Guide to emacs-wiki

a hypertext markup system for GNU Emacs and Xemacs

This manual is for emacs-wiki version 2.69

For a list of the copyright holders, Chapter 14 [Contributors], page 22

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Chapter 1: Preface

1 Preface

This document describes emacs-wiki, which was written by John Wiegley and is now maintained by Michael Olson.

This document is a work in progress, and your contribution will be greatly appreciated. Please email comments and suggestions to the maintainer, Michael Olson mwolson@gnu.org

.

2 Introduction

emacs-wiki enables you to create and use hyperlinks and simple formatting in plain text files, and to optionally publish your pages as HTML.

• 2004

Damien Elmes handed EmacsWikiMode to Mark Triggs for a short period of time. Mark Triggs deferred to Sacha Chua as official maintainer of PlannerMode. Sacha Chua volunteered to maintain RememberMode. Michael Olson became the maintainer of EmacsWikiMode later that year.

• 2003

Sacha Chua volunteered to maintain PlannerMode. Damien Elmes volunteered to maintain EmacsWikiMode.

• 2001

John Wiegley wrote EmacsWikiMode and PlannerMode.

3 Installation

3.1 Installing a release

Choose to install a release if you want to minimize risk.

Errors are corrected in development first. Once fixes are confirmed, a new release will be made. User-visible changes will be announced on the emacs-wiki-discuss@nongnu.org mailing list. see Chapter 13 [Getting Help and Reporting Bugs], page 21.

Debian users can get emacs-wiki via apt-get. The version of emacs-wiki in the Debian stable archive is not recommended, since it is so old. 'emacs-wiki' is available in the Sarge and Sid distributions: apt-get install emacs-wiki.

You can also install the source distribution.

- 1. Download and unpack the latest version from http://www.mwolson.org/static/dist/emacs-wiki/.
- 2. Edit your '~/.emacs'.

```
;; Add the directories to your load path
(add-to-list 'load-path "/path/to/emacs-wiki")
;; Load emacs-wiki
(require 'emacs-wiki)
```

You can download the archive at the following locations:

- Current and past releases: http://www.mwolson.org/static/dist/emacs-wiki/
- Debian installation: apt-get install emacs-wiki

3.2 Installing the development version

Choose the development version if you want to live on the bleeding edge of emacs-wiki development or try out new features before release.

The Arch revision control system allows you to retrieve previous versions and select specific features and bug fixes.

Downloading the modules for the first time:

- 1. Install arch. Debian: apt-get install tla . Other distros: see http://regexps.srparish.net/www/.
- 2. Register the archive and download the modules.

```
# Register the archive
tla register-archive http://www.mwolson.org/archives/2005
```

```
# Download emacs-wiki module into the emacs-wiki/ subdirectory tla get mwolson@gnu.org--2005/emacs-wiki--main--1.0 emacs-wiki
```

3. Open your '~/.emacs' and add the 'emacs-wiki/' directory to your load path.

```
(add-to-list 'load-path "/path/to/emacs-wiki")
```

To list upstream changes not in local copy:

```
# Change to the source directory you are interested in. Example:
    cd emacs-wiki/

# Display the summary of changes
    tla missing --summary
To update to the latest version:
    cd emacs-wiki
    tla replay
```

You can also obtain the archive at the following locations on the web:

- Browse arch repository: http://www.mwolson.org/archives/
- Latest development snapshot: http://www.mwolson.org/static/dist/emacs-wiki-latest.tar.gz

The latest development snapshot will be kept up to date since it is updated at the same time as the Arch repository.

4 Wiki Concepts

Wiki is a concept, more than a thing. It is a way of creating document pages using plain text markup and simplified hyperlinking.

By typing a name in MixedCase (also known as CamelCase), a hyperlink is automatically created to the document 'MixedCase'. Pressing return on that name will create the file if it doesn't exist, or visit it if it does.

The markup used by Emacs-Wiki is intended to be very friendly to people familiar with Emacs. Type C-h v emacs-wiki-publishing-markup after this mode is loaded for more information on how to get started.

