

# Improving the Wikipedia desktop experience

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# Hello:)

We're Olga and Alex from the Readers Web Team at the Wikimedia Foundation and we're here to talk about improving the desktop experience.

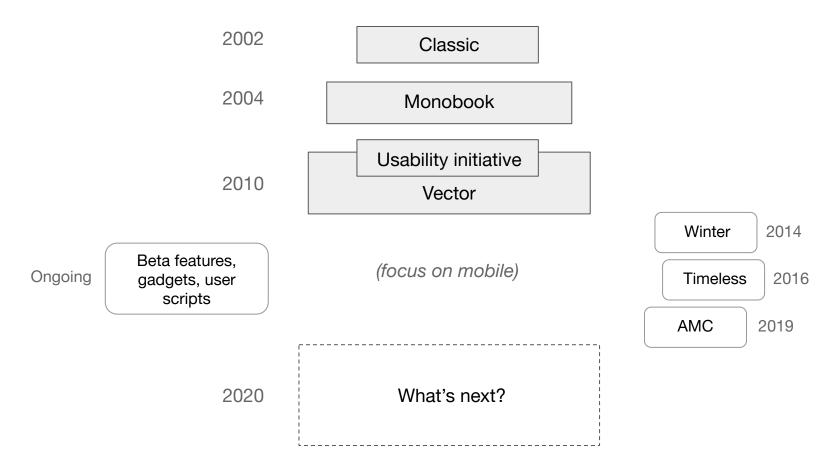


# Session agenda

This is a 40 min session

- Looking back: how has the desktop site improved over time?
- How can we continue that trajectory of improvement to meet the new challenges we face?
- 5 min brainstorm
- 15 min discussion

# A history of improvement

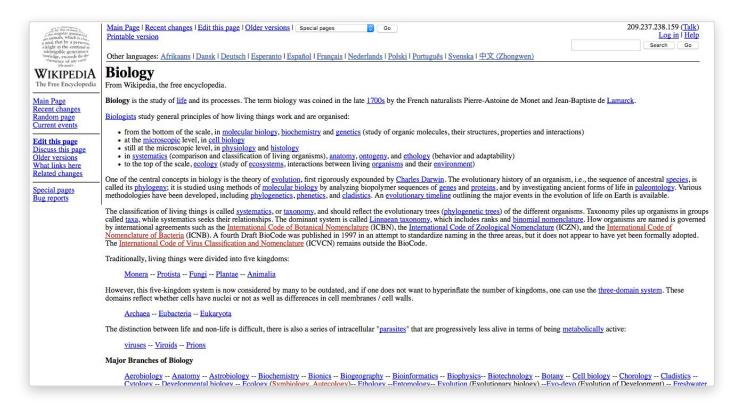


2002 – Classic
2004 – Monobook
2010 – Vector

2014 - Winter

2016 - Timeless

2020 - What's next?



A solid starting point, the DNA of which still remains today. This is the initial appearance of MediaWiki, before skins were introduced.

2004 – Monobook

2010 - Vector

2014 - Winter

2016 - Timeless

2020 - What's next?



The first MediaWiki skin. Attempting to ensure that key elements are prominent, showing messages and alerts, and article titles are clear. Also behind the scenes work on templates and HTML/DOM structure<sup>[1]</sup>.

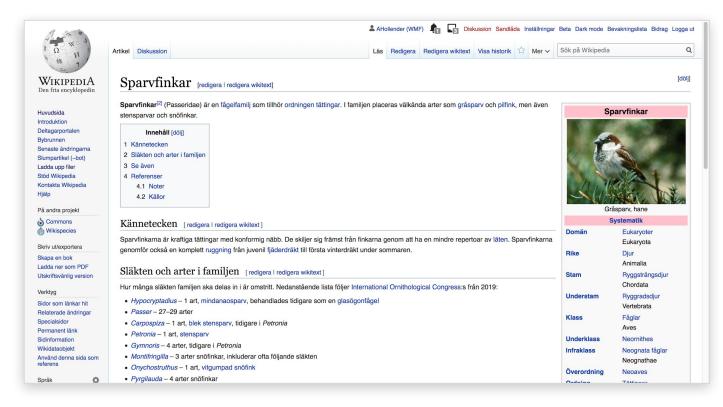
2004 — Monobook

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Following the Usability Initiative, the goal of Vector was to increase the usability of Wikipedia for new contributors by reducing barriers to public participation. Improve visibility of common navigation elements and reduce visibility of less common ones<sup>[2][3]</sup>.

