

Images

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1 Help:Images

This page explains the **image** syntax when editing the wiki. You or another user must usually **upload an image** before you can use it on a page.

Images that are stored on a MediaWiki server are usually rendered by using the `File:` namespace prefix (but the legacy `Image:` namespace prefix is still supported as a synonym) as the target of a MediaWiki link. The alternate `Media:` namespace prefix is also usable to reference the original media file content (for rendering or downloading it separately, out of any MediaWiki page).

1.1 Supported media types for images

The following file formats are supported by Mediawiki by default:

- `.jpg` or `.jpeg` : bitmap image compressed in the standard JPEG format (this lossy format is most suitable for photographs).
- `.png` : bitmap image in the *Portable Network Graphics* format (specified by the *W3 Consortium*).
- `.gif` : bitmap image in the legacy *Graphics Interchange Format*.

Other formats used on Wikimedia, and commonly enabled elsewhere (These may require extra set up beyond what is enabled by default):

- `.svg` : scalable image in the *Scalable Vector Graphics* format (specified by the *W3 Consortium*). See [Manual:Image Administration#SVG](#).
- `.tiff` : Tagged image format. Often used for high-resolution archival photographs. Often used with [Extension:PagedTiffHandler](#).
- `.ogg`, `.oga`, `.ogv` : Ogg multimedia (audio or video) Not an image format, but treated similarly. Often used with [Extension:OggHandler](#)
- `.pdf` : multipaged documents in the *Portable Document Format* (initially specified by *Adobe*). Often used in conjunction with [Extension:PdfHandler](#)
- `.djvu` : multipaged bitmap documents in the *DejaVu* format (most often, scans of books). See [Manual:How to use DjVu with MediaWiki](#)

Only a single page of a `.pdf` or `.djvu` file is shown at one time.

Other media types may be supported depending on how Mediawiki is set up. Typically they can be uploaded but not displayed inline unless a helper extension is installed.

1.2 Rendering a single image

1.2.1 Syntax

The full syntax for displaying an image is:

```
[[File:filename.extension|options|caption]]
```

where *options* can be zero or more of the following, separated by pipes (`|`):

- **Format** option: one of **border** and/or **frameless**, **frame**, **thumb** (or **thumbnail**);
Controls how the rendered image is formatted and embedded in the rest of the page.
- **Resizing** option: one of
 - ◆ `{width}px` ? Resizes the image to fit within the given maximum width in pixels, without restricting its height;
 - ◆ `x{height}px` ? Resizes the image to fit within the given maximum height in pixels, without restricting its width;
 - ◆ `{width}x{height}px` ? Resizes the image to fit within the given width and height in pixels;
 - ◆ **upright** ? Resizes an image to fit within reasonable dimensions, according to user preferences (suitable for images whose height is larger than width).
Note that the image will always retain its aspect ratio, and can only be reduced (not increased) in size unless it's in a scalable media type (bitmap images cannot be scaled up).
The default maximum size depends on the *format* and the internal image dimensions (according to its media type).
- **Horizontal alignment** option: one of **left**, **right**, **center**, **none**;
Controls the horizontal alignment (and inline/block or floating styles) of the image within a text (no default



value).

- **Vertical alignment option:** one of **baseline**, **sub**, **super**, **top**, **text-top**, **middle**, **bottom**, **text-bottom**;
Controls the vertical alignment of a non-floating inline image with the text before or after the image, and in the same block (the default vertical alignment is **middle**).
 - **Link option:** one of
 - ◆ **link={target}** ? Allows to change the target (to an arbitrary page title, or URL) of the generated link, activable on the rendered image surface;
 - ◆ **link=** (with an empty value) ? (**MediaWiki 1.14+**) Displays an image without any activable link; e.g. `[[File:Example.jpg|20px|link=]]` renders as .
- ! Link does **not** work with thumb, thumbnail or frame.
- Other specific options:
 - ◆ **alt={alternative text}** ? (**MediaWiki 1.14+**) Defines the alternative text (maps to the HTML attribute `alt="..."` of the generated `<image />` element) of an image that will be rendered if either the referenced image cannot be downloaded and embedded, or if the support media must use the alternative description text (e.g. when using a Braille reader or with accessibility options set by the user in its browser).
 - ◆ **page={number}** ? Renders the specified page number (currently only applicable when showing a .djvu or .pdf file).

