

Emacs Wiki

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Overview

Emacs Wiki

Introduction

Emacs Wiki is an editing mode, which allows one to create collections of hyperlinked documents - a Website - in a very intuitive way.

It is also the base for Planner a component of a PIM for Emacs, visit See Info file 'PlannerEtAl', node 'Top'. to read about the big picture.

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- [HTML Document](#)
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Overview

EmacsWiki is a Emacs mode for maintaining a local Wiki database.

Wiki's are a used for creating knowledge collections about a certain area, look at <http://www.wikipedia.org> for an impressive example. If you are interested in what is a Wiki anyway you should start reading at <http://c2.com/cgi/wiki?WikiWikiWeb>.

A Wiki is a hypertext and a content management system: Users are encouraged to enhance the hypertext by editing and refactoring existing wikis and by adding more pages. This is made easy by the way of writing the wiki pages. It is not as complicated as a markup language such as HTML. The general idea is to write plain ASCII text when editing, which is then marked up, following intuitive rules.

Normally a wiki is implemented as a CGI-Script with a database of Wiki pages in plain ASCII files, or other form of text storage like RDBMS or the like. Emacs Wiki uses plain-ascii files hold in one or more directories as the Wiki database. The collection of Wiki pages in these directories is called an Emacs Wiki project.

Emacs Wiki however is somewhat different to other Wikis. While it is possible to run a Webserver inside Emacs and serve the Wiki pages direct from there, the Emacs Wiki mode provides you with direct markup and hyperlinking from inside your Emacs buffers. So you can create and use several Wiki's for your only personal use, without ever publishing them on the web.

Another feature of Emacs Wiki is, that you can dump all Wiki pages in html format. This is called "publishing" the Wiki. What is yielded is a *static* view of your Wiki, which can be copied to a Webservers document tree. This snapshot of your Wiki however is not modifiable by visitors on the Web.

- Emacs Wiki is an editing mode to create and maintain a collection of hyperlinked plain-ascii documents.

- Emacs Wiki can publish this collection in HTML.
- Emacs Wiki can serve the Wiki on the wire, allowing remote collaborators to edit the documents.

*** WikiNames

Words with mixed case such as ThisOne are [WikiNames](#)¹. WikiNames are links you can follow. If a page with that name exists, you will be taken there. If such a page does not exist, following the link will create a new page for you to fill. WikiNames for non-existing pages are rendered as links with class "nonexistent", and are also displayed in a warning color so that you can see whether following the link will lead you anywhere or not.

** Markup - how to make it look nice

Here is a description of the default markup rules.

A horizontal rule can be created by putting four or more hyphens at the start of a line.

```
-----
```

yielding:

```
* * * *
```

a nice rule.

A reference², which is just a number in square brackets: '[2]', constitutes a footnote reference.

Footnotes:

The "Footnotes:" word on a line by itself is converted into a horizontal line, indicating the start of the footnote list. You usually put it on the bottom of your Wiki page but we put it here to show it just next to the example code.

Footnotes are defined by the same number in brackets occurring at the beginning of a line. Use footnote-mode's C-c ! a command, to very easily insert footnotes while typing. Use C-x C-x to return to the point of insertion.

Headings

Headings are created by putting one or more * on the beginning of a line, followed by a space and the text of the heading.

```
* First level
** Second level
*** Third level
```

Note that the first level is actually indicated using H2, so that it doesn't appear at the same level as the page heading (which conceptually titles the section of that Wiki page).

¹ the mixed case notation is also sometimes called [Non-existent link].

² Footnotes are defined by the same number in brackets occurring at the beginning of a line. Use footnote-mode's C-c ! a command, to very easily insert footnotes while typing. Use C-x C-x to return to the point of insertion.

Emphasis

```
*emphasis* -
**strong emphasis** -
***very strong emphasis*** -
underlined text
=verbatim/monospaced=
```

yields:

```
emphasis - strong emphasis - very strong emphasis - underlined text
'verbatim/monospaced'
```

Preventing markup

by putting an equal sign “=” around a couple of letters they are displayed ‘`*verbatim*`’. As you can note, the emphasis markup ‘*’ has been ignored.

For larger blocks of text the `<verbatim>` tag should be used:

```
<verbatim>
  The <verbatim> tag should be used for larger blocks of
  text
</verbatim>.
```

yields:

The `<verbatim>` tag should be used for larger blocks of text .

The `<verbatim>` tag is also necessary to prevent some inline markup which can not be accounted for with the ‘

*** Paragraphs, centering and quotation

One or more blank lines separates paragraphs.

A line that begins with six or more columns of whitespace (made up of tabs or spaces) indicates a centered paragraph. It’s expected you will use M-s= to center the line, which usually adds a lot of whitespace before it.