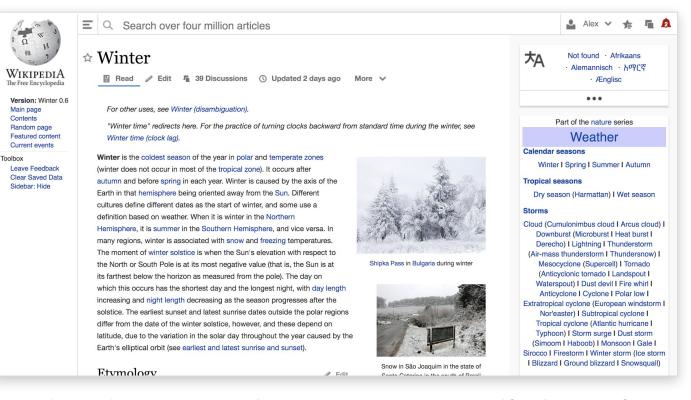
2004 — Monobook

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Tightly couple page actions and views to the page content itself, reduce interface clutter to focus on content, make search available at all times, synchronize design direction across devices and platforms<sup>[4]</sup>.

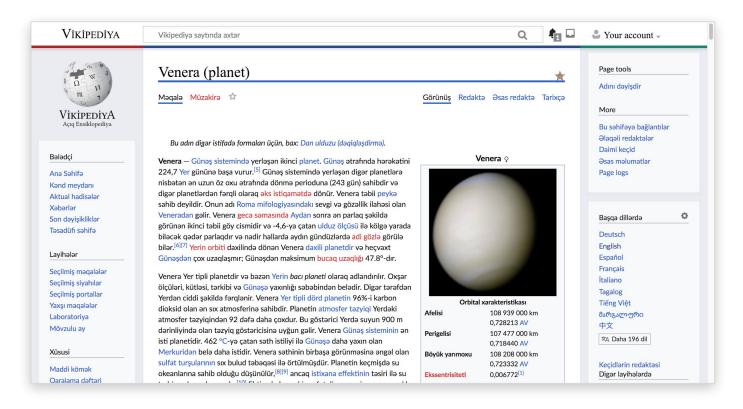
2004 — Monobook

2010 - Vector

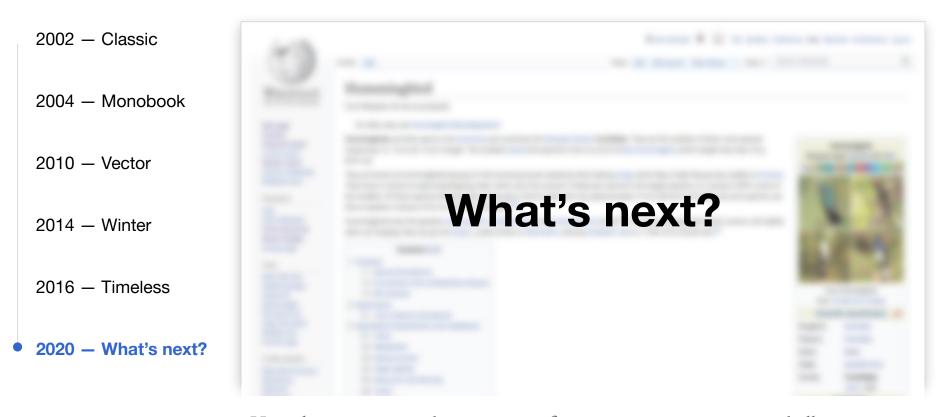
2014 - Winter

2016 — Timeless

2020 - What's next?



Intended to be a fully featured skin that emphasises both content and editing tools. Timeless is responsive and was based on Winter<sup>[5]</sup>.



How do we continue the trajectory of improvement to meet new challenges and new audiences?

