

Manual:Extension/BlueSpiceSocialBlog

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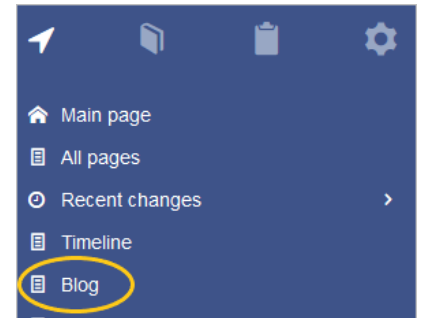
About the blog

Basically, a blog is a list of comments, questions, or feedback from different users. The blog is often sorted chronologically downwards, in the sense of a public journal. A lively communication can arise when the contributions are further commented, recommended, linked with related articles or placed on a personal watchlist.

The extension *BlueSpiceSocialBlog* is part of *BlueSpiceSocial*, the communication module of BlueSpice. In addition to the type blog, there are other types of so-called social entities, such as *comment*, *discussion topic*, *attachment*, or *microblog*.

Contributions from all these types can be consolidated and displayed chronologically with *BlueSpiceSocial* in a timeline and filtered and sorted as needed.

The blog function is ready for use on the special page *Special:Blog*. This page is linked directly from the main navigation in every new wiki installation. So you can start using the blog right away. It is also possible to include the blog functionality on any wiki page. Let's get right to it.

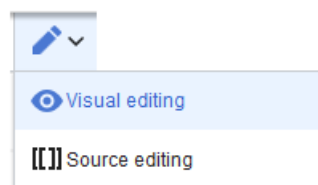


Adding the blog to a page

If you want to include a view of your blog on another page of your wiki, for example your homepage, you need to insert the necessary codeblock in the source code of your page.

To include a blog view:

1. **Go to** the page where you want to insert the blog or create a new page.
2. **Open the page** in *Source editing* mode.



3. **Copy the following code block** to the section in your page where you want to show the blog.

```
<bs:timeline>
{
  "showentitylistmenu": true,
  "preloadtitles": {
    "blog": "Vorlage:Blog"
  },
  "preloadedentities": [{
    "type": "blog"
  }],
  "headlinemessagekey": "Community-Blog",
```

```
"showheadline": true,
"usemorescroll": false,
"morelink": "Special:Blog",
"limit": 5,
"sort": [ {
  "property": "timestampcreated",
  "direction": "DESC"
}],
"lockedfilternames": [
  "type"
],
"filter": [ {
  "type": "list",
  "property": "type",
  "value": [ "blog" ],
  "comparison": "ct"
}]
}
</bs:timeline>
```

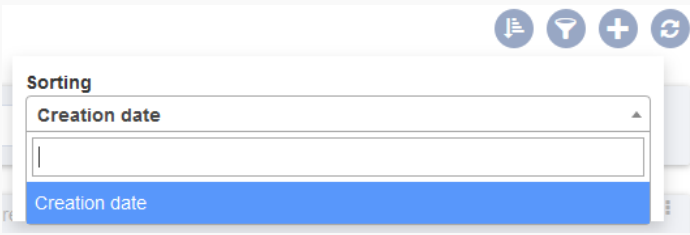
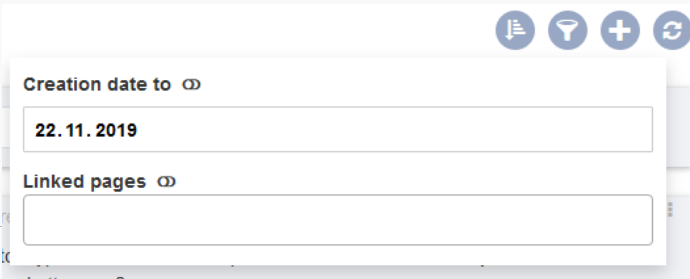
After saving the page, you will see a list of existing blog entries based on the filter and sorting criteria you provided.