The options can be given in any order. If the given *options* conflict each other, the latter is applied, except for the *format* options, where the options take the priority in the order of: **frame**; **thumb** (or **thumbnail**); **frameless** and/or **border**.

If a parameter does not match any of the other possibilities, it is assumed to be the caption text. Caption text shows below the image in **thumb** and **frame** formats, or as mouseover text in **border**, **frameless** formats or when the format is omitted. Caption text displayed in the **thumb** and **frame** formats may contain wiki links and other formatting. In the other options, wiki-formatting will not work though transclusion will.

If no caption text is supplied, a caption is automatically created showing the file name. To completely remove the caption, set it to `<span title=""></span>`. For example, `[[File:Example.jpg|20px|<span title=""></span>]]` renders as .

1.2.2 Format

The following table shows the effect of all available formats.

[illegible]

Description

You type

You get

frameless,
like
thumbnail,
respect user
preferences
for image
width, but
without
border and
no right float
Rendered as a
floating block: no
Rendered inline:
yes

```
... text text text  
[[File:example.jpg|frameless|caption]]  
text text text ...
```

frameless
and **border**
Rendered as a
floating block: no
Rendered inline:
yes

```
... text text text  
[[File:example.jpg|frameless|border|caption]]  
text text text ...
```

frame
Rendered as a
floating block: yes
Rendered inline:
no

```
... text text text  
[[File:example.jpg|frame|caption]]  
text text text ...
```

text text
text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text
www

text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text

text text
text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text
www

text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text

text text
text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text
www

text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text
text text

caption



~~~~~

[illegible]

**thumb** or **thumbnail**  
 Rendered as a floating block: yes  
 Rendered inline: no

```
... text text text
[[File:example.jpg|thumb|caption]]
text text text ...
```

[illegible]

When the height of an image in thumbnail is bigger than its width (i.e. in portrait orientation rather than landscape) and you find it too large, you may try the option `upright`, which will try to adjust its size to more desirable size by reducing the height instead the width. The alternative is to specify the desired maximum height (in pixels) explicitly.

Note that by writing `thumb={filename}`, you can use a different image for the thumbnail.

### 1.2.3 Size and Frame

Among different formats, the effect of the size parameter may be different, as shown below.

- For how it appears when its size is not specified, see [Format](#) section above.
- When the format is not specified, or only bordered, the size can be both reduced and enlarged to any specified size.
- In the examples below, the original size of the image is 400 × 267 pixels.
- An image with `f r a m e` always ignores the size specification, the original image will be reduced if it exceeds the maximum size defined in user preferences.
- The size of an image with `t h u m b` can be reduced, but can not be enlarged beyond the original size of the image.

| Format                 | Reduced                                        | Enlarged                                        |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <i>(not specified)</i> | [[File:MediaWiki:Image sample 50px]]           | [[File:MediaWiki:Image sample 500px]]           |
| <b>border</b>          | [[File:MediaWiki:Image sample border 50px]]    | [[File:MediaWiki:Image sample border 500px]]    |
| <b>frame</b>           | [[File:MediaWiki:Image sample frame 50px]]     | [[File:MediaWiki:Image sample frame 500px]]     |
| <b>thumb</b>           | [[File:MediaWiki:Image sample thumb 50px]]     | [[File:MediaWiki:Image sample thumb 500px]]     |
| <b>frameless</b>       | [[File:MediaWiki:Image sample frameless 50px]] | [[File:MediaWiki:Image sample frameless 500px]] |





## 1.2.4 Horizontal alignment

Note that when using the `frame` or `thumb[nail]` formats, the default horizontal alignment will be `right`.

| Description                                                                                                                | You type                                                                                   | You get                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>no horizontal alignment specified, or default alignment</b><br>Rendered as a floating block: no<br>Rendered inline: yes | <pre>... text text text [[File:example.jpg 100px caption]] text text text ...</pre>        | <pre> www text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text www </pre> |
| <b>specify horizontal alignment as: none</b><br>Rendered as a floating block: no<br>Rendered inline: no                    | <pre>... text text text [[File:example.jpg none 100px caption]] text text text ...</pre>   | <pre> www text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text www </pre>                               |
| <b>specify horizontal alignment as: center</b><br>Rendered as a floating block: no<br>Rendered inline: no                  | <pre>... text text text [[File:example.jpg center 100px caption]] text text text ...</pre> | <pre> www text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text www </pre>                               |
| <b>specify horizontal alignment as: left</b><br>Rendered as a floating block: yes<br>Rendered inline: no                   | <pre>... text text text [[File:example.jpg left 100px caption]] text text text ...</pre>   | <pre> www text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text www </pre>                               |
| <b>specify horizontal alignment as: right</b><br>Rendered as a floating block: yes<br>Rendered inline: no                  | <pre>... text text text [[File:example.jpg right 100px caption]] text text text ...</pre>  | <pre> www text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text text www </pre>                               |

## 1.2.5 Vertical alignment

The vertical alignment options take effect only if the image **is** rendered as an inline element and **is not** floating. They alter the way the inlined image will be vertically aligned with the text present in the same block before and/or after this image on the same rendered row.

Note that the rendered line of text where inline images are inserted (and the lines of text rendered after the current one) may be moved down (this will increase the line-height conditionally by additional line spacing, just as it may occur with



spans of text with variable font sizes, or with superscripts and subscripts) to allow the image height to be fully displayed with this alignment constraint.

### Toggle source code view