Wiki's are often associated with sites that allow collaborative editing of a website. emacs-wiki is not meant to produce this sort of site, although you can use Emacs to serve web pages. See 'emacs-wiki-httpd.el' for more information. Note that this feature is not well-tested.

5 Getting Started

To begin using Emacs-Wiki, put this in your '.emacs' file:

(load ''emacs-wiki'')

Now you can type M-x emacs-wiki-find-file, give it a WikiName (or just hit return) and start typing!

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

6 Keystroke Summary

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

- C-c C-a Jump to an index of all the Wiki pages.
- *C-c C-b* Show all pages that reference this page.
- C-c C-s Search for a word in your Wiki pages.
- C-c C-f Jump to another Wiki page. Prompt for the name.
- *C-c C-1* Highlight/refresh the current buffer.
- C-c C-p Publish any Wiki pages that have changed as HTML.
- C-c C-r Rename Wiki link at point.
- C-c C-e Edit link at point.
- C-c C-v Change Wiki project.
- C-c C-D Delete Wiki link at point. This binding will only work on X.
- C-c = Diff this page against the last backup version.
- TAB Move to the next Wiki reference.
- S-TAB Move to the previous Wiki reference.

7 Markup Rules

7.1 Basic WikiMarkups

Here is a description of the default markup rules:

Headings

* 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).

Horizontal rules

Emphasis

```
*emphasis*
**strong emphasis**
***very strong emphasis***
_underlined text_
```

=verbatim=

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

A reference[1], which is just a number in square brackets, constitutes a footnote reference.

Footnotes:

[1] 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.

Paragraphs

One or more blank lines separates paragraphs.

Centered paragraphs and quotations

A line that begins with six or more columns of whitespace (made up of tabs or spaces) indicates a centered paragraph. I assume this because 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.

Poetic verse

Poetry requires that whitespace be preserved, without resorting to the monospace typical quotations:

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

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

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

Literal paragraphs

Use the HTML tags to insert a paragraph and preserve whitespace. If you're inserting a block of code, you will almost always want to use <verbatim></verbatim> *within* the tags. The shorcut for doing this is to use the <example> tag:

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

Tables

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. You need to (require 'emacs-wiki-table) for this functionality.

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
```

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

#example If you begin a line with "#anchor" – where 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.

Redirecting to another page or URL

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

```
<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

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

Special handling of WikiNames

If you need to add a plural at the end of a WikiName, separate it with four single quotes (WikiName"s) or make it an explicit link ([[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

Besides the normal WikiName type links, emacs-wiki also supports extended links:

```
[[link text][optional link description]]
```

An extended 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.

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

InterWiki names

There are times when you will want to constantly reference pages on another website. Rather than repeating the URL ad nauseum, you can define an InterWiki name. This is a set of WikiNames to URL correlations, that support textual substitution using #anchor names (which are appended to the URL). For example, MeatballWiki is defined in the variable 'emacs-wiki-interwiki-names'. It means you can reference the page \"MeatBall\" on MeatballWiki using this syntax:

MeatballWiki#MeatBall

In the resulting HTML, the link is simply shown as

MeatballWiki:MeatBall

7.2 Changing Title or Stylesheet

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

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

7.3 Lists

Whitespace is required after bullets and numbers that are part of a list.

Here is an example:

- This
- Is
- A
- List
- 1. This
- 2. too

```
But this is not,
--even if it starts with dashes
0.1] or numbers, as in the original test case.
```

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

```
- Hello

There
My friend
```

7.4 Images

Sub-lists?

You can include links of the form '[[some/link][some/image]]'. If you want to include alt text, use '[[some/link][some/image alt text]]'.

You may need to have auto-image-file-mode set to 't' for this to work.

7.5 Lisp Tricks

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:

```
cignore
   ;; 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\" />"))
```

The ignore is needed so nothing is inserted where the sp> 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.