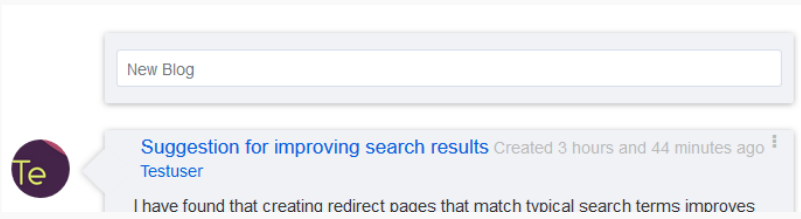
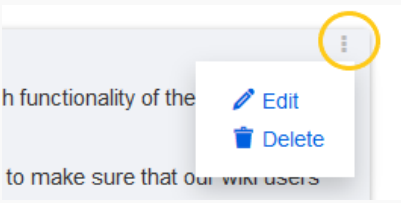
The screenshot shows the 'Community-Blog' interface. At the top, there's a header with the title 'Community-Blog' (1) and a toolbar with icons for list, filter, add, and refresh (2). Below the header is a 'New Blog' input field (3). The main content area displays two blog entries. The first entry, titled 'How do the social features work?' (4), was created one hour and 36 minutes ago by 'Testuser' (b). The entry text asks for documentation on combining social entities in a timeline. It has interaction buttons for comments (0), recommend (0), linked page (1), and unwatch (c). The second entry, titled 'Greg Rundlett über BlueSpice' (d), was created 2 months ago by 'Richard Heigl'. The text discusses BlueSpice as the best option for MediaWiki Enterprise. It has interaction buttons for comment (1), recommend (0), linked page (1), and watch. Below the entries is a 'Comment' input field (5). A new comment (6) from 'Testuser' (Te) states: 'I agree, our employees love working with BlueSpice as well. It is so easy and everyone feels like they are a lot more productive now.' This comment has a 'Recommend (0)' button. At the bottom right, there's a menu icon (7).

Blog parameters

Output format

The following table shows the blog elements and the necessary parameters to create the output:

Element	Parameters	Parameter and element description
1 - header	headlinemessagekey	Header text
	showheadline	Show the header text
2 - blog menu	showentitylistmenu	Show or hide the blog menu
	showentityspawner	Show the menu item for creating a blog entry
	availablesorterfields	Determines which data fields are included as sorting options in the sort menu by date created or by the user who created a blog entry: <pre>"availablesorterfields":["timestampcreated","ownerid"]</pre>  List of typical sort fields
	lockedoptionnames	Determines which settings for sorting the user cannot change.
	availablefilterfields	Determines which data fields are included as filter options in the filter menu based on Creation date and Linked pages: <pre>"availablefilterfields":["timestampcreated","tags"]</pre> 
	lockedfilternames	Determines which settings for filtering the user cannot change. Example: a user cannot change the filter values for <i>Linked pages</i>. This is achieved by setting: <pre>"lockedfilternames":["tags"]</pre> 
		Initial settings and custom sort and filter settings are included in the page when you create a link to the page with the same filter and sort settings.

Element	Parameters	Parameter and element description
	<code>persistsettings</code>	<pre>"persistsettings":true</pre> myblog?sort=[{"property":"timestampcreated","direction":"DESC"}]&filter=[{"type"
3 - new blog entry	<code>preloadentities</code>	Shows the text field for creating a new blog entry. If it is not set, the text field is hidden. To show the text field: <pre>"preloadedentities": [{"type":"blog"}]</pre> 
4 - existing blog entry	<code>outputtypes</code>	It defines the display format of the blog entry. Standard types are: <i>List</i>, <i>Short</i>, <i>Default</i>, <i>Page</i>. (see examples) Each blog entry is a "social entity".
	<code>limit</code>	Defines how many social entities are loaded initially.
4a - avatar	-	Shows the avatar of the user who created the blog entry or comment. It is displayed except <i>List</i> .
4b - title bar	-	In the output type <i>List</i> , the username is not displayed in the title bar.
4c - blog entry content	-	Shows the text body of a blog entry. The output type <i>Default</i> collapses the first paragraph with a "More" link.
4d - social tags	-	Blog entries always include the social tags <i>Comments</i> , <i>Recommend</i> , <i>Linked</i> .
4e - user menu	-	Users can edit or delete their own blog entries or comments at any time. The user menu shows the following options: 
5 - new comment	-	Text field for creating a new comment.
6 - existing	-	Comments include the social tag <i>Recommend</i> .

Element	Parameters	Parameter and element description
comment	-	Each comment is a "social entity".
7 - "more" button	morelink	Link target of the "more" button. For blogs, it makes sense to link to the page.
	useendlessscroll	More blog entries are automatically loaded after the user scrolls to the end of the list.
	showentitylistmore	Shows a "more" button below the blog which loads more blog entries on click. <i>useendlessscroll</i> is set to <i>false</i> .

