

Index them all

Why and how to create a
categories-based index of articles

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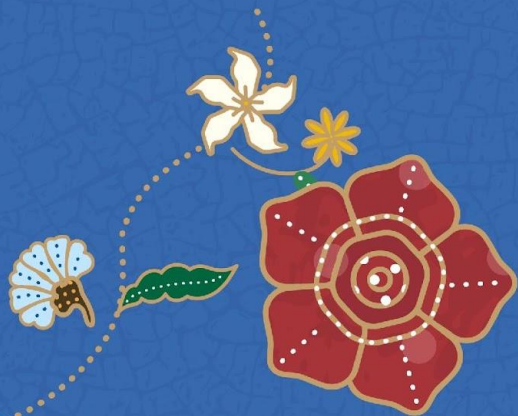
Robert Sim/User:Robertsy



Speaker

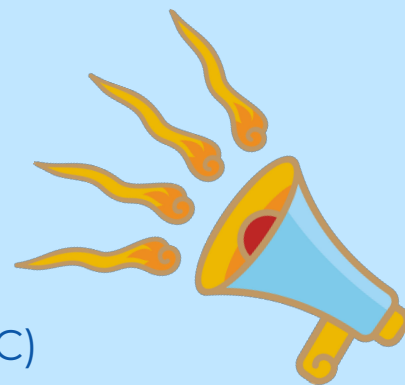
Robert Sim (User:Robertsy)

- Home wiki: English Wikipedia
- Primary WikiProject: WikiProject Singapore
- Maintains “**Index of Singapore-related articles**” since 2019.



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Saturday, August 19 (03:45-04:00 UTC)



Content

Target audience:

- Editors who wants indexes
- Editors with technical knowledge

- What is an index?
- Why create indexes?
- How to create an index?

What is an index?

[[Wikipedia:Indexes]]

- Alphabetical list articles
- Standalone list
- List of encyclopedic articles available on Wikipedia for any broad, general topic

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What is an index?

[[Wikipedia:Indexes]]

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Alphabetical list articles Standalone list

What is an index?

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List of encyclopedic articles available on Wikipedia for any broad, general topic

What is an index?

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Why create indexes?

A quick way to find if a subject article exists in context of the general topic

Fight vandalism in the general topic you know

Discovery of new articles

Why create an index?

- A quick way to find if a subject article exists in context of the general topic
- Fight vandalism in the general topic you know
- Discovery of new articles



Why create an index?

Index of Singapore-related articles

Makerspace

0/0



- [Law Song Seng](#)
- [Law enforcement in Singapore](#)
- [Law of Singapore](#)
- [Lawrence Ang](#)
- [Lawrence Khong](#)

- [List of Singaporean films of 2015](#)
- [List of Singaporean films of the 2010s](#)
- [List of Singaporean flags](#)
- [List of Singaporean football transfer 2022](#)
- [List of Singaporean inventions and discoveries](#)

- **A quick way to find if a subject article exists in context of the general topic**
- Fight vandalism in the general topic you know
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Why create an index?

Related changes

Article [Talk](#) [Read](#) [Edit](#) [Edit source](#) [View history](#) [★](#) [Page](#) [TW](#) [Help](#)

— Index of Singapore-related articles

Enter a page name to see changes on pages linked to or from that page. (To see members of a category, enter Category:Name of category). Changes to pages on your Watchlist are shown in **bold**. See more at [Help:Related changes](#).

Show changes on pages linked from [Saved filters](#)

Active filters [Hide](#)

[Likely have problems](#) [Very likely have problems](#) [Human \(not bot\)](#) [Non-minor edits](#) [Page edits](#) [Page creations](#) [Wikidata edits](#) [Logged actions](#) [New users](#)

Filter changes (use menu or search for filter name) [Namespaces](#) [Tags](#)

[Live updates](#) [500 changes, 14 days](#)

19 August 2023

[o](#) [03:29](#) [Daizo Horikoshi](#) (diff | hist) . . (+40) . . [Chino Sator](#) (talk | contribs) (rollback: 1 edit | thank)

[o](#) [02:53](#) [Karim Bencherif](#) (2 changes | hist) . . (-12) . . [\[\[\[:en:Singapore|Singapore\]\]\]](#) (2-1)

[List of abbreviations \(help\):\[hide\]](#)
D Edit made at Wikidata
r Edit flagged by OBES
M New page

- A quick way to find if a subject article exists in context of the general topic
- **Fight vandalism in the general topic you know**
- Discovery of new articles

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Why create an index?

← → ↻ 🔒 bambots.bruceymyers.com/cwb/bycat/SGpedians'_notice_board.html#Orphaned

Orphaned (3)

Article	Importance	Class	Count	Oldest	
Augustine Périé			1	August 2023	... (August 2023
General Baokeng			2	August 2023	Dead external li
St Davids Society of Singapore			2	April 2022	Categories need

- A quick way to find if a subject article exists in context of the general topic
- Fight vandalism in the general topic you know
- **Discovery of new articles**