7.6 Non-existent Links

By default, non-existent links are converted into mailto: links in published HTML. This allows website visitors to e-mail emacs-wiki-maintainer for missing information. If you want non-existent links to be rendered as plain text, set emacs-wiki-markup-nonexistent-link to nil.

In HTML served directly from Emacs using httpd and emacs-wiki-httpd.el, non-existent links are always editable links.

7.7 Special Markups

For specially marking up Wiki text, XML-style tags are the best way to add custom markup to Emacs Wiki, which expects a closing tag and/or an optional set of attributes. This is easily accomplished by customizing this list of markup tags defined in emacs-wiki-markup-tags.

Here is a summary of the default tags. This also includes the dangerous tags listed in emacs-wiki-dangerous-tags, which may not be used by outsiders.

Please refer to document of emacs-wiki-markup-tags and emacs-wiki-dangerous-tags for detail infomation and customization instructions.

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.

example

Like verbatim, but typesets in HTML using the tag, with class=example, so whitespace formatting is preserved.

nowiki

Inhibits wiki markup, but does not do any escaping to the underlying publishing medium. Useful for embedding HTML, PHP, etc.

verse

Typesets like a normal paragraph, but without word-wrapping. That is, whitespace is preserved.

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.

nop

When placed before a WikiLink, it will prevent that WikiLink from being treated as such. Good for names like DocBook.

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.

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.

command

Pass the region to a command interpretor and insert the result, guarding it from any further expansion. Optional "file" attribute specifies the shell or interpretor to use. If none is given, and emacs-wiki-command-tag-file has not been configured, Eshell is used.

python, perl

Pass the region to the Python or Perl language interpretor, and insert the result.

 $c ext{-}source$

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.

Note: If c2html is not available, the region will be converted to HTML friendly text (i.e., <> turns into <>), and placed in a block. In this case, line numbering is not available.

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.

8 Interactive Functions

'emacs-wiki.el' defines the following interactive functions:

emacs-wiki-edit-link-at-point

[Function]

Edit the current link. Do not rename the Wiki page originally referred to.

emacs-wiki-find-file wiki command directory

[Function]

Open the Emacs Wiki page *wiki* by name. If *command* is non-nil, it is the function used to visit the file. If *directory* is non-nil, it is the directory in which the Wiki page will be created if it does not already exist.

emacs-wiki-next-reference

[Function]

Move forward to next Wiki link or URL, cycling if necessary.

emacs-wiki-previous-reference

[Function]

Move backward to the next Wiki link or URL, cycling if necessary. This function is not entirely accurate, but it's close enough.

emacs-wiki-refresh-buffers &rest args

[Function]

Rebuild file alist and refresh current project. Call after creating a page.

$\verb"emacs-wiki-follow-name-at-point" other-window"$

[Function]

Visit the link at point, or insert a newline if none.

emacs-wiki-follow-name-at-point-other-window

[Function]

Visit the link at point in other window.

emacs-wiki-follow-name-at-mouse event other-window

[Function]

Visit the link at point, or yank text if none.

emacs-wiki-follow-name-at-mouse-other-window event

[Function]

Visit the link at point.

emacs-wiki-rename-link-at-point

[Function]

Rename the link under point, and the location it points to. This does not work with URLs, and will preserve a description in an extended link.

emacs-wiki-delete-link-at-point

[Function]

Delete the link under point, and the location it points to. This does not work with URLs.

${\tt emacs-wiki-search}\ text$

[Function]

Search for the given text string in the Wiki directories.

emacs-wiki-backlink

[Function]

Grep for the current page name in all the Wiki directories.

emacs-wiki-index

[Function]

Display an index of all known Wiki pages.

emacs-wiki-highlight-buffer

[Function]

Re-highlight the entire Wiki buffer.

emacs-wiki-visit-published-file arg

[Function]

Visit the current Wiki page's published result.

emacs-wiki-dired-publish

[Function]

Publish all marked files in a dired buffer.

emacs-wiki-publish-index

[Function]

Publish an index of the Wiki pages. This function can be added to emacs-wiki-after-wiki-publish-hook.

emacs-wiki-publish arg

[Function]

Publish all Wikis that need publishing. If the published Wiki already exists, it is only overwritten if the Wiki is newer than the published copy. When given the optional argument arg, all Wikis are rewritten, no matter how recent they are. The index file is rewritten no matter what.

emacs-wiki-publish-this-page

[Function]

Force publication of the current page.

emacs-wiki-change-project project

[Function]

Change Wiki projects.