If a line begins with some whitespace, but less than six columns, it indicates a quoted paragraph.

Poetry requires that whitespace be preserved, without resorting to the monospace typical of `<pre>`. For this, the following special markup exists, which is reminiscent of e-mail quotations:

```
> A line of Emacs verse;
> forgive its being so terse.
```

which yields:

```
  A line of Emacs verse;
  forgive its being so terse.
```

‘ fl=

Γ“unnumbsubsubsecentryPreventing markup00003

You can also use the `<verse>` tag, if you prefer:

```
<verse>
A line of Emacs verse;
forgive its being so terse.
</verse>
```

Giving us the following example:

```
A line of Emacs verse;
forgive its being so terse.
```

However (at this moment) the `verse` tag does not respect if it is nested inside quoted and centered environments.

Use the HTML tags `<pre></pre>` to insert a paragraph and preserve whitespace. If you're inserting a block of code, you will almost always want to use `<verbatim><<verbatim>/verbatim></verbatim>`

within
the `<pre>` tags. The shortcut for doing this is
to use the `<example>` tag:

```
<example>
Some literal text or code here.
< /example>
```

Note that we put a space between the `<` and the `/` so you can see the example, because there is now way to show the closing example tag inside an example environment. You will of course use `'</example`

in
your Wiki pages.

Lists

Γ“unnumbsubsubsecentry Lists00004

- bullet list

1. Enumerated list

Term :: A definition list

will result in:

- bullet list
- 1. Enumerated list

Term

A definition list

Blank lines between list elements are optional, but required between members of a definition list.

The numbering of an enumerated list is "fixed" by the HTML-code, so you can write any number followed by a point on the beginning of a line to get a numbered list.

Tables

Γ“unnunbssubsubsecentry Tables00004

There are two forms of table markup supported. If Takaaki Ota’s table.el package is available, then simply create your tables using his package, and they will be rendered into the appropriate HTML.

If table.el is not available, then only very simple table markup is supported. The attributes of the table are kept in ‘emacs-wiki-table-attributes’. The syntax is:

```

Double bars || Separate header fields
Single bars | Separate body fields
Here are more | body fields
Triple bars ||| Separate footer fields

Double bars || Separate header fields
Single bars | Separate body fields
Here are more | body fields
Triple bars ||| Separate footer fields

Double bars || Separate header fields
Single bars | Separate body fields
Here are more | body fields
Triple bars ||| Separate footer fields

```

You can make a table just with single vertical bars, it will be surrounded by a simple border then. If you just put a space and a vertical bar in front of a line, a single column table will be created:

```
| a line in a box
```

Other paragraph markup applies to both styles, meaning that if six or more columns of whitespace precedes the first line of the table, it will be centered, and if any whitespace at all precedes first line, it will occur in a blockquote.

Anchors and tagged links

Γ“unnunbssubsubsecentry Anchors and tagged links00005

Θ@xrdefexample-title Anchors and tagged linksΘ@xrdefexample-pg0Θ@xrdefexample-sntIf you begin a line with “#anchor”—where @emph anchor can be any word that doesn’t contain whitespace—it defines an anchor at that point into the document. This anchor text is not displayed.

You can reference an anchored point in another page (or even in the current page) using WikiName#anchor. The #anchor will never be displayed in HTML, whether at the point of definition or reference, but it will cause browsers to jump to that point in the document.

When you want to make a link to an anchor visible use an @uref EmacsWiki.texi#Extendedlink, extended link.

Redirecting to another page or URL

Γ“unnunbssubsubsecentry Redirecting to another page or URL00000

Sometimes you may wish to redirect someone to another page. To do this, put:

```
@tt @ @ @ @ @ ;redirect@ url="http://somewhereelse.com"/;
```

at the top of the page. If the `<redirect>` tag specifies content, this will be used as the redirection message, rather than the default.

The numbers of seconds to delay is defined by ‘emacs-wiki-redirect-delay’, which defaults to 2 seconds. The page shown will also contain a link to click on, for browsing which do not support automatic refreshing.

URLs

Γ“unnumbsubsubsecentry URLs00000

A regular URL is given as a link. If it’s an image URL, it will be inlined using an `IMG` tag.

Embedded lisp

Γ“unnumbsubsubsecentry Embedded lisp00000

```
@tt @ @ ;lisp;(concat@ "This@ form@ gets"@ "inserted");/lisp;
```

will result in This form getsinserted.

Special handling of WikiNames

Γ“unnumbsubsubsecentry Special handling of WikiNames00000

If you need to add a plural at the end of a `@uref EmacsWiki.texti#Wikiname`, WikiName, separate it with four single quotes (`WikiName''''s`) or make it an `@uref EmacsWiki.texti#Extendedlink`, explicit link: `@samp ([[WikiName]]s)`.

