Writing and Editing Wikipedia

# Pertinent Links

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Wikipedia Sandbox | [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Sandbox](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia%3ASandbox) |
| Hipster Ipsum (dummy text) | <http://hipsteripsum.me/> |
| Log in | <https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Special:UserLogin&returnto=Main+Page> |
| Wikipedia Style Guide | [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Manual\_of\_Style](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia%3AManual_of_Style) |
| Simplified Manual of Style\* | [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Simplified\_Manual\_of\_Style](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia%3ASimplified_Manual_of_Style) |
| Links | [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Linking#General\_points\_on\_linking\_style](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia%3ALinking#General_points_on_linking_style) |
| Footnotes | [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:Footnotes#Creating\_the\_footnote\_list](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help%3AFootnotes#Creating_the_footnote_list) |
| Images | [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Manual\_of\_Style/Images](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia%3AManual_of_Style/Images) |
| Wikipedia’s image use policy | [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Image\_use\_policy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia%3AImage_use_policy) |

\**The Wikipedia Style Guide has precedence over the Simplified Manual of Style*

# Headings

Headings rely on equal sign tags. Examples are below. The main heading is used once and contains the title of the article. Subheadings are used to create lower-level sections. To create lower-level headings than a second subheading, add another equal sign to each side of the heading’s text; however, Wikipedia recommends three levels total.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Main heading | ==Main heading== |
| Sub heading | ===Sub heading=== |
| Second sub heading | ====Second sub heading==== |

# Blockquotes

Use for quotes that are more than 40 words or a few hundred characters

<blockquote>…</blockquote>

OR

{{quote}}…{{quote}}

# Linking

Links are created with brackets ( [ ] ). There are two kinds of links: wikilinks and external links.

## Wikilinks

A **wikilink** (or **internal link**) links a page to another page within English Wikipedia. Links are enclosed in doubled square brackets like this:

* [[abc]] is seen as "[abc](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abc%22%20%5Co%20%22Abc)" in text and links to page "[abc](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abc%22%20%5Co%20%22Abc)".

### Piped Link

Use a [vertical bar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vertical_bar) "|" (the "pipe" symbol) to create a link while labelling it with a different name on the original page. The first term inside the brackets is the link (the page you would be taken to), while anything you type after the vertical bar is what that link looks like on the original page. These are most often used to disambiguate similar titles, e.g. *Casablanca* (movie) as opposed to Casablanca (place).Here is an example:

* [[a|b]] is labelled "[b](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A)" on this page but links to page "[a](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A)".

## External Link

External links use absolute [URLs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/URL) to link directly to any Web page. These links have the associated CSS class "external".

External links are in the form[http://www.example.org link name]( resulting in [link name](http://www.example.org/)), with the link name separated from the URL by a space and followed by an [external link icon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help%3AExternal_link_icons).

Links without link names appear numbered:  [http://www.example.org] becomes:[[1]](http://www.example.org/). Links with no square brackets display in their entirety: [http://www.example.org](http://www.example.org/).

# Italics

To display text in italics, enclose it in double apostrophes.

* *The New York Times* is produced by ''The New York Times''.

## Links and italics

* [*The Mary Tyler Moore Show*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Mary_Tyler_Moore_Show) is produced by ''[[The Mary Tyler Moore Show]]''.

If the title is also a wikilink but only part of it should be italicized, use a [piped link](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia%3APiped_link) to properly display the title.

* [*Casablanca*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Casablanca_%28film%29) is produced by ''[[Casablanca (film)|Casablanca]]'' or [[Casablanca (film)|''Casablanca'']].

Without piping (disambiguation with (\_) and | ), this wikilink would display—and incorrectly italicize—the disambiguation term, which is not part of the film title.

# References

Lorem ipsum.<ref>Source name, access date, etc.</ref>

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet.<ref>Source name, access date, etc.</ref>

==References==

{{Reflist}}

Lorem ipsum [[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Template%3AReflist#cite_note-1)

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet.[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Template%3AReflist#cite_note-2)

**References**

* 1. [**^**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Template%3AReflist#cite_ref-1) Source name, access date, etc.
	2. [**^**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Template%3AReflist#cite_ref-2) Source name, access date, etc.

## Multi-columned references list

Using {{Reflist|2}} will create a two-column reference list, and {{Reflist|3}} will create a three-column list, and so on. Choose the number of columns that is appropriate for the average width of the references on the page.

# Images

Wikipedia allows two kinds of images: ones that you take yourself and ones already uploaded in Wikimedia Commons. To upload or search for an image, go see the links on the first page of this document.

## Image syntax

[[File:Example.png|thumb|alt=Example alt text|Example caption]]

* The first parameter is the [page name](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help%3APage_name) of the [file page](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help%3AFile_page) (e.g. File:Example.png). You must reproduce the exact name of the image file including its capitalization, spacing and not omit its file extension such as .jpg.
* The second "thumb" parameter forces the creation of a [thumbnail](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thumbnail), and must be in lower case.
* The third parameter, "alt=Example alt text", can be modified to specify [suitable alt text](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia%3AAlternative_text_for_images). Alt text is meant for readers who cannot see the image. It summarizes the image's appearance, not its meaning, and is therefore unlike the caption. Alt text also helps [search engines](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Search_engines) find Wikipedia articles.
* The last parameter, "Example caption", can be replaced with any [suitable caption](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia%3AManual_of_Style/Captions).