotteigs in einer [[:de:Afghanistan|afghanischen]] Bäckerei]]
+ [[datei:Brot - Outburo 2013 - Covalima.jpg|mini|Brotbacken in [[:de:Osttimor]]]]
```

'''Brot''' ([[:de:Althochdeutsch|ahd.]] prôt, von [[:de:Urgermanisch|urgerm.]] \*brauda-) ist ein traditionelles [[:de:Nahrungsmittel]], das aus einem [[:de:Teig]] aus gemahlenem [[:de:Getreide]] ([[:de:Mehl]]), [[:de:Trinkwasser|Wasser]], einem [[:de:Triebmittel]] und meist weiteren Zutaten gebacken wird. Es zählt zu den [[:de:Grundnahrungsmittel]].n. Das feste, dunkle Äußere des Brotes heißt [[:de:Brotruste|Kruste]] oder Rinde. Das Innere ist die [[:de:Krumme (Backware)|Krumme]]. Brot[[:de:krümel]] heißen auch "Brosamen" (aus dem [[:de:Mittelhochdeutsch]]en) oder "Brösel". Die meisten Brotteige können auch in Form kleinerer, etwa handtellergroßer Portionen als [[:de:Brötchen]] gebacken werden.

== Zusammensetzung ==

# Not the hacky way: How a feature request led to essential groundwork and why this is necessary

## **Starting point:**

“Possibility to remove articles from watchlist after a custom timeframe”  
(German community wishlist, International wishlist #12)

## **Related requests:**

# Crosswiki-watchlist (international wishlist, German community wishlist),

# User-watchlist (international wishlist)



The watchlist code is one of the oldest parts of the Mediawiki Software



Focus on technical wishes: The Jerusalem Hackathon  
[[https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Wikimedia\\_Hackathon\\_2016](https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Wikimedia_Hackathon_2016)]

# Next steps

# 2 User-specific workshops until end of 2016 (WMDE Team)

# Get together on hacking on technical wishes of the international communities @Wikimania Hackathon (Volunteer developers, WMDE Team, Community Tech Team)

# Continue working on technical requests of both, the German community wishlist and the international community wishlist (Community Tech Team, WMDE Team)

# Continue foster our collaboration and enhance our networks and relations with volunteer developers and other development teams (Community Tech Team, WMDE Team, Technical Collaboration team)

# Figure out how to include the top technical wishes of smaller communities



Building better networks between  
volunteers, chapters and WMF staff

by learning about other perspectives and taking  
them into account

# Thank you!

Danny, Birgit, Ryan, Leszek

Community Tech Team: [https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Community\\_Tech](https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Community_Tech)

WMDE Team: [https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/WMDE\\_Engineering](https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/WMDE_Engineering)

# Credits

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A boy riding a bicycle with training wheels by Dawn Endico, cc-by SA 2.0 [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Helmeted\\_boy\\_on\\_training\\_wheels.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Helmeted_boy_on_training_wheels.jpg)

Wikipedia:Umfrage Technische Wünsche (First technical wishes survey on German Wikipedia) [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Umfragen/Technische\\_W%C3%BCnsche](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Umfragen/Technische_W%C3%BCnsche)

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Ruined house Altenbeichlingen by Aschroet, cc-0 1.0 [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ruined\\_house\\_Altenbeichlingen.JPG](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ruined_house_Altenbeichlingen.JPG)

Wikimedia Hackathon Jerusalem Participants, Jerusalem, Israel 2016 by Deror\_avi, cc-by SA 4.0 [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Jerusalem\\_Hackathon\\_IMG\\_8550.JPG](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Jerusalem_Hackathon_IMG_8550.JPG)