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Templates

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What is a template?

A template is a type of reusable content that can be integrated into other pages of the wiki. It can be content-based (text template) or structure-based (layout template) or a combination of both.

A simple example is a notification box that looks identical on all pages, but contains different content on each page where it is used (layout template).

 **Tip:** Message goes here

A template can also be used as the source for a [page template](#).

Characteristics of a template

- allows inserting reusable content with a placeholder
- is usually located in the namespace "Template"
- can have parameters
- often contains logic
- used to maintain a "look and feel"

[

Creating and including a template

A new template is created like a regular page, but in the namespace **Template**.

Example: [Simple template for a notification box](#)

A template is then included in a page by putting the name of the template (i.e., the title of the template page without the namespace prefix "Template:") in two curly brackets:

```
{{NotificationBox}}
```

Note: Template names are case-sensitive.

Editing a template

Changes to a template affect all pages that include this template. Before existing templates are changed, it is recommended that you check which pages use the template. To find these pages, you can go to Page tools > Toolbox > What links here.

Built-in variables

Each MediaWiki has a number of [built-in variables](#) that are not pages in the "template:" namespace, but are still used as templates.

For example, the variable `{{CURRENTTIME}}` returns the the current UTC time.

Further notes

- The use of a template is basically a [transclusion](#). It is also possible to use pages as templates that are not in the *Template* namespace. However, this is to be done wisely, since some functions require that the pages are in the template namespace.
- Templates can also be used to define the output of [semantic query](#). For more information, go to [Semantic MediaWiki](#). (This is an example where the pages must necessarily be in the template namespace.)
- The complete list of all pages of the wiki that are located in this namespace can be found on the page Special:Templates.

Related info

- meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Help:Template

Manual:MagicWords/list



The page you are looking for does not exist.

Please take a look at our existing [help topics](#).

If you are a contributor and want to create the page, simply log in now.

Page templates

A [quality version](#) of this page, [approved](#) on *31 August 2021*, was based off this revision.

A page template applies a predefined content structure and layout to new pages. That way, certain page types can be applied during page creation to produce consistent sets of related pages.

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When to use page templates

Page templates are useful for frequently used content formats such as meeting minutes, reference pages, product descriptions, or short manuals.

When a page is created with a page template, the page becomes "detached" from the original page template. This means that subsequent changes to the template will not affect pages that have originally been created with that page template. This distinguishes page templates from regular [templates](#).

Characteristics of a page template

- can be created by administrators
- can only be used for new pages
- based on templates in the *Template* namespaces
- can be limited to certain namespaces
- substitution of variables is possible
- can integrate with the extension *Page Forms*

Creating a page template

Administrators can create new page templates, as well as edit and remove existing ones in the *Page templates* manager, located under *Global actions*.

The screenshot displays the BlueSpice3 MediaWiki interface. On the left, a dark blue sidebar contains a 'Management' section with various tools. The 'Page templates' option is highlighted with a red circle. The main content area is titled 'Page templates administration' and features a table of existing templates. The table has columns for 'Label', 'Description', 'Namespace', 'Template', and 'Actions'. One entry is visible: 'Organisation profile' with the description 'Create and document ...' and namespace '(Pages)'. The template name is 'Template:Organisatio...'. Below the table, there is a pagination control showing 'Page 1 of 1' and 'Displaying 1 - 1 of 1'. At the bottom of the page, there are links for 'Privacy policy', 'About BlueSpice', and 'Disclaimers', along with logos for 'MediaWiki', 'BlueSpice', and 'Semantic MediaWiki'.

Label	Description	Namespace	Template	Actions
☐ Organisation profile	Create and document ...	(Pages)	Template:Organisatio...	

Note: Every page template depends on an actual page in the namespace Template. This template must exist before creating a page template.

A new page template can be created by clicking the "Plus" button above the template list.

Template fields

When creating or editing a page template, the following information needs to be provided before the page template can be saved:

- **Name** - the name of the page template
- **Description** - a short description of the page template
- **Namespace** - a list of the namespace where the template is active. If the template should be available on all pages, select *(all)* from the list.
- **Template** - page in the *Template* namespace from which to pull the content.

Cancel Add template Done

Template name: Reference page

Description: Create a new reference page.