When called interactively, load the welcome page of the selected project in a new buffer. If no project is selected, the default project as specified in emacs-wiki-default-project will be used.

Note that the project will only be changed if the welcome page exists for the target project. This may be changed in the future to find a nonexistent file, though if this happens it is not clear which of Wiki directory should be used in the case of there being multiple directories.

When called from a Lisp program, update the current buffer's project to project.

9 Convenience Features

The following are several miscellaneous features that might make your emacs-wiki experience more enjoyable.

Using pcomplete

If you have promplete loaded, you can type M-TAB to complete Wiki names. Hitting M-TAB two or more times in succession will cycle through all of the possibilities. You can find 'promplete.el' in the 'contrib' directory that comes with the emacs-wiki tarball.

ChangeLog

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.

Macros

Macros can be defined for text that you use often. Consult 'emacs-wiki-macros.el' for information on using this feature.

Menu

This feature allows you to make custom and auto-generated navigation menus. Please consult the top of the 'emacs-wiki-menu.el' for reasonably complete documentation.

10 Fancy Tables

To get fancy table markup, add:

(require 'emacs-wiki-table)

to your '.emacs'. In your wiki source files, you can now make tables that look like this:

+			
Column 1	Column 2		
Some text here	More text here, even wrapping to the next line		
Some text here	More text here, even wrapping to the next line		

See 'table.el' for more information.

^{&#}x27;emacs-wiki-table.el' does not add any interactive functions or keybindings.

11 Multiple Projects

Emacs-wiki has a way of supporting multiple Wiki projects. This allows you to make links from one project to another, which are often called *interwiki links*. This can be convenient if you wish to split your website according to the kind of content, for example.

For now, it is considered good practice to have your multiple projects under a common directory, and not to nest your projects.

You will need something like the following in your '.emacs' file in order to set up multiple project support.

The first phrase on the second line of code is the name of the project. In this example, there are two projects, WebWiki and ProjectsWiki. It would be best for these names to be in Chapter 4 [Wiki Concepts], page 5.

The *emacs-wiki-directories* line indicates which source directories correspond with the particular project. This must be a list.

emacs-wiki-project-server-prefix is the text that will be put at the beginning of each interwiki link at publish time. For example, 'WebWiki#MyPage' would be rendered '../wiki/MyPage.html' in its published (HTML) form. It is also acceptable to give an absolute location here, like '/projects', with the root directory corresponding to your root web publishing directory.

emacs-wiki-publishing-directory is the directory where the HTML content will be placed upon publishing the project. You should make sure that the content of emacs-wiki-project-server-prefix is such that a link from a file in one project to a file in another project is feasible.

Other variables can also be defined in this block if you wish to customize a particular project further.

12 Encryption

To get PGG¹ support within Emacs Wiki, add

(require 'emacs-wiki-pgg)

to your '.emacs'. In your wiki source files, you can now have sections of text that is automatically encrypted when published or sections that can be decrypted/encrypted interactively.

12.1 Interface to PGG

Make sure to set *pgg-gpg-user-id* to your user id. Eg:

(setq pgg-gpg-user-id "Your user id")

There are two interfaces to PGG. This can be controlled via setting the variable *emacs-wiki-pgg-interface* to the correct function:

emacs-wiki-pgg-interface

[Variable]

'pgg-encrypt-show

pgg-encrypt-region² is called interactively after setting point and mark. Recipients are read from the minibuffer.

