MediaWiki API help

This is an auto-generated MediaWiki API documentation page.

Documentation and examples: https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/API

Main module

- Source: MediaWiki
- License: GPL-2.0+

- Documentation
- FAQ
- Mailing list
- API Announcements
- Bugs & requests

Status: All features shown on this page should be working, but the API is still in active development, and may change at any time. Subscribe to the mediawiki-api-announce mailing list for notice of updates.

Erroneous requests: When erroneous requests are sent to the API, an HTTP header will be sent with the key "MediaWiki-API-Error" and then both the value of the header and the error code sent back will be set to the same value. For more information see API: Errors and warnings.

Testing: For ease of testing API requests, see Special:ApiSandbox.

Parameters:

action

> Which action to perform.
>
> One of the following values: block, changeauthenticationdata, checktoken, clearhasmsg, clientlogin, compare, createaccount, delete, edit, emailuser, expandtemplates, feedcontributions, feedrecentchanges, feedwatchlist, filerevert, help, imagerotate, import, linkaccount, login, logout, managetags, mergehistory, move, opensearch, options, paraminfo, parse, patrol, protect, purge, query, removeauthenticationdata, resetpassword, revisiondelete, rollback, rsd, setnotificationtimestamp, spamblacklist, stashedit, tag, tokens, unblock, undelete, unlinkaccount, upload, userrights, watch
> Default: help

format

> The format of the output.
>
> One of the following values: json, jsonfm, none, php, phpfm, rawfm, xml, xmlfm
> Default: jsonfm

maxlag

> Maximum lag can be used when MediaWiki is installed on a database replicated cluster. To save actions causing any more site replication lag, this parameter can make the client wait until the replication lag is less than the specified value. In case of excessive lag, error code `maxlag` is returned with a message like `Waiting for $host: $lag seconds lagged`.
> See Manual: Maxlag parameter for more information.
>
> Type: integer

smaxage

> Set the `s-maxage` HTTP cache control header to this many seconds. Errors are never cached.
>
> Type: integer
> Default: 0

maxage

> Set the `max-age` HTTP cache control header to this many seconds. Errors are never cached.
>
> Type: integer
> Default: 0

assert

> Verify the user is logged in if set to `user`, or has the bot user right if `bot`.
>
> One of the following values: user, bot

requestid

> Any value given here will be included in the response. May be used to distinguish requests.

servedby

> Include the hostname that served the request in the results.

> Type: boolean ([details](#))

curtimestamp

> Include the current timestamp in the result.

> Type: boolean ([details](#))

origin

> When accessing the API using a cross-domain AJAX request (CORS), set this to the originating domain. This must be included in any pre-flight request, and therefore must be part of the request URI (not the POST body). This must match one of the origins in the `Origin` header exactly, so it has to be set to something like `https://en.wikipedia.org` or `https://meta.wikimedia.org`. If this parameter does not match the `Origin` header, a 403 response will be returned. If this parameter matches the `Origin` header and the origin is whitelisted, an `Access-Control-Allow-Origin` header will be set.

uselang

> Language to use for message translations. `action=query&meta=siteinfo` with `siprop=languages` returns a list of language codes, or specify `user` to use the current user's language preference, or specify `content` to use this wiki's content language.

> Default: user

Examples:

Help for the main module.
> [api.php?action=help](#) _[open in sandbox]
All help in one page.
> [api.php?action=help&recursivesubmodules=1](#) _[open in sandbox]

Permissions:

writeapi
> Use of the write API
> Granted to: all, user, bot
apihighlimits
> Use higher limits in API queries (slow queries: 500; fast queries: 5000). The limits for slow queries also apply to multivalue parameters.
> Granted to: bot, sysop

Data types

Some parameter types in API requests need further explanation:

boolean
> Boolean parameters work like HTML checkboxes: if the parameter is specified, regardless of value, it is considered true. For a false value, omit the parameter entirely.
timestamp
> Timestamps may be specified in several formats. ISO 8601 date and time is recommended. All times are in UTC, any included timezone is ignored.

- ISO 8601 date and time, `2001-01-15T14:56:00Z` (punctuation and `Z` are optional)
- ISO 8601 date and time with (ignored) fractional seconds, `2001-01-15T14:56:00.00001Z` (dashes, colons, and `Z` are optional)
- MediaWiki format, `20010115145600`
- Generic numeric format, `2001-01-15 14:56:00` (optional timezone of `GMT`, `+##`, or `-##` is ignored)
- EXIF format, `2001:01:15 14:56:00`
- [RFC 2822](#) format (timezone may be omitted), `Mon, 15 Jan 2001 14:56:00`
- [RFC 850](#) format (timezone may be omitted), `Monday, 15-Jan-2001 14:56:00`
- C ctime format, `Mon Jan 15 14:56:00 2001`
- Seconds since 1970-01-01T00:00:00Z as a 1 to 13 digit integer (excluding `0`)
- The string `now`

Credits

API developers:

- Yuri Astrakhan (creator, lead developer Sep 2006–Sep 2007)
- Roan Kattouw (lead developer Sep 2007–2009)
- Victor Vasiliev
- Bryan Tong Minh
- Sam Reed
- Brad Jorsch (lead developer 2013–present)

Please send your comments, suggestions and questions to mediawiki-api@lists.wikimedia.org or file a bug report at https://phabricator.wikimedia.org/.