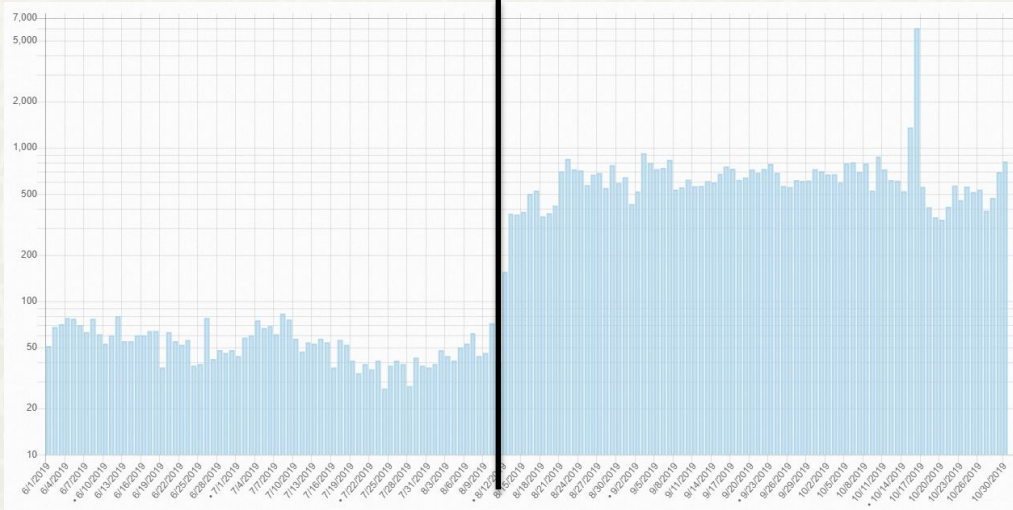
Orphaned articles are kept at a minimum

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Why create an index?

Implement script assisted updates



Logarithmic chart of pageviews by spiders on Index of Singapore-related articles (1 June – 30 October 2019)

- A quick way to find if a subject article exists in context of the general topic
- Fight vandalism in the general topic you know
- **Discovery of new articles**

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Issues

Maintaining an index is hard

- Time consuming
- Boring
- A lonely task
- MAXIMUM EFFORT

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redundant and unmaintainable system of index articles

[[Wikipedia:Articles for deletion/Index of Abkhazia-related articles]], a discussion to delete 174 indexes

A quick guide

Pathway to create indexes on the fly

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General steps

For initial run:

Download and setup script

Get a list of categories

Run script

Manual update

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Download and setup script

Prerequisites: NodeJS

Fork and clone <https://github.com/robertsky/wikisglinks>

In index.js:

- Edit lines 75–78 to match to the head of current index article

- Edit lines 95–102 to match to the end of the current index article

In terminal: `npm ci`



```

75     writeFile.write("{{short description|none}}\n");
76     writeFile.write("{{use Singapore English|date=August 2019}}\n");
77     writeFile.write("{{use dmy dates|date=August 2019}}\n");
78     writeFile.write("This is a '''list of [[Singapore]]-related articles by alphabetical order'''. To learn quickly what Singapore is, see [[Outline of Singapore]]. Those interested in t");
79     writeFile.write("{{alphanumeric TOC|numbers=yes|align=center}}\n\n");
80     writeFile.write("==0-9==\n")
81     writeFile.write("{{div col|colwidth=25em}}\n");
82     var headingPosition = 0;
83     outputArray.forEach((title) => {
84         const firstChar = title.charAt(0);
85         if (firstChar === headings.charAt(headingPosition)) {
86             writeFile.write("{{div col end}}\n");
87             writeFile.write("{{alphanumeric TOC|numbers=yes|align=center|top=yes}}\n");
88             writeFile.write('\n==' + headings.charAt(headingPosition) + '==\n');
89             writeFile.write("{{div col|colwidth=25em}}\n");
90             headingPosition++;
91         }
92         writeFile.write('* [[ ' + title + ' ]]\n');
93     })
94     writeFile.write("{{div col end}}\n");
95     writeFile.write("==See also==\n\n");
96     writeFile.write("**[[Outline of Singapore]]\n");
97     writeFile.write("**[[Lists of country-related topics]] - similar lists for other countries\n");
98     writeFile.write("{{portal bar|Singapore|Cities|Islands|Asia}}\n");
99     writeFile.write("{{Index footer}}\n\n");
100    writeFile.write("{{DEFAULTSORT:Index Of Singapore-related Articles}}\n");
101    writeFile.write("[[Category:Singapore-related lists| ]]\n");
102    writeFile.write("[[Category:Indexes of topics by country|Singapore]]");

```

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Download and setup script

Prerequisites: NodeJS

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In index.js:

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Get a list of categories

In Wikipedia, go to the root category page, i.e. [[Category:Singapore]].

Open browser's JavaScript console, type:

```
jQuery('span.CategoryTreeToggle[data-ct-state="collapsed"]').click()
```

until satisfied to open all categories in the category tree view.

Note that there may be recursive category branch(es) or unrelated categories

Copy the category tree into **category-list.txt**

The formatted list should have just the category names, and not with the numbers of sub-categories or pages.




```
category-list.txt x
1 1820 establishments in Singapore
2 1820s establishments in Singapore
3 1823 establishments in Singapore
4 1823 in Singapore
5 1824 establishments in Singapore
6 1827 establishments in Singapore
7 1829 establishments in Singapore
8 1841 establishments in Singapore
9 1845 in Singapore
10 1846 establishments in Singapore
11 1849 establishments in Singapore
12 1850s establishments in Singapore
13 1850s in Singapore
14 1858 establishments in Singapore
15 1858 in Singapore
16 1861 establishments in Singapore
17 1862 disestablishments in Singapore
18 1862 establishments in Singapore
19 1862 in Singapore
20 1865 establishments in Singapore
21 1872 in Singapore
22 1874 establishments in Singapore
23 1876 establishments in Singapore
24 1879 establishments in Singapore
25 1883 establishments in Singapore
26 1883 in Singapore
27 1887 establishments in Singapore
28 1888 establishments in Singapore
29 1888 in Singapore
```

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Run script

In terminal, run **node index.js**

Copy out the compiled text from pages3.txt into the index article.



General steps

For subsequent runs

Monitor changes in categories, i.e. with `[[User:AlexNewArtBot/SingaporeSearchResult]]`

Run script



What's next?

- Collaborative web app with graphical process flow
- Templating the generated index output





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