```
<p style="border:1px solid #AAA;background:#FF0;padding:0;font-size:150%;line-height:2">
<span style="background:#FFF;color:#000;text-decoration:overline"><u><del>text</del>
'''top:''' [[File:Example.jpg|20px|top]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px|top]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px|border|top]]
<del>text</del></u></span></p>

<p style="border:1px solid #AAA;background:#FF0;padding:0;font-size:150%;line-height:2">
<span style="background:#FFF;color:#000;text-decoration:overline"><u><del>text</del>
'''text-top:''' [[File:Example.jpg|20px|text-top]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px|text-top]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px|border|text-top]]
<del>text</del></u></span></p>

<p style="border:1px solid #AAA;background:#FF0;padding:0;font-size:150%;line-height:2">
<span style="background:#FFF;color:#000;text-decoration:overline"><u><del>text</del>
<sup>super:</sup> [[File:Example.jpg|20px|super]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px|super]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px|border|super]]
<del>text</del></u></span></p>

<p style="border:1px solid #AAA;background:#FF0;padding:0;font-size:150%;line-height:2">
<span style="background:#FFF;color:#000;text-decoration:overline"><u><del>text</del>
'''baseline:''' [[File:Example.jpg|20px|baseline]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px|baseline]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px|border|baseline]]
<del>text</del></u></span></p>

<p style="border:1px solid #AAA;background:#FF0;padding:0;font-size:150%;line-height:2">
<span style="background:#FFF;color:#000;text-decoration:overline"><u><del>text</del>
<sub>'''sub:</sub> [[File:Example.jpg|20px|sub]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px|sub]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px|border|sub]]
<del>text</del></u></span></p>

<p style="border:1px solid #AAA;background:#FF0;padding:0;font-size:150%;line-height:2">
<span style="background:#FFF;color:#000;text-decoration:overline"><u><del>text</del>
'''default:''' [[File:Example.jpg|20px]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px|border]]
<del>text</del></u></span></p>

<p style="border:1px solid #AAA;background:#FF0;padding:0;font-size:150%;line-height:2">
<span style="background:#FFF;color:#000;text-decoration:overline"><u><del>text</del>
'''middle:''' [[File:Example.jpg|20px|middle]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px|middle]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px|border|middle]]
<del>text</del></u></span></p>

<p style="border:1px solid #AAA;background:#FF0;padding:0;font-size:150%;line-height:2">
<span style="background:#FFF;color:#000;text-decoration:overline"><u><del>text</del>
'''text-bottom:''' [[File:Example.jpg|20px|text-bottom]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px|text-bottom]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px|border|text-bottom]]
<del>text</del></u></span></p>