Sorting

Most commonly, a blog shows the latest blog entries first. However, there are many different options for sorting the list of blog entries.

Syntax

```
[{  
  "property": "timestamptouched",  
  "direction": "DESC"  
}]
```

Properties

There are some common properties of a blog entry that are useful for sorting:

Property	Description
timestampcreated	creation date
timestamptouched	last edit date
commentcount	number of comments
ratingcount	number of ratings
ownerid	username of the creator of a blog entry
ownerrealname	real name of the user

Direction

Blog entries can be sorted in descending and ascending order. Descending is the default order.

Property	Description
DESC	sorts the blog entries in descending order
ASC	sorts the blog entries in ascending order

Filtering

Without setting the filter parameter, there will be no output on the page.

To show the blog entries of your wiki, include the following codeblock like shown in the code example above:

```
"filter": [ {
  "type": "list",
  "property": "type",
  "value": [ "blog" ],
  "comparison": "ct"
}]
```

This filter includes all social entities which match the type *blog*. Since we only want to show social entities of type *blog*, we only include *blog* entries in our filter. If you want to create a social timeline rather than a blog view, you can also add other types of social entities. The following example shows a timeline view that includes blog entries, discussion entries from wiki pages, and user profile information:

```
"filter": [ {
  "type": "list",
  "property": "type",
  "value": [ "blog", "topic", "profile" ],
  "comparison": "ct"
}]
```

Output type examples

The output type for a blog is added using the *outputtypes* parameter. Don't forget to include a comma before and after this parameter (unless this is the last parameter in your code):

```
"outputtypes": {
  "blog": "Default"
}
```

Default

The output type *Default* shows the content of a blog entry truncated after the first paragraph. To view the full text, users can click on the *More* link.



[Suggestion for improving search results](#) Created one hour and 49 minutes ago [Testuser](#)

I have found that creating redirect pages that match typical search terms improves the search functionality of the wiki. Should we start creating lots of redirect pages or is there a better way?

[Comments \(2\)](#)
[Recommend \(0\)](#)
[Linked page \(1\)](#)
[Unwatch](#)
[More](#)



[Greg Rundlett über BlueSpice](#) Created 2 months ago [Richard Heigl](#)

Greg Rundlett came to the following conclusion at the EMWCon in Houston:BlueSpice is really the best option out there - I think globally - for MediaWiki Enterprise, MediaWiki hosting and support.

[Comments \(3\)](#)
[Recommend \(0\)](#)
[Linked page \(1\)](#)
[Unwatch](#)
[More](#)

Short

The output type *Short* does not show the content of the blog entry. To view the content, a user has to click on the title of a blog entry. This loads the actual page for the selected blog entity.



[Suggestion for improving search results](#) Created one hour and 45 minutes ago [Testuser](#)

[Comments \(2\)](#)
[Recommend \(0\)](#)
[Linked page \(1\)](#)
[Unwatch](#)



[Greg Rundlett über BlueSpice](#) Created 2 months ago [Richard Heigl](#)

[Comments \(3\)](#)
[Recommend \(0\)](#)
[Linked page \(1\)](#)
[Unwatch](#)

Page

The output type *Page* shows all blog elements, including the comments, in an expanded view.



[Suggestion for improving search results](#) Created 2 hours and 11 minutes ago [Testuser](#)

I have found that creating redirect pages that match typical search terms improves the search functionality of the wiki. Should we start creating lots of redirect pages or is there a better way?

Should we have a quick meeting with IT about this. I find it really important, because we want to make sure that our wiki users find what they are looking for as quickly as possible.

 Comments (2)
  Recommend (0)
  Linked page (1)
  Unwatch

Created 2 hours and 10 minutes ago [Testuser](#)

I have always been doing this. Works great. But I would prefer metadata on the page to be honest.

 Recommend (0)



List

The output type *List* only shows the title and the timestamp.

[Suggestion for improving search results](#) Created one hour and 56 minutes ago

[Greg Rundlett über BlueSpice](#) Created 2 months ago

Configuration

Related info

- [Reference:BlueSpiceSocialBlog](#)

- **Use teaser text for blog entries in the timeline:** When you create a blog entry, you can create a teaser text for it by clicking the cogwheel symbol in the blog entry form. If this setting is active, the teaser text will be shown on the page *Special:Timeline* instead of the first part of the content.

blog teaser text