'pgg-encrypt-sign-self

This is a personalized version of pgg-encrypt-region that is intended when the recipient is self. Message is signed if *emacs-wiki-pgg-sign* is non-nil. You are welcome to change pgg-encrypt-sign-self in 'emacs-wiki-pgg.el' to suit your needs.

emacs-wiki-pgg-sign

[Variable]

Set to non-nil if you want the message to be signed when the interface is pgg-encrypt-sign-self.

12.2 gpg Tag

Enclose text that you want to encrypt/decrypt interactively in Emacs Wiki mode within these tags. Whitespace is preserved during publish via the tag.

M-x emacs-wiki-encrypt-gpg

Finds each gpg tag and encrypts the text between them using the chosen PGG interface see Section 12.1 [Interface to PGG], page 19. The resultant encrypted text is immediately visible in the buffer.

M-x emacs-wiki-decrypt-gpg

Finds each gpg tag and decrypts the text between them. The resultant decrypted text is immediately visible in the buffer.

C-u M-x emacs-wiki-encrypt-gpg

Encrypts the entire buffer using the chosen PGG interface. The resultant encrypted text is immediately visible in the buffer. The resultant wiki file is unsuitable for publishing. Use this with care.

¹ See Info file 'pgg', node 'Overview'.

 $^{^2}$ A function defined by PGG

```
C-u M-x emacs-wiki-decrypt-gpg
Decrypts the entire buffer. The resultant decrypted text is immediately visible.

C-c C-S-e Calls emacs-wiki-encrypt-gpg.

C-c C-S-d Calls emacs-wiki-decrypt-gpg.

Example: Consider the following wiki markup

<gpg>Test data</gpg>

Press C-c C-S-e to get:

<gpg>----BEGIN PGP MESSAGE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.2.4 (GNU/Linux)

[Imagine encrypted text]

----END PGP MESSAGE-----

</gpg>

Now press C-c C-S-d to get:

<gpg>Test data</gpg>
```

12.3 gpge Tag

Enclose unencrypted text within these tags and only its encrypted version will be published to the html file. This is useful when you need to maintain an unencrypted cleartext version in your local wiki source and publish it's encrypted counterpart to your web site.

Example:

```
<gpge>Test data</gpge>
Resultant html file section:
  ----BEGIN PGP MESSAGE-----
    Version: GnuPG v1.2.4 (GNU/Linux)

[Imagine encrypted text]
  ----END PGP MESSAGE-----
```

13 Getting Help and Reporting Bugs

After you have read this guide, if you still have questions about EmacsWikiMode, or if you have bugs to report, there are several places you can go.

http://www.mwolson.org/projects/EmacsWiki.html is the page that Michael Olson made for emacs-wiki. For the duration of his maintainership, it may be considered the official emacs-wiki website.

You can join the mailing list at emacs-wiki-discuss@nongnu.org using the subscription form at http://mail.nongnu.org/mailman/listinfo/emacs-wiki-discuss. This mailing list is also available via Gmane (http://gmane.org/). The group is called 'gmane.emacs.wiki.general'.

http://www.emacswiki.org/cgi-bin/wiki/EmacsWikiMode is the emacswiki.org page, and anyone may add tips and hints to it.

You can visit the IRC Freenode channel '#emacs'. Many of the contributors are frequently around and willing to answer your questions.

You can also contact the maintainer of EmacsWikiMode, Michael Olson, at mwolson@gnu.org.

14 Contributors

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```

The first draft of this document was made by John Sullivan, and he did a majority of the work on it. Parts of this document were taken from the emacs-wiki.el source code, so a copyright notice for John Wiegley was added.

While Sacha Chua maintained emacs-wiki, she worked quite a bit on this document and split off the Planner and Remember sections.

Michael Olson added several sections, like the one on Chapter 11 [Multiple Projects], page 18. He also reworked some sections in various ways.

Anirudh Sasikumar contributed documentation for the Chapter 12 [Encryption], page 19 node. Many thanks to him for implementing this useful feature and documenting it!

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Version 2, June 1991

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A.1 Preamble

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