

Rights concepts

BlueSpice

An introduction to rights management

More than 100 permissions are necessary to control the user access to all wiki functions and extensions.

Depending on the actions a user needs to take, many of these permissions are related and consequently need to be granted to a certain type of user. A user with read access, for example, needs to also be able to change the user profile and add pages to a watch list. For this reason, BlueSpice uses roles and groups to manage the rights of individual users.

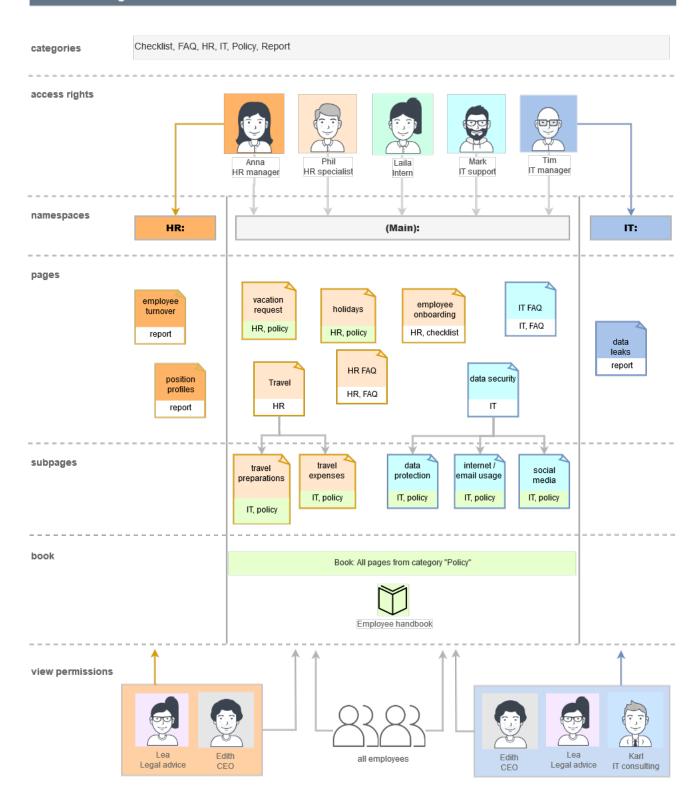
The following entities are part of the rights management system:

- **Permission:** Allows a specific action.
- **Role:** A set of permissions (permissions can only be set by selecting roles).
- **User:** Entity in the wiki instance database. Has a unique user name and user id.
- **User group:** A collection of users. A user is assigned to one or more groups. There are system internal groups (cannot be removed or renamed) and custom groups. In many cases the group name consists of the role and a namespace name
- **Namespace:** Permissions can be set on a namespace level. But not on a per-page-level.

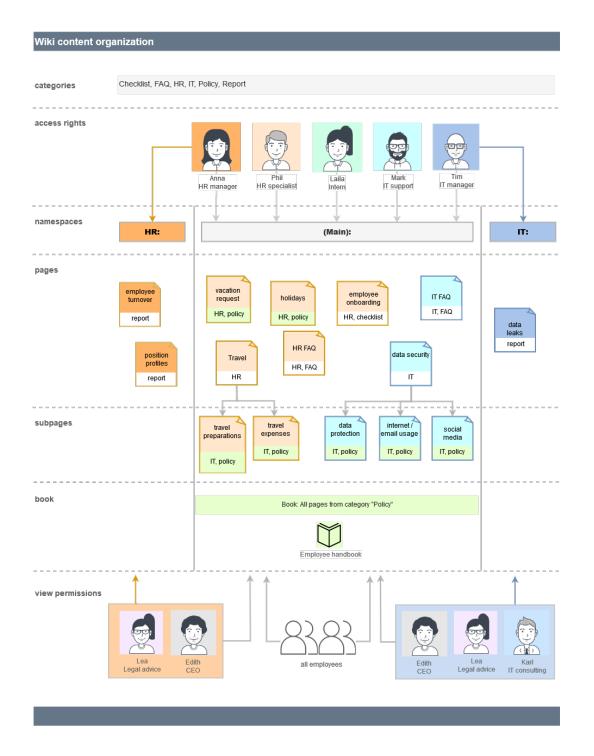
Use case\: Managing department information

Blue Spice MediaWiki

Wiki content organization







Anna (HR Manager) and Phil (HR Specialist) are maintaining all content related to the Human Resources department on the company wiki.

Some content is visible to all employees. Other content has to be restricted and only be visible to upper management and to Lea, the company's legal advisor.

After reviewing the content and access requirements, the company decides to create HR content in two namespaces: All unrestricted content goes in the Main namespace of the wiki. Sensitive information is maintained in a custom namespace called "HR".



