

# Extension:News

From MediaWiki.org

## MediaWiki extensions manual

ews

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tion	Tag, Hook, MyWiki
	Allows to include a custom excerpt of recentchanges to be included on a wiki page, or to be published as an RSS or Atom feed.
	Daniel Kinzler (Duesentrieb <sup>talk</sup> )
	1.18+
anges	No
	GPL v2+
	<b>Download snapshot</b> Git <sup>[?]</sup> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ repo summary (<a href="https://git.wikimedia.org/summary/mediawiki%2Fextensions%2FNews">https://git.wikimedia.org/summary/mediawiki%2Fextensions%2FNews</a>)</li><li>▪ browse file tree (<a href="https://git.wikimedia.org/tree/mediawiki%2Fextensions%2FNews">https://git.wikimedia.org/tree/mediawiki%2Fextensions%2FNews</a>)</li><li>▪ commit history (<a href="https://git.wikimedia.org/log/mediawiki%2Fextensions%2FNews">https://git.wikimedia.org/log/mediawiki%2Fextensions%2FNews</a>)</li><li>▪ code review (<a href="https://gerrit.wikimedia.org/r/#/q/project:mediawiki/extensions/News,n,z">https://gerrit.wikimedia.org/r/#/q/project:mediawiki/extensions/News,n,z</a>)</li></ul>
	README ( <a href="https://git.wikimedia.org/blob/mediawiki%2Fextensions%2FNews.git/HEAD/README">https://git.wikimedia.org/blob/mediawiki%2Fextensions%2FNews.git/HEAD/README</a> )
	[Expand]
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	Translate the News extension if it is available at <a href="https://translatewiki.net">translatewiki.net</a>
	Check usage and version matrix; code metrics ( <a href="https://git.wikimedia.org/metrics/mediawiki%2Fextensions%2FNews">https://git.wikimedia.org/metrics/mediawiki%2Fextensions%2FNews</a> )

The **News** extension allows a custom excerpt from Special:Recentchanges to be included on a wiki page, or to be published as an RSS or Atom feed. It supports several types of filtering as well as full custom formatting of entries, using template syntax.

Note that the functionality of this extension overlaps with the DynamicPageList and DynamicPageList2 extensions - however, this extension has a different focus.

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## Download

The extension can be retrieved directly from Git <sup>[?]</sup>:

- Browse code (<https://git.wikimedia.org/summary/mediawiki%2Fextensions%2FNews>)
- Some extensions have tags for stable releases.
  - Browse tags (<https://git.wikimedia.org/tags/mediawiki%2Fextensions%2FNews>)
  - Select the tag
  - Click "snapshot"
- Each branch is associated with a past MediaWiki release. There is also a "master" branch containing the latest alpha version (might require an alpha version of MediaWiki).
  - Browse branches
  - Select a branch name
  - Click "Continue"

Extract the snapshot and place it in the **extensions/News/** directory of your MediaWiki installation.

If you are familiar with git and have shell access to your server, you can also obtain the extension as follows:

```
cd extensions/  
git clone https://gerrit.wikimedia.org/r/p/mediawiki/extensions/News.git
```

## Installation

- Download and place the file(s) in a directory called `News` in your `extensions/` folder.
- Add the following code at the bottom of your `LocalSettings.php`:

```
require_once "$IP/extensions/News/News.php";
```

- **Done!** Navigate to "Special:Version" on your wiki to verify that the extension is successfully installed.

## Usage

**<news>**

this includes a list of recent changes on the wiki page

**<newsfeed>**

this defines a news feed of recent changes; on the wiki page, a preview is rendered, similar to the output of the `<news>` tag; The page then supports RSS and Atom feeds, see *#Accessing Feeds* below.

**<newsfeedlink>**

this creates a link to a news feed defined using a `<newsfeed>` tag. This is convenient for creating prominent links to the news feeds.

## Filtering and formatting

To get the last 10 changes to your wiki on any wiki page, use the following:

```
<news/>
```

You can provide options to control the listing (for example, 20 entries and no minor edits):

```
<news limit="20" nominor/>
```

To define your own format for the generated list, you can provide a pattern that will be used for each entry:

```
<news limit="20" nominor>
* [[{{{pagename}}}}] ([[User:{{{user}}}]], {{{timeanddate}}})
</news>
```

For a full list of options and template parameters, see *#Options* below.

The `<newsfeed>` tag supports the same options for filtering and formatting as the `<news>` tag. For information on how to access a feed defined using `<newsfeed>`, see the section *#Accessing Feeds* below.

## Options

The following options (tag attributes) can be used to control the output of the `<news>` tags:

**unique**

show only the most recent change to each page

**limit**

the maximum number of entries to show

**categories**

limit results to the given categories. Multiple categories can be given separated by "|"; Intersections of categories are not supported. Recursion into subcategories is not supported.

**namespaces**

limit results to the given namespaces. Multiple namespaces can be given separated by "|"; you can use "0", "-" or "main" to refer to the default namespace.

**notalk**

ignore all "talk" namespaces. Not used if the namespaces option is given.

**nominor**

hide minor edits ("true" or "false", default is "false"). \*

**nobot**

hide bot edits ("true" or "false", default is "false"). \*

**noanon**

hide anonymous edits ("true" or "false", default is "false"). \*

#### **onlypatrolled**

show only patrolled edits ("true" or "false", default is "false"). \*

#### **onlynew**

show only page creations ("true" or "false", default is "false"). \*

#### **trigger**

show only edits with the given trigger in the edit comment. Used primarily to explicitly "publish" pages to a news box or feed. If used, the resulting feed will also look slightly different, focusing less on a single edit and more on the page. Most importantly, the edit comment will not be shown in the feed, and a generic link to the page will be used, instead of a permalink to a specific version (unless the permalink option is also set).