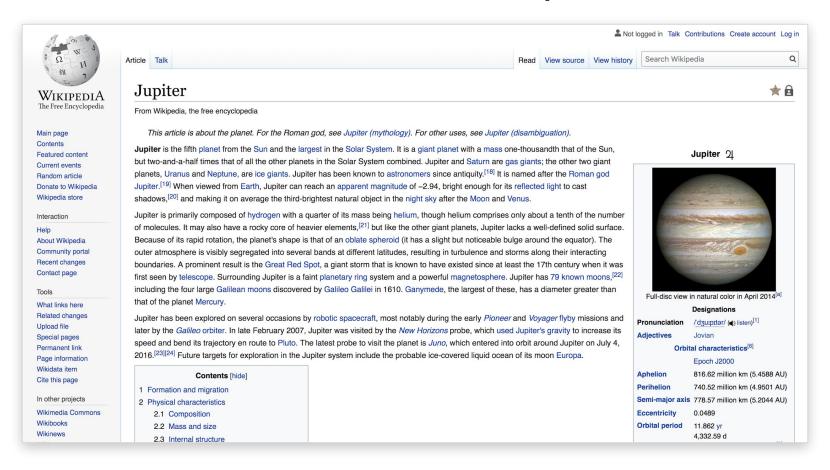
# New challenges & changing context

 Diversity and inclusion: more people are using Wikipedia from all over the world

Mobile + desktop: desktop is still approximately 49% of the 19.9 billion page views each month Welcoming new editors: we need to welcome editors from all backgrounds

New patterns: new web patterns and capabilities are available to us (e.g. responsive web)

## How can we continue to improve?



Wikipedia article on desktop for your first time...

Imagine you're reading or editing a



The Free Encyclopedia

Main page Contents Featured content Current events Random article Donate to Wikipedia

Interaction

Help About Wikipedia Community portal Recent changes

Contact page

Wikipedia store

Tools

Related changes Upload file Special pages Permanent link Page information Wikidata item

What links here

Cite this page In other projects

Wikimedia Commons Wikihooks

Wikinews

Where's the search bar?

Q edia

#### 

#### **Jupiter**

Article Talk

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This article is about the planet. For the Roman god, see Jupiter (mythology). For other uses, see Jupiter (disambigues)

Jupiter is the fifth planet from the Sun and the largest in the Solar System. It is a giant planet with a mass one-thousandth that he Sun, but two-and-a-half times that of all the other planets in the Solar System combined. Jupiter and Saturn are gas giants; the other two giant

What are all these links?

Design of the Roman god Negtune are ice giorts. Jupiter has been known to astronomers since antiquity. [18] It is named after the Roman god can reach an apparent magnitude of -2.94, bright enough for its reflected light to cast hird-brightest natural object in the night sky after the Moon and Venus.

> ith a quarter of its mass being helium, though helium comprises only about a tenth of the number of heavier elements, [21] but like the other giant planets, Jupiter lacks a well-defined solid surface. ape is that of an oblate spheroid (it has a slight but noticeable bulge around the equator). The everal bands at different latitudes, resulting in turbulence and storms along their interacting

s. A prominent result is the Great Red Spot, a giant storm that is known to have existed since at least the 17th century when it was rst seen by telescope. Surrounding Jupiter is a faint planetary ring system and a powerful magnetosphere. Jupiter has 79 known moons, [22] including the four large Galilean moons discovered by Galileo Galilei in 1610. Ganymede, the largest of these, has a diameter greater than that of the planet Mercury.

Jupiter has been explored on several occasions by robotic spacecraft, most notably during the early Pioneer and Voyager flyby missions and later by the Galileo orbiter. In late February 2007, Jupiter was visited by the New Horizons probe, which used Jupiter's gravity to increase its speed and bend its trajectory en route to Pluto. The latest probe to visit the planet is Juno, which entered into orbit around Jupiter on July 4, 2016.[23][24] Future targets for exploration in the Jupiter system include the probable ice-covered liquid ocean of its moon Europa.

#### Contents [hide]

- 1 Formation and migration
- 2 Physical characteristics
  - 2.1 Composition
  - 2.2 Mass and size
  - 2.3 Internal structure

Jupiter 21



Full-disc view in natural color in April 2014<sup>[a]</sup>

#### Designations

/dau:prter/ (d) listen)[1] Pronunciation Jovian

Adjectives

#### Orbital characteristics[6]

Epoch J2000

Aphelion 816.62 million km (5.4588 AU) Perihelion 740.52 million km (4.9501 AU) Semi-major axis 778.57 million km (5.2044 AU)

**Eccentricity** 0.0489

Orbital period 11.862 vr 4.332.59 d

# Make Wikipedia feel more welcoming

### **Currently:**

- The experience does not match current expectations of the modern web
- It feels disorienting and disconnected to people who are not used to Wikipedia
- This can cause readers and editors to have less trust in Wikipedia and to use the site less

Focusing on making Wikipedia more welcoming will allow new readers and editors to join our movement and contribute to the projects

Can you think of usability improvements that would help readers and editors alike?