To reflect these specific HR requirements, the wiki adminstrator needs to complete the following steps:

1. Create the **namespace** (HR:) on the page Special:NamespaceManager :

Cancel	Add namespace	Done
Namespace nam	e: HR	
Alia	5:	
Subpages		
Content namesp	ace	
CategoryCheck		
Secured page as	signments	
PageTemplates		
Visual editor		
Rating		
Recommendatio	ns	
Read Confirmation	n	
Semantic Media	Wiki	
FlaggedRevs		

After adding the namespace, the new namespace is displayed after pressing the "f5" key. 2. Create the necessary **groups** on the page Special:GroupManager :

Group manager				
⊕ 🔇 🛇				
Group				
HR_editor				
HR_reviewer				
HR_visitor				
autoreview				
bot				
<u> </u>				

- HR_visitor: Users in this group have only view permissions to the (HR:) namespace
- HR_editor: Users in this group can create and edit pages in the (HR:) namespace
- HR_reviewer: Users in this group can, additionally, approve documents. For this to work, the function "FlaggedRevs" is activated for the namespace. These groups are initially "empty".
- 3. Assign **roles** to each group on the page Special:PermissionManager . After this, each group has specific sets of permissions:
 - 1. The group HR_visitor:



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– -€) user 🏜 HR_admin 🐏 HR_editor		Role	Wiki	(Pages)	Manual	Legal	Setup	Reference	FAQ	뜻		
		0	bot										
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	- 🐏 bot	0	admin										
		0	author										
	🏰 reviewer	0	editor										
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	- Sinwcurator	0	accountmanager										
	- Misitor	0	structuremanager										
	widgeteditor	0	reader										
		0	accountselfcreate										
		0	commenter										

The administrator selects the group "HR_visitor" and checks the Role "reader" only in the HR namespace. Since the reader role in the HR namespace is now assigned to the group "HR_visitor", all other groups no longer have any view permissions for this namespace:

Save Reset Show system gr	oups							Export	table 🗸					
			Namespaces											
- 😁 user	Role	Wiki	(Pages)	Manual	Legal	Setup	Reference	FAQ	Н					
🐏 HR_reviewer 🐏 HR_visitor	bot													
🐏 autoreview	f maintenanceadmin													
🐏 bot	1 admin													
editor	author													
- 🎥 reviewer	editor													
smwadministrator	f reviewer													
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- Martinian - Mart	structuremanager													
widgeteditor	f reader													
	accountselfcreate								Blocked by HR					
	commenter													

2. The group HR_editor: The administrator selects the role editor only in the namespace HR. Since the editor role does not inherit all permissions from the reader role, the administrator also has to check the reader permissions in addition:



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- te autoreview	0	maintenanceadmin											
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- de editor	0	author											
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- 🍲 smwadministrator	0	reviewer											
- Sysop	0	accountmanager											
- 🍲 visitor	0	structuremanager											
	0	reader											
	0	accountselfcreate											
	0	commenter											

3. The group HR_reviewer: The administrator selects the role of reviewer only for the namespace HR. Since the roles HR_visitor and HR_editor have been reserved for the groups HR_visitor and/or HR_editor before, the editor and reader permissions have to be granted as well:

Reset Show system	groups								Export	table \vee
7*							Names	paces		
😁 user 📸 HR_editor 📸 HR_reviewer		Role	Wiki	(Pages)	Manual	Legal	Setup	Reference	FAQ	Ť
MR_visitor	0	bot								
···· 🏰 autoreview	0	maintenanceadmin								
····· 🐏 bot	0	admin								
🎥 editor	0	author								
····· 🏰 reviewer	0	editor								
····· 🐏 smwadministrator ····· 🐏 smwcurator	0	reviewer								~
🏰 sysop	0	accountmanager								
📽 visitor	0	structuremanager								
widgeteditor	0	reader								
	0	accountselfcreate								
	0	commenter								

4. **Add users** to the correct user groups: Since Anna needs to be able to edit and approve the documents both in the HR and in the Main namespace, she has to be added to both the "HR_reviewer" and the standard "reviewer" groups:



Cancel	Add user	Done	
Username:	AMiller		
Password:	•••••		
Confirm password:	••••••		
Email:	amiller@bestspices.com		
Real name:	Anna Miller		
Enabled:	\checkmark		
Groups: Typ	e to filter	\sim	
2	HR_reviewer (HR_reviewer)	8	
2	Reviewers (reviewer)	8	1

The administrator also adds the other affected users to the correct groups. The result is the following permissions configuration:

user	is in groups	roles in namespace HR	roles in namespace Main	description
Anna (HR manager)	HR_reviewer reviewer	reviewer reader editor	reviewer reader editor	Anna can now read, edit and approve pages in both the HR and the Main namespaces.
Phil (HR specialist)	HR_editor editor	reader editor	reader editor	Phil can now read and edit pages in both the HR and the Main namespaces
Edith (CEO)	HR_viewer editor	reader	editor	Edith can now read pages in the HR namespace and edit pages in the Main namespace.
Lea (Legal advice)	HR_viewer	reader	-	Lea can only read pages in the HR namespace.
All employees	reader	-	reader	All employees can read pages in the Main namespace. They cannot read the pages in the HR namespace.

In addition, the administrator should ensure that Anna is not the only person who can approve content. Otherwise, there would be a problem when Anna is on vacation or has no time for reviewing page edits.



Related info

- Namespace Manager
- Permission manager
- Group manager
- User manager