#### **permalinks**

force the use of permalinks in feeds, even if a trigger is used to publish pages. Per default, feeds that use a trigger use generic page links instead of permalinks to specific versions. Feeds not using a trigger always use permalinks.

#### **prefix**

wikitext to be inserted before the wikitext generated from the template text is parsed. Can be used to make tables from news.

#### **postfix**

wikitext to be inserted after the wikitext generated from the template text is parsed. Can be used to make tables from news.

#### **silent** (*for <newsfeed> only*)

generate no inline output, only attach RSS/Atom feeds to the page (since rev:25798, 2007-09-11).

*\* if some edits are filtered out, the edit shown by in the news list may not refer to the current revision. To avoid people clicking the link and seeing a later, possible undesirable version, use {{{permaLink}}} in your custom pattern to link to the exact revision. See the "parameters" section below.*

## **Parameters**

When giving a template text between the <news> tags, the following template-parameters are available (use them as {{{xxx}}}):

#### **rawtime**

raw timestamp - can be formatted using the parser function "time", e.g. {{#time:j. M.|{{{rawtime}}}}}

#### **date**

date of the edit, formatted per user preference

#### **time**

time of the edit, formatted per user preference

#### **timeanddate**

time and date of the edit, formatted per user preference

#### **namespace**

numeric namespace id, can be used with {{ns:{{{namespace}}}}}

#### **title**

canonical title (without namespace prefix)

#### **pagename**

full title, with namespace prefix

#### **type**

numerical change type (0 = edit, 1 = new, 2 = move, 3 = log, 4 = move-over)

#### **minor**

"true" for minor changes, blank otherwise

#### **user**

user name who made the entry

**comment**

edit summary (escaped wikitext, safe to use)

**new\_rev**

revision id associated with this entry (or zero)

**old\_rev**

revision id associated with the entry before this one (or zero)

**diff**

full diff link for the edit (or blank)

**permalink**

full URL to the revision created by the edit (may not be the current revision)

**bot**

"true" for bot edits, blank otherwise

**new**

"true" for newly created pages, blank otherwise

**patrolled**

"true" if the edit was patrolled, blank otherwise

**old\_len**

page length before the edit

**new\_len**

page length after the edit

**content**

the full content of the page

**head**

the page's content up to about 2KB of text, with smart cut-off.

## Accessing Feeds

If the page Foo defines a feed using a `<newsfeed>` tag, that feed can be referenced by using `feed=rss` or `feed=atom` in the URL respectively.

So, if the URL path for page Foo is `/wiki/Foo`, you can use

```
/wiki/Foo?feed=rss
```

to get an RSS feed for that page. If the URL is `/w/index.php?title=Foo`, you would use

```
/w/index.php?title=Foo&feed=rss
```

You can conveniently create links to feeds using the `<newsfeedlink>` tag: For example,

```
<newsfeedlink feed="Foo" format="rss">My Foo Feed</newsfeedlink>
```

would generate a link to the news feed defined on page Foo using a `<newsfeed>` tag.

You can also specify an icon to use in the link:

```
<newsfeedlink feed="Foo" format="rss" icon="rss.png">My Foo Feed</newsfeedlink>
```

would generate a link that has the image "rss.png" before the link text (the icon option refers to the name of an image uploaded to the wiki).

```
<newsfeedlink feed="Foo" format="rss" icon="rss.png|right">My Foo Feed</newsfeedlink>
```

would generate a link that has the image to the right of the link text; and

```
<newsfeedlink feed="Foo" format="rss" icon="rss.png" title="RSS feed"/>
```

generates a link that only shows the given icon. The title attribute specifies the tooltip to show when the mouse hovers over the link.

Note that the link text may contain full wiki text, and the title-attribute may contain variables like News.

## Configuration

Configuration settings to define in LocalSettings.php

### \$wgNewsFeedURLPattern

this defines the pattern used by the `<newsfeedlink>` tag to generate feed URLs. In the pattern, `$1` will be replaced by the page title, and `$2` will be replaced by the requested feed format. If you are using pretty URLs with `$wgArticlePath` set to `$wgScript/$1` or `/wiki/$1`, etc., you can use the following for nicer feed URLs:

```
$wgNewsFeedURLPattern = $wgArticlePath . '?feed=$2';
```

(note that `$wgArticlePath` already contains `$1` with the meaning "page title") If you want to use rewrite rules for canonical feed URLs, like `/feed/Foo.rss`, set

```
$wgNewsFeedURLPattern = '/feed/$1.$2';
```

### \$wgNewsFeedUserPattern

this defines the pattern used to generate author names in feed items. In the pattern, `$1` is replaced by the user name. To e.g. generate email-addresses at your site as author names, use

```
$wgNewsFeedUserPattern = '$1@' . $wgServerName;
```

**Note** that the News extension relies on the `recentchanges` table. MediaWiki automatically purges entries from that table after some time (seven days, per default), so **older changes will not be shown by the News extension** either. To increase the time for which the change log is kept, set `$wgRCMaxAge` to the desired number of seconds:

```
$wgRCMaxAge = 60 * 24 * 3600; //60 days
```

# History

- rev:21283: adding support for RSS/Atom feeds; experimental
- rev:21478: use different way to hook feed output, to deal with erroneous '304 Not Modified' responses
- rev:21842: added publishing-trigger option; made hatom-compliant, forced absolute links, fixed some http issues

## Related Extensions

The Dynamic Page List extension creates reports on pages based on a variety of selection criteria and offers mechanisms for content transclusion. See also [Special:MyLanguage/Extension:GoogleNewsSitemap](#)

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