## I wonder if I can read this article in Hindi?

thought to be

82][83]

ce 1

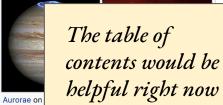
Jupiter

es, making it the strongest in the Solar System (except for sunspots). [62] This field is by eddy currents—swirling movements of conducting materials—within the liquid metallic oes on the moon lo emit large amounts of sulfur dioxide forming a gas torus along the moon's hydrogen core. The orbit. The gas is ionized in the magnetosphere producing sulfur and oxygen ions. They, together with hydrogen ions originating from the atmosphere of Jupiter, form a plasma sheet in Jupiter's equatorial plane. The plasma in the sheet corotates with the planet causing deformation of the dipole magnetic field into that of magnetodisk. Electrons within the plasma sheet generate a strong radio signature that produces bursts in the range of 0.6-30 MHz. [84]

times as strong as that of Earth, ranging from 4.2 gauss (0.42 mT) at the equator to

At about 75 Jupiter radii from the planet, the interaction of the magnetosphere with the solar wind generates a bow shock. Surrounding Jupiter's magnetosphere is a magnetopause, located at the inner edge of a magnetosheath—a region between it and the bow shock. The solar wind interacts with these regions, elongating the magnetosphere on Jupiter's lee ne orbit of Saturn. The four largest moons of Jupiter all orbit within

ar wind. [44]



of Jupiter a Hubble

I want to search without scrolling all the way back to the top

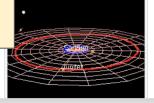
se episodes of radio emission from the planet's polar regions. Volcanic activity on Jupiter's moon lo (see below) injects gas rticles about the planet. As lo moves through this torus, the interaction generates Alfvén waves that carry ionized matter into re generated through a cyclotron maser mechanism, and the energy is transmitted out along a cone-shaped surface. When upiter can exceed the solar radio output.[85]

Jupiter is the only planet who average distance between Jupiter with the Sun lies outside the volume of the Sun, thou un is 778 million km (about 5.2 times the average dis rs. This is approximately two-fifths the orbital period

I want my user tools

AU) and it completes an orbit every 11.8 resonance between the two largest planets in the Solar System. [87] The elliptical orbit of Jupiter the eccentricity of its orbit is 0.048, Jupiter's distance from the Sun varies by 75 million km betw furthest distance (aphelion).

The axial tilt of Jupiter is relatively small: only 3.13°. As a result, it does not experience significant seasy changes, in contrast to, for example, Earth and Mars.[88]



## Make Wikipedia easier to use

## If you're a newcomer or a casual reader:

- Basic functions can be difficult to find (e.g. switching languages)
- Important features are not highlighted while less important features are prominent
- The structure of the navigation distracts from the content itself

## If you're a new or experienced editor:

- Basic features like creating an account or viewing important article information are difficult to find
- Features that are important do not always have the visibility they deserve

# So, how do we improve it?

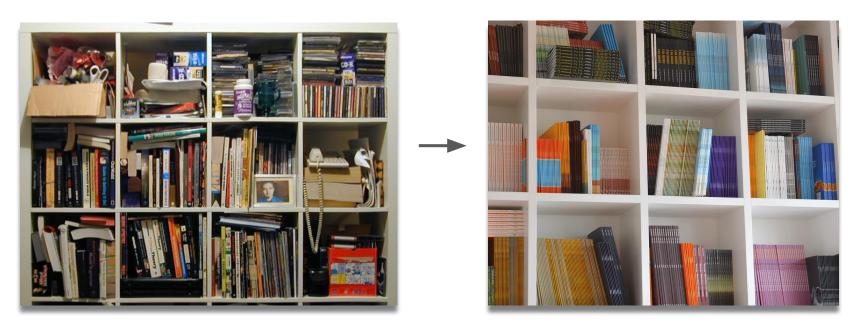
#### What we want to do:

- Focus on the content
- Provide easier access to everyday actions (e.g. search, language switching, edit)
- Put things in logical and useful places
- Increase consistency in the interface with other platforms - mobile web and the apps
- Eliminate clutter