To prevent a link name (of any type) from being treated as such, surround it with `=equals=` (to display it in monotype), or prefix it with the tag `<nop>`; to escape it from WikiName markup.

Special Wiki links

Γ“unnumbsubsubsecentry Special Wiki links00000

Θ@xrdefExtendedlink-title Special Wiki linksΘ@xrdefExtendedlink-pg0Θ@xrdefExtendedlink-
sntBesides the normal `@uref EmacsWiki.texti#Wikiname`, WikiName type links, emacs-wiki also supports extended links and explicit links:

```
@tt @ @ @ @ @ [[link@ text]]
@ @ @ @ @ [[link@ text][optional@ link@ description]]
```

If the optional link description is omitted, the link text is converted into an `@emph` explicit link. An extended or explicit link is always a link, no matter how it looks. This means you can use any file in your ‘emacs-wiki-directories’ as a Wiki file. If you provide an optional description, that’s what will be shown instead of the link text. This is very useful for providing textual description of URLs. We call this type of links `@emph` extended links.

See the documentation to `emacs-wiki-image-regexp` for how to inline files and images.

- @strong** verbatim
Protects against highlighting and wiki interpretation, and escapes any characters which have special meaning to the publishing format. For HTML, this means characters like `'` are escaped as HTML entities.
- @strong** example
Like verbatim, but typesets in HTML using the `<pre>` tag, with `class=example`, so whitespace formatting is preserved.
- @strong** nowiki
Inhibits wiki markup, but does not do any escaping to the underlying publishing medium. Useful for embedding HTML, PHP, etc.
- @strong** verse
Typesets like a normal paragraph, but without word-wrapping. That is, whitespace is preserved.
- @strong** redirect
Using the `"url"` attribute, you can specify that a page should redirect to another page. The remaining contents of the page will not be published. The optional `"delay"` attribute specifies how long to wait before redirecting.
- @strong** nop
When placed before a `@uref EmacsWiki.texi#Wikinames`, WikiLink, it will prevent that WikiLink from being treated as such. Good for names like DocBook.
- @strong** contents
Produces a compact table of contents for any section heading at the same level or lower than the next section header encountered. Optional `"depth"` attribute specifies how deep the table of contents should go.
- @strong** lisp
Evaluate the region as a Lisp form, and displays the result. When highlighting, the `'display'` text property is used, preserving the underlying text. Turn off font-lock mode if you wish to edit it.
- @strong** command
Pass the region to a command interpreter and insert the result, guarding it from any further expansion. Optional `"file"` attribute specifies the shell or interpreter to use. If none is given, and `'emacs-wiki-command-tag-file'` has not been configured, Eshell is used.
- @strong** python, perl
Pass the region to the Python or Perl language interpreter, and insert the result.
- @strong** c-source
Markup the region as C or C++ source code, using the `c2html` program, if available. Optional boolean attribute `"numbered"` will cause source lines to be numbered.

@strong

Note: If c2html is not available, the region will be converted to HTML friendly text (i.e., j

```
turns@ into@ &lt;&gt;),@ and@ placed@ in@ a
@ @ &lt;pre&gt;@ block.@ @ In@ this@ case,@ line@ numbering@ is
@ @ not@ available.
```

@strong bookmarks

Insert bookmarks at the location of the tag from the given bookmarks file. Required attribute "file" specifies which file to read from, and the optional attribute "type" may be one of: adr (for Opera), lynx, msie, ns, xbel or xmlproc. The default type is "xbel". The optional attribute "folder" may be used to specify which folder (and its children) should be inserted.

@strong

Note that xml-parse.el version 1.5 (available from my website) and the xbel-utils package (available at least to Debian users) is required for this feature to work.

Inserting images

Γ“unnunbssubsubsecentry Inserting images00000

A link matching the regexp in the variable @samp emacs-wiki-image-regex will be published inline as an image. Remember that it must be matched as a link first - so use either @uref EmacsWiki.texti#Wikiname, CamelCase or include a leading slash - @samp [./text]]. An example:

```
@tt @ @ [./emacs'logo.png][The@ Emacs@ Wiki@ Logo]
```

If you omit the description, the alt tag of the resulting HTML will be the name of the file.

Startup

Γ“unnunbssubsubsecentry Startup0000

To begin using emacs-wiki, put this in your .emacs file:

```
@tt @ @ @ (load@ "emacs-wiki")
```

Now you can type @samp M-x emacs-wiki-find-file, give it a @uref EmacsWiki.texti#Wikinames, WikiName (or just hit return) and start typing!

You should also type @samp M-x customize-group, and give the name "emacs-wiki". Change it to suite your preferences. Each of the options has its own documentation.