Namespace: Reference X

Template: Template:ReferencePage

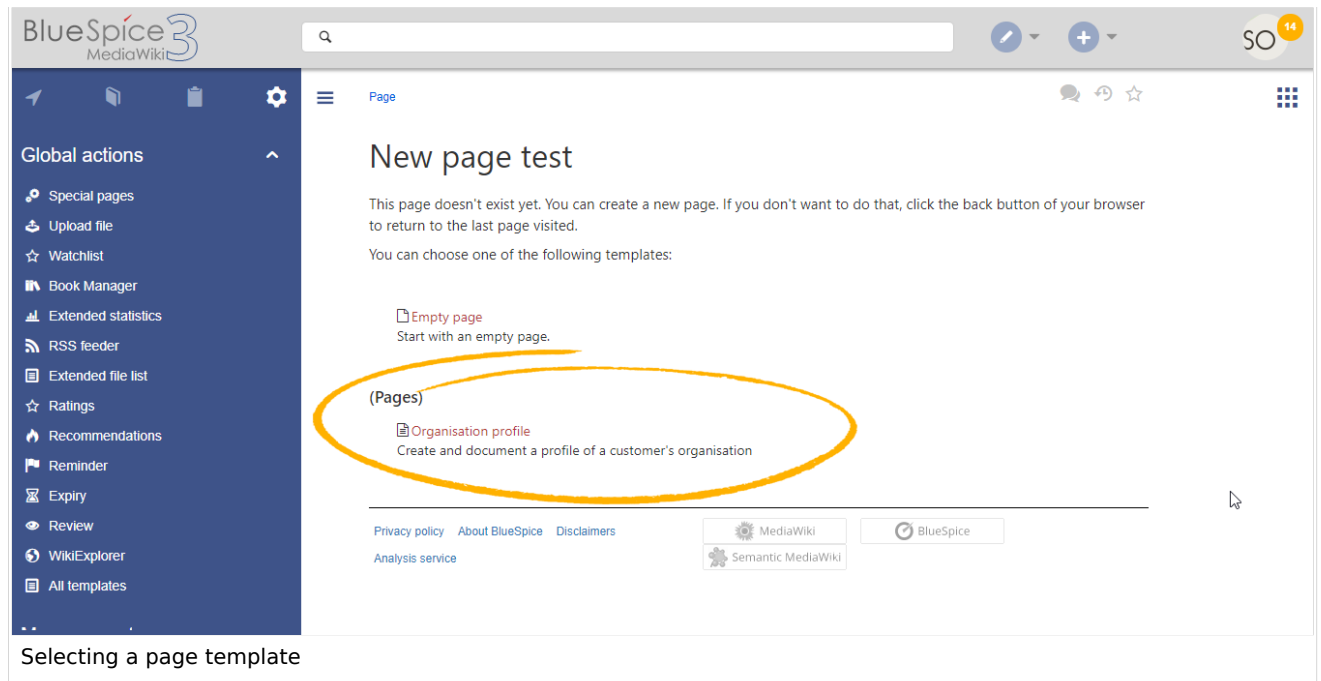
Creating a page template

Using page templates

A list of available templates appears when a user creates a new page. It is usually shown below the "Empty page" default template. Selecting one of these page templates will create the new page that is pre-filled with the content from the actual template page.

There are two important settings:

- **Assigning namespaces (in the page templates administration):** Page templates can be linked to specific namespaces. If a namespace is not added here, the template will not be displayed in that namespace.
- **Namespace manager:** The PageTemplates option for a namespace must be activated in the Namespace manager so that the associated templates are automatically displayed when a new page is created in that namespace (e.g., if the "+" button is used to create the page).



A list of available templates to choose from is displayed below the default "Blank Page" template when a user creates a new page.

Configuration

In the [Config manager](#), you can change the following settings:

- **Force target namespace:**
- **Hide default templates:** Hides the default *Empty page* template.

Related info

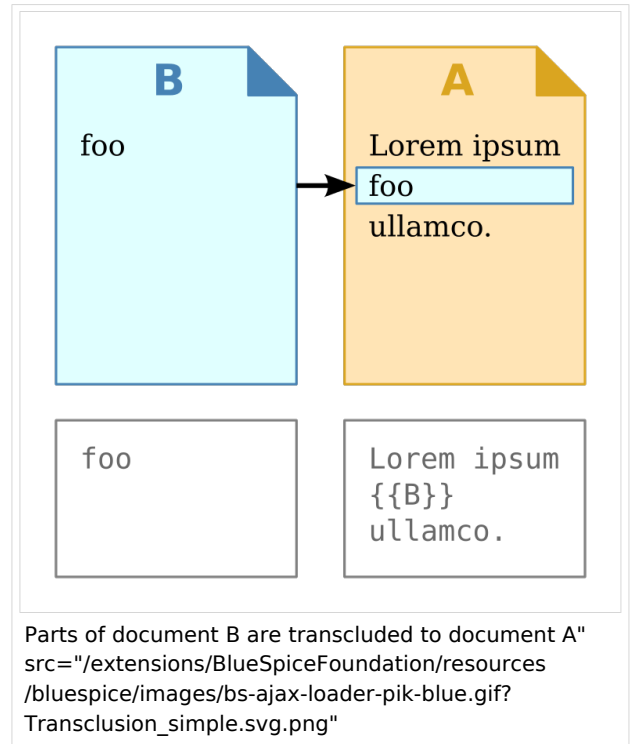
- [Reference:BlueSpicePageTemplates](#)

Template/Example/Notification Box

Redirect to:

- [Manual:Template/Example/Notification Box](#)

Transclusion



What is a transclusion?

Transclusion means the inclusion of the content of one page (the transclude) in the content area of another page. Most often, templates are used to achieve a transclusion. If the content of the transclude is changed, the alteration is visible on all sites containing the transclusion.

Scope of application

By using transclusions, you can **maximize the consistency** in your wiki, **minimize redundancy**, and **optimize your workflows and code**. The use of transclusions is especially indicated for the following cases:

- Banner: It will be displayed on other pages through transclusion
- Table: Parts of it or whole tables will be displayed on other pages through transclusion

The functions of transclusions

To use a transclusion, the transclude has to be implemented on the target page by entering the transcludes name in curly braces.

```
{{Transclude}}
```

This causes the target page to show the content of the transclude. Future changes made on the transclude will also appear on the target page.

Transclusions with Parameters

It is possible to use both named and unnamed parameters with transclusions.

Partial transclusion

By using the tags "noinclude", "onlyinclude" and "includeonly" it is possible to only transclude parts of a document.

- `<noinclude>...</noinclude>`
- Allows to exclude the content between the tags of the transclusions
 - `<includeonly>...</includeonly>`
- Allows to transclude the content between the tags, but doesn't show them on the transclusion template.
 - `<onlyinclude>...</onlyinclude>`
- Allows only to transclude the content between the tags.

Classic revisions with MediaWiki

Further information can be found on mediawiki.org