<p style="border:1px solid #AAA;background:#FF0;padding:0;font-size:150%;line-height:2">
<span style="background:#FFF;color:#000;text-decoration:overline"><u><del>text</del>
'''bottom:''' [[File:Example.jpg|20px|bottom]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px|bottom]] [[File:Example.jpg|40px|border|bottom]]
<del>text</del></u></span></p>
```

To show the alignment result more clearly, the text spans are overlined and underlined, the line-height is increased to 200% of the font-height, the font-height is emphasized with a yellow background covering the line margins, and the full line-height is shown with a dark gray border; additionally images of different sizes are aligned, including one with an additional border that adds some pixels to its specified dimensions and slightly changes its vertical alignment:

**text top:**  **text**

**text text-top:**  **text**

**text super:**  **text**

**text baseline:**  **text**

**text sub:**  **text**

**text default:**  **text**

**text middle:**  **text**

**text text-bottom:**  **text**





text bottom:  text

Notes:

1. The "middle" vertical alignment position of the image (which is also the default) usually refers to the middle between the x-height and the baseline of the text (on which the vertical middle of the image will be aligned, and on which usually the text may be overstroke), but not to the middle of the line-height of the font-height that refers to the space between the "text-top" and "text-bottom" positions ; the font-height excludes:
  - ♦ the additional line separation spacing normally divided equally into two line-margins (here 0.5em, according to line-height set to 200%) above and below the font-height).
  - ♦ the additional line spacing which may be added by superscripts and subscripts.
2. However, if the image height causes its top or bottom position to go above or below the normal full line-height of text, the middle position will be adjusted after the increasing the top and/or bottom line-margins so that the image can fit and align properly, and all images (including those with smaller heights) will be vertically centered on the adjusted middle position (for computing the effective line-height, the text of each rendered row with the larger font-height will be considered).
3. The "text-top" and "text-bottom" alignment positions also excludes the extra line spacing added by superscripts and subscripts, but not the additional line-spacing defined by the line-height.
4. The "top" and "bottom" alignment positions take into account all these extra line spacings (including superscripts and subscripts, if they are present in a rendered line span). When the image alignment constrains the image to grow above or below the normal line-spacing, and the image is not absolutely positioned, the image will cause the "top" and "bottom" positions to be adjusted (just like superscripts and subscripts), so the effective line-height between rendered lines of text will be higher.
5. The "underline", "overline" and "overstrike" text-decoration positions should be somewhere within these two limits and *may* depend on the type and height of fonts used (the superscript and subscript styles may be taken into account in some browsers, but usually these styles are ignored and the position of these decorations may not be adjusted); so these decorations normally don't affect the vertical position of images, relatively to the text.

### 1.2.6 Stopping the text flow

On occasion it is desirable to stop text (or other inline non-floating images) from flowing around a floating image. Depending on the web browser's screen resolution and such, text flow on the right side of an image may cause a section header (for instance, == My Header ==) to appear to the right of the image, instead of below it, as a user may expect. The text flow can be stopped by placing **<br style="clear: both" />** before the text that should start below the floating image.

All images rendered as blocks (including non-floating **centered** images, **left**- or **right**-floating images, as well as **framed** or **thumbnailed** floating images) are implicitly breaking the surrounding lines of text (terminating the current block of text before the image, and creating a new paragraph for the text after them). They will then stack vertically along their left or right alignment margin (or along the center line between these margins for **centered** images).

### 1.2.7 Altering the default link target

The following table shows how to alter the link target (whose default is the image description page) or how to remove it. Changing the link does not alter the format described in the previous sections.

| Description | You type                                               | You get                                                                                                    |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|             | <pre>[[File:example.jpg link=Main Page caption]]</pre> |  <p>Example Image</p> |



text text  text text text text text text text text text text text text