Keystroke summary

Γ“unnunbssubsubsecentry Keystroke summary00000

Here is a summary of keystrokes available in every Wiki buffer:

Key	Description
C- to	all for to the any wiki wikithis to to
c an	pages an-cur-Wikilink projectpagethe
C- in-	that word thereent pageat C- at againstpre-
a dex	ref- in Wikibufferthat point pointthe Wiki-
of er-	yourpage; haveC- C- (binlast ref-ous
all ence	Wikipromptshanged D ing backen Wiki
the this	pagesor C- as C- will ver- encreference
Wikipage	C- thep HTML onlusion S-
pagesC-	c name C- worTABTAB
C- c	C- C- c on
c C-	f c C- X)
C- s	C- r C-
b	l c
	=

Using pcomplete

Γ“unnumbsubsubsecentry Using pcomplete00000

If you have pcomplete loaded, you can type M-TAB to complete Wiki names. Hitting M-TAB twice or more time in succession, will cycle through all of the possibilities. You can download pcomplete from John Wigleys Website: [@uref http://www.newartisans.com/johnw/emacs.html](http://www.newartisans.com/johnw/emacs.html), <http://www.newartisans.com/johnw/emacs.html>, however it is yet included in Gnu Emacs.

ChangeLog support

Γ“unnumbsubsubsecentry ChangeLog support00000

If you use a ChangeLog (C-x 4 a) within one of your Wiki directories, it will be used for notifying visitors to your wiki of recent changes.

Changing title or stylesheet

Γ“unnumbsubsubsecentry Changing title or stylesheet00000

For convenience, if you want to change the visible title, or the stylesheet, used by a certain Wiki page during HTML publishing, just put:

```
@tt @ #title@ Hello@ there
@ #style@ hello.css
at the top of the page.
```

<lisp> tricks

Γ“unnumbsubsubsecentry <lisp> tricks00000

<lisp></lisp> tags can be used, not only to evaluate forms for insertion at that point, but to influence the publishing process in many ways. Here's another way to change a page's stylesheet:

```
@tt |lisp;
@ (ignore
@ @ @ ;;@ use@ special.css@ for@ this@ Wiki@ page
@ @ @ (set@ (make-variable-buffer-local@ 'emacs-wiki-style-sheet)
@ @ @ @ @ @ @ @ |link@ rel="" stylesheet ""@ type="" text/css ""@ href="" special.css ""@
/i"))
i/lisp;
```

The 'ignore' is needed so nothing is inserted where the <lisp> tag occurred. Also, there should be no blank lines before or after the tag (to avoid empty paragraphs from being created). The best place to put this would be at the very top or bottom of the page.

Sub-lists?

Γ“unnunbssubsubsecentry Sub-lists?00000

There is no inherent support for sub-lists, since I couldn't think of a simple way to do it. But if you really need them, here's a trick you can use:

```
@tt @ -@ Hello
@ @ @ |ul;
@ @ @ |li;There
@ @ @ |li;My@ friend
@ @ @ |/ul;
```

Editing Tips and Pitfalls

Γ“unnunbssubsecentry Editing Tips and Pitfalls0000

The first character on the line plays an important role. If you write a paragraph with 'special' characters like *- or with numbers do not put these on the beginning of the line to be sure they are not marked up. You always can put one (1) space before them.

To edit a @uref EmacsWiki.texi#Wikiname, WikiName you go to the end of it, and delete backwards. This kills the] at the end which is either inserted automatically when you type a Word in @uref EmacsWiki.texi#CamelCase, CamelCase

Always leave a blank line after a list (numbered or item) or the following paragraph will form part of the last list item. This is valid also for a horizontal line

A quoted paragraph needs at least two consecutive lines. If it only needs one line, break the paragraph manually.

Put #anchors right @emph before the spot where you want to jump to.

To enlarge a @samp Term :: definition with a second third, etc. paragraph, use an empty definition, to start these, i.e. put two spaces and @samp :: in front of the second, third, etc. paragraph. However this will not put an empty line between the paragraphs.

Take care with loose underscores ` as they mess up with the rest of the markup.

Editing Tips and Pitfalls
 Wiki Markup Quick Start

--- - horizontal line

* * * *

emphasis: emphasis

strong: strong strong

very strong: strong emphasis very strong

* * * *

- item list

- second item

• item list

• second item

* * * *

0. numbered list

0. you don't need to do the numbering yourselves.

1. numbered list

2. you don't need to do the numbering yourselves.

* * * *

Double Colon :: creates a definition term

Double Colon

creates a definition term

* * * *

Two spaces at the beginning of a paragraphs lines make it quoted.

six or more spaces at the beginning of a line make

it a centered paragraph