

Style for Templates

This directory has templates in the [Tera templating language](#), which is very similar to [Jinja2](#) and [Django](#) templates, and also to [Askama](#).

We want our rendered output to have as little unnecessary whitespace as possible, so that pages load quickly. To achieve that we use Tera's [whitespace control](#) features. At the end of most lines, we put an empty comment tag with the whitespace control characters: `{#- -#}`. This causes all whitespace between the end of the line and the beginning of the next, including indentation, to be omitted on render. Sometimes we want to preserve a single space. In those cases we put the space at the end of the line, followed by `{# -#}`, which is a directive to remove following whitespace but not preceding. We also use the whitespace control characters in most instances of tags with control flow, for example `{%- if foo -%}`.

We want our templates to be readable, so we use indentation and newlines liberally. We indent by four spaces after opening an HTML tag or a Tera tag. In most cases an HTML tag should be followed by a newline, but if the tag has simple contents and fits with its close tag on a single line, the contents don't necessarily need a new line.

Tera templates support quite sophisticated control flow. To keep our templates simple and understandable, we use only a subset: `if` and `for`. In particular we avoid [assignments in the template logic](#) and [Tera macros](#). This also may make things easier if we switch to a different Jinja-style template system, like Askama, in the future.