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Manual:Extension/WebDAV

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With the BlueSpice WebDAV integration you can open, edit and save files from your wiki directly in their native applications. After saving, the files are automatically updated and versioned in the wiki.

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Editing options

With WebDAV, you have two editing options for files:

1. Open the file in the wiki and edit it in the Office application
2. Open the file using your local file explorer (for example, Windows Explorer) and edit it in the Office application. This requires a connection between the WebDAV server and your local file explorer. The wiki file directories are then mapped like a network drive.

With WebDAV you can work on OpenDocument files or Microsoft Office files such as Word, Excel or PowerPoint in their associated programs. You can also exchange image formats such as jpg, gif or png and PDF files directly with the wiki via your WebDAV connection.

The supported file formats also depend on your wiki configuration.

Open a file via the browser

To open a file directly from the wiki, hold down the control key and right-click on a file link to open the context menu. If the browser context menu is displayed instead of the wiki context menu, simply click with the right mouse button without holding down the control key. You can adjust this behavior in your settings under *Appearance > Context menu*.

After saving the file, you can see the latest version on the file page.

Associating file types with their applications

When you open a file for the first time via the context menu, you may have to associate the necessary application and the file type in your browser. For example, Excel may not open here if you have never opened an Excel file in the browser. However, this changes after you have linked the Excel file extension with the Excel application.

If you then get an error message in Excel, go to the browser settings and change the application for the content type `ms-excel` to Standard (this is the procedure for Firefox as an example). The file can then be opened and edited directly in Excel.

OpenDocument files

OpenDocument files are linked to the corresponding Microsoft Office applications and are opened there by default. You can change your browser settings and associate the *ms-word* content type with LibreOffice. Afterwards, both OpenDocument text documents and Microsoft Word documents are opened in LibreOffice.

Open a file via Windows Explorer

With WebDAV, you can also open a file on the wiki in your Windows Explorer. You simply need to specify the wiki as a network drive. These are the necessary steps under Windows 10:

First you need your personal WebDAV path. Go to your Preferences, tab *User profile*. If you don't see the WebDAV path here, contact your wiki administrator.

1. **Copy** your personal WebDAV URL from your user preferences page.
2. **Open** Windows Explorer.
3. **Right-click** *This PC* > *Map Network Drive*.
4. **Paste** the URL from your clipboard into the text field and select a free drive of your choice. For example *W* for Wiki. Make sure that you did not paste any spaces at the beginning of the URL. Make sure to remove them.
5. **Click** *Finish*.
6. **Type in** your wiki username and password. This is only necessary if you use your own wiki password. If your wiki uses single sign-on or LDAP for authentication, you will not be asked for a password at this point.

You can then rename the network label if you like.

Edit a wiki page

Now you see the namespaces to which you have view permissions in the wiki. The Pages folder contains all wiki pages in the main namespace, for example the start page. The pages have the file extension *.wiki*. In theory, you can change a wiki page locally and then save it. To do this, select a simple text editor and edit the page content in wikitext format. The changes are automatically displayed live in the wiki. The version history of the page indicates that this version was edited via WebDAV.

When you open a file from the file page, you can left-click or right-click to open the file. Right-clicking opens the file via WebDAV and saves it directly to the wiki. A left-click also opens the associated application immediately. But here, the file is saved as a local file and you need to manually save the file back to the wiki. You can either save the file locally and manually upload it back into the wiki, or you can save the page directly in the wiki via WebDAV in Windows Explorer.

Subpages

If you create a subpage in the wiki, it is displayed in Windows Explorer in a subfolder that is named after the parent page.

In general, it makes more sense to edit wiki pages directly in the wiki, since they can be edited more comfortably in visual editing mode. There, you also have access to important meta information, for example whether a page is locked for editing or whether other users are currently editing the page.

Open a file

Uploaded images and documents are located in the folder *Media*. This directory lists all files that you can now edit locally using an Office application to then save them directly in the wiki. If the extension *NSFileRepo* is installed in your wiki, you see the uploaded files organized in folders. These folders correspond to the namespace associations of the files in the wiki.

The files without a specific namespace association, that is the files in the main namespace, are located in the folder *(Main)*.

From here you can edit and save a Powerpoint file, for example. It is versioned directly in the wiki.