```
<gallery>
File:Example.jpg|Item 1
File:Example.jpg|a link to [[Help:Contents]]
File:Example.jpg
File:Example.jpg
File:Example.jpg| ''italic caption''
File:Example.jpg|on page "{{PAGENAME}}"
</gallery>
```

is formatted as:

-  Example Image  
Item 1
-  Example Image  
a link to [Help:Contents](#)
-  Example Image
-  Example Image
-  Example Image  
*italic caption*
-  Example Image  
on page "Images"

### 1.3.2 Optional gallery attributes

The gallery tag itself takes several additional parameters, specified as attribute name-value pairs:

```
<gallery {parameters}>
{images}
</gallery>
```

- **caption={caption}**: sets a caption on the gallery.
- **widths={width}px**: sets the widths of the images, default 120px. *Note the plural, widths*
- **heights={heights}px**: sets the (max) heights of the images.
- **perrow={integer}**: sets the number of images per row.
- **showfilename={anything}**: Show the filenames of the images in the individual captions for each image (1.17+)

Example:

Coding:

```
<gallery widths=60px heights=60px perrow=7 caption="sunflowers are groovy">
File:Example.jpg
File:Example.jpg
File:Example.jpg
File:Example.jpg
File:Example.jpg
File:Example.jpg
File:Example.jpg
File:Example.jpg
File:Example.jpg
```



```
File:Example.jpg
</gallery>
```

Result:

- sunflowers are groovy



## 1.4 Linking to an image without displaying it

### 1.4.1 Link to description page

If you put a colon (:) before `File:`, the image will not be embedded and the link will lead to the description page of the file.

```
[[[:File:MediaWiki:Image sample]]
[[[:File:MediaWiki:Image sample|Sunflowers]]]
```

results in

[\[\[File:MediaWiki:Image sample\]\]](#) [\[\[File:MediaWiki:Image sample|Sunflowers\]\]](#)

### 1.4.2 Link to another page

 **Note:** link **does not work with thumb or frame**.  
This will make a 50px width picture with a link to the page [MediaWiki](#):

```
[[File:Wiki.png|50px|link=MediaWiki]]
```



### 1.4.3 Link directly to the media file

You can use the pseudo-namespace `?Media?` to link directly to a file without rendering it, bypassing the description page.

```
[[Media:MediaWiki:Image sample]]
[[Media:MediaWiki:Image sample|Sunflowers]]]
```

results in

[\[\[Media:MediaWiki:Image sample\]\]](#) [\[\[Media:MediaWiki:Image sample|Sunflowers\]\]](#)

The same result can be achieved by adding a colon before the namespace (works with categories too):

```
[[[:File:MediaWiki:Image sample]]]
```



You can also use:

```
[[Special:FilePath/MediaWiki:Image sample]]
```

which can be used to link to a potential file, even if it doesn't exist. You can also use:

```
{{FILEPATH:MediaWiki:Image sample}}
```

which generates an external URL to the file inline:

## 1.5 Requisites

Before using images in your page, the system administrator of your wiki must have **enabled file uploads** and a user has to **upload the file**. System administrators may also set the wiki to accept files from **foreign repositories**, such as the **Wikimedia Commons**. For server side image resizing it is necessary to have a scaler configured (such as GD2, ImageMagick, etc.).

## 1.6 Files at other websites

You can link to an external file available online using the same syntax used for linking to an external web page. With these syntaxes, the image will not be rendered, but only the text of the link to this image will be displayed.

```
[http://url.for/some/image.png]
```

Or with a different displayed text:

```
[http://url.for/some/image.png link text here]
```

Additional MediaWiki markup or HTML/CSS formatting (for inline elements) is permitted in this displayed text (with the exception of embedded links that would break the surrounding link):

```
[http://www.example.com/some/image.png Example ''<del>rich</del>'' ''<ins>link text</ins>'' here.]
```

which renders as: Example ~~rich~~ link text here.

If it is enabled on your wiki (see **Manual:\$wgAllowExternalImages**), you can also embed external images. To do that, simply insert the image's url:

```
http://url.for/some/image.png
```

Currently, embedded images cannot be resized, but they may be formatted by surrounding MediaWiki markup or HTML/CSS code.

If this wiki option is not enabled, the image will not be embedded but rendered as a textual link to the external site, just like above.