#### What we don't want to do:

- Redesign the site
- Change the layout
- Touch the content
- Remove any functionality

# A helpful metaphor

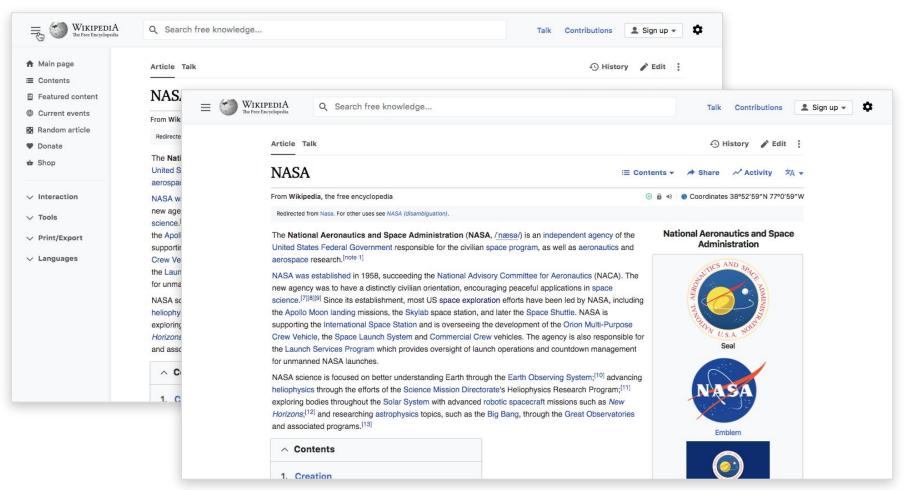


As any good librarian would keep their library well-organized as it grows, so must we with our website. This gives us a better foundation on which we can continue to grow and introduce new features.

(we're not sure...but here's some thoughts)

What might this look like?

#### Focusing on the content



#### Easier access to everyday actions: search



Search Wikipedia...

Not logged in Talk Contributions Create account Log in

Ελληνικά

Español Esperanto

Euskara فارسى

Français Galego 하국어

Bahasa Indonesia Italiano עברית Jawa Latviešu Lietuviu Magyar मराठी Bahasa Melavu Nederlands 日本語

\* Norsk

Polski Português Română Русский Scots Simple English Slovenčina Сопски / srpski Basa Sunda Suomi Svenska Tagalog கமிழ் ไทย

Türkce

**Українська** 

TIERR WISH

#### History

Like the classical planets. Uranus is visible to the naked eye, but it was never recognised as a planet by ancient observers because of its dimness and slow orbit.[21] Sir William Herschel announced its discovery on 13 March 1781, expanding the known boundaries of the Solar System for the first time in history and making Uranus the first planet discovered with a telescope.

#### Discovery

"34 Tauri" redirects here. For the Firefly Verse, see List of Firefly planets and moons,



William Herschel, discoverer of Uranus in 1781

Uranus had been observed on many occasions before its recognition as a planet, but it was generally mistaken for a star. Possibly the earliest known observation was by Hipparchos, who in 128 BC might have recorded it as a star for his star catalogue that was later incorporated into Ptolemy's Almagest. [22] The earliest definite sighting was in 1690, when John Flamsteed observed it at least six times, cataloguing it as 34 Tauri. The French astronomer Pierre Charles Le Monnier observed Uranus at least twelve times between 1750 and 1769.[23] including on four consecutive nights.

Sir William Herschel observed Uranus on 13 March 1781 from the garden of his house at 19 New King Street in Bath, Somerset, England (now the Herschel Museum of Astronomy), [24] and initially reported it (on 26 April 1781) as a comet. [25] With a telescope, Herschel "engaged in a series of observations on the parallax of the fixed stars."[26]

Herschel recorded in his journal: "In the quartile near  $\zeta$  Tauri ... either [a] Nebulous star or perhaps a comet,"[27] On 17 March he noted: "I looked for the Comet or Nebulous Star and found that it is a Comet. for it has changed its place."[28] When he presented his discovery to the Royal Society, he continued to assert that he had found a comet, but also implicitly compared it to a planet:[26]