As an alternative, you can open the file directly with a left-click from the file page. The file is now saved locally and you have to manually save file back to the wiki using Windows Explorer. You have to make sure that you save the file back into the correct namespace and with the original filename. In the wiki you will see the updated version entry with a WebDAV comment.

Additional file actions

- **Uploading files:** With WebDAV, you can also quickly upload multiple files to the wiki. Simply copy the files from the source location to their target folder in Windows Explorer.
- **Create a wiki page:** You can also create wiki pages. Simply create a page with the extension *.wiki* in the editor. Make sure that you are not creating a text file with the extension *.txt*, but a file with the extension *.wiki*.
- **Delete:** Pages that are deleted via WebDAV are marked accordingly in the delete log.
- **Copy:** It is also possible to copy a document into a different namespace, because documents and wiki pages can exist in different namespaces with the same file name.
- **Move/rename:** If you try to rename a wiki page or a file using Windows Explorer in the same folder or if you want to move it to a different namespace, you will receive an error message. In this case, moving or renaming a page must be done by moving the page directly on the wiki.

Summary

- With WebDAV, office documents in the wiki can be edited **directly in their native applications** so that you don't have to manually download and re-upload them.
- Files are versioned accordingly and **the version is marked as a WebDAV change**.
- Files can be opened from the **browser or from Windows Explorer**.
- **Wiki pages** should not be edited using a text editor. They are better suited for direct browser editing.
- Files that are deleted from Windows Explorer can be tracked in the **delete log**.
- Files that are added from Windows Explorer can be tracked in the **upload log**.

Related info

- [Reference:WebDAV](#)

Reference:WebDAV

Extension\ WebDAV

Overview			
Description:	Adds a WebDAV endpoint that exposes the wiki content		
State:	stable	Dependency:	BlueSpice
Developer:	HalloWelt	License:	GPL v3 only
Type:	BlueSpice	Category:	Document Management
Edition:	BlueSpice pro (deactivated), BlueSpice Farm (deactivated), BlueSpice Cloud (deactivated)		
View help page			

Features

WebDAV provides an endpoint for accessing files on the wiki using different client applications or mounting the wiki content as shared drive.

Usage / features

Certain file types that have been uploaded to the wiki can be opened with WebDAV.

Opening the [context menu](#) for these files offers an option to open the file with the client application. Click this option for example to open a docx-file in Microsoft Word. All changes to the file are automatically saved in the wiki when the file is closed.

Protocol	File extensions
ms-word	doc, docx, dot, dotx, rtf, docm, dotm, odt
ms-excel	xls, xlsx, csv, tsv
ms-powerpoint	ppt, pptx
<any installed zip handler>	zip
<any installed pdf handler>	PDF

The following Microsoft Office file types cannot be opened via the context menu, but can be uploaded and versioned via Windows Explorer if the wiki configuration allows the file type: Visio, Access, Project, Publisher, SharePoint Designer, Infopath.

Technical information

Rights (permissions)

WebDAV offers several ways for authenticating the users with the client application.

MediaWiki authentication

This type of authentication makes the client application prompt the user for the wiki username and password information when opening the file and/or mounting the drive. This type of authentication can only be used in normal local login wikis (no SSO, no LDAP).

Token authentication

This type of authentication appends a token to the URL that is generated for the user and file. On all subsequent requests from the client application, the token is evaluated wiki-side and the request is allowed or rejected based on the outcome of the token verification.

This is the preferred way of authentication and can (and should) be used on all types of wikis. For mounting drives when using this type of authentication, the static token that is generated per user must be included in the URL. The user-specific drive mounting URL is available in the user preferences, under the tab *User profile*. This URL must be used to mount the drive.

Requirements

This extension requires [BlueSpiceFoundation](#).

There are three extensions that make up the WebDAV suite:

- [WebDAV](#): Plain MediaWiki extension - provides the infrastructure.
- [BlueSpiceWebDAVClientIntegration](#): Integrates WebDAV into BlueSpice - namely ContextMenu.
- [BlueSpiceWebDAVMinorSave](#): Interferes with the saving process. It uploads a new version to the wiki only after a user has closed the client application, even if the user saved the file multiple times while editing. This allows having only one revision per complete edit rather than for each save. This functionality is largely experimental and might not work properly. Can be disabled without issue.

[BlueSpiceNSFileRepoConnector](#) interacts with WebDAV, and allows WebDAV to work with files that are in namespaces.

More info

For detailed description and usage, visit our [help page](#).