The power I had on when I first saw the comet was 227. From experience I know that the diameters of the fixed stars are not proportionally magnified with higher powers, as planets are: therefore I now put the powers at 460 and 932, and found that the diameter of the comet increased in proportion to the power, as it ought to be, on the supposition of its not being a fixed star, while the diameters of the stars to which I compared it were not increased in the same ratio. Moreover, the comet being magnified much beyond what its light would admit of, appeared hazy and ill-defined with these great powers, while the stars preserved that lustre and distinctness which from many thousand observations I

(2.875.04 Gm)

**Eccentricity** 0.046 381 Orbital period 84.0205 yr

30,688.5 d<sup>[4]</sup>

42,718 Uranian solar days<sup>[5]</sup>

369.66 days[6] Synodic period Average orbital 6.80 km/s<sup>[6]</sup>

speed 142.238 600°

Mean anomaly Inclination 0.773° to ecliptic

6.48° to Sun's equator 1.02° to invariable plane[7]

Longitude of 74.006° ascending node

Argument of 96.998 857° perihelion

Known satellites 27

Physical characteristics

4.007 Earths[8][b]

25,362 ±7 km[8][b] Mean radius Equatorial radius 25.559 ±4 km

Polar radius 24,973 ±20 km 3.929 Earths[8][b]

Flattening  $0.0229 \pm 0.0008^{[c]}$ 159,354.1 km<sup>[4]</sup> Circumference  $8.1156 \times 10^9 \text{ km}^{2[4][b]}$ Surface area

> 15.91 Earths  $6.833 \times 10^{13} \text{ km}^{3[6][b]}$

Volume 63.086 Earths

 $(8.6810 \pm 0.0013) \times 10^{25} \text{ kg}$ Mass

14.536 Earths[9]  $GM=5.793.939 \pm 13 \text{ km}^3/\text{s}^2$ 

1.27 g/cm<sup>3[6][d]</sup> Mean density 8.69 m/s<sup>2[6][b]</sup> Surface gravity 0.886 a

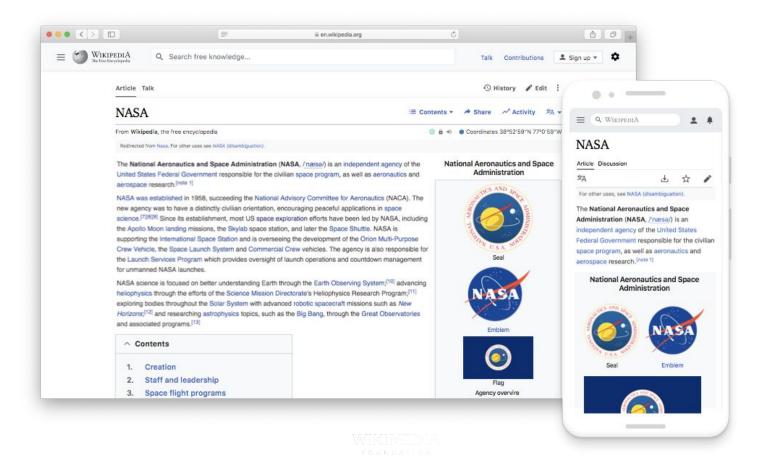
#### Easier access to everyday actions: Edit & Languages



#### Putting things in logical & useful places



#### Increase consistency in the interface with other platforms - mobile web and the apps



## Other considerations and constraints

How do we approach defining and building these updates? What social and technical considerations should we think about?

#### **Social Considerations**

- Not altering the experience on existing skins
- Staying true to our roots, improving while staying recognizable
- Be considerate of the needs of various audiences: newcomers, experienced readers, new editors, experienced editors

#### **Technical Possibilities**

- Creating a new skin
- Making gradual tweaks to Vector (current default desktop skin)
- Making gradual tweaks to Minerva (current default mobile skin)
- Something else...

# Breakout groups (10 min brainstorm/feedback)

**Group 1:** how might we make Wikipedia more welcoming?

**Group 2:** how might we make Wikipedia easier to use?

**Group 3:** how do we work with the social and technical constraints and considerations around these ideas?

- Please be positive, constructive, and respectful
- Prioritize generating ideas and questions over having conversations
- Write everything down on post-its

# Q&A

# Our roadmap

**Stage 1:** Research & requirements

Stage 2: Prototyping & technical planning

Stage 3: Development, deployments, & analysis

Stage 4: Finishing touches and final deployments

## **Get involved**

**Project page** 

(tbd)

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# Q&A

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- 4. <a href="https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Winter#Purpose">https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Winter#Purpose</a>
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