

## **Links**

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# Contents

- 1 Help:Links.....1
  - 1.1 Internal links.....1
  - 1.2 External links.....2
  - 1.3 External link icons.....2
  - 1.4 Interwiki links.....3
  - 1.5 See also.....3

# 1 Help:Links

There are four sorts of links in MediaWiki:

1. **internal links** to other pages in the wiki
2. **external links** to other websites
3. **interwiki links** to other websites registered to the wiki in advance
4. **Interlanguage links** to other websites registered as other language versions of the wiki

## 1.1 Internal links

To add an internal link, enclose the name of the page you want to link to in double square brackets. When you save the page, you'll see the new link pointing to your page. If the page exists already it is displayed in blue, if it does not, in red. Selflinks to the current page are not transformed in URLs but displayed in bold. (If you really want to link to the current page, use an anchor (see below), or [[#top|current page]] which always links to the top.)

The first letter of the target page is automatically capitalized, unless otherwise set by the admins, and spaces are represented as underscores (typing an underscore in the link will have a similar effect as typing a space, but is not recommended, since the underscore will also be shown in the text).

Description	You type	You get
Internal link	<span>[[Main Page]]</span>	<span>Main Page</span>
Piped link	<span>[[Main Page different text]]</span> See also <span>Template:Mediawiki</span>	<span>different text</span>
Hide namespace shortcut	<span>[[Help:Contents ]]</span> Short for <span>[[Help:Contents Contents]]</span>	<span>Contents</span>
Word-ending links	<span>[[Help]]s</span> <span>[[Help]]ing</span> <span>[[Help]]ers</span> <span>[[Help]]anylettersyoulikehere</span>	<span>Helps</span> <span>Helping</span> <span>Helpers</span> <span>Helpanylettersyoulikehere</span>
Avoiding word-ending links	<span>[[Help]]&lt;nowiki /&gt;less situation</span> <span>[[wikipedia:GNU General Public License GPL]]&lt;nowiki</span>	<span>Helpless situation</span> <span>GPLv3</span>
Redirect	<span>#REDIRECT [[Main Page]]</span> See also <span>Help:Redirects</span>	<span>Main Page</span>
Internal link to an anchor	<span>[[#See also]]</span> Section headings and the top of the page are automatically anchored.	<span>#See also</span>
Internal link to an anchor from different text	<span>[[#See also different text]]</span>	<span>different text</span>
Setting an internal link anchor	<span>&lt;div id="NameOfAnchorHere"&gt;optional text&lt;/div&gt;</span> Omit the "optional text" for invisible anchor.	<span>optional text</span>
Internal link to an anchor at another page	<span>[[Help:Images#See also]]</span>	<span>Help:Images#See also</span>
Internal link to the current page's talk page	<span>[[{{TALKPAGENAME}} Discussion]]</span> See also <span>Help:Magic words#Page names</span>	<span>Discussion</span>
Internal link to the current page's edit page	<span>[[{{fullurl:{{PAGENAME}} action=edit}} Edit]]</span> See also <span>Help:Magic words#URL data</span> and <span>#External links</span>	<span>Edit</span>
Internal link to a subpage	<span>[[/example]]</span> Shortcut for <span>[[Help:Links/example]]</span> . See also <span>Help:Subpages</span> .	<span>/example</span>
	<span>[[/example/]]</span>	<span>example</span>



Description	You type	You get
Internal link to a subpage without the leading slash	Shortcut for <code>[[Help:Links/example example]]</code> .	
Internal link to a category page	<code>[[Category:Help]]</code> See also <a href="#">Help:Categories</a>	<a href="#">Category:Help</a>
Internal link to an image or a file of other types	<code>[[media:example.jpg]]</code> <code>[[media:example.pdf]]</code> See also <a href="#">Help:Images</a>	<a href="#">media:example.jpg</a> <a href="#">media:example.pdf</a>
Internal link to the user's user page	<code>[[Special:MyPage]]</code>	<a href="#">Special:MyPage</a>

## 1.2 External links

### Description

### You type

External link `http://mediawiki.org`

<http://mediawiki.org>

External link

with different label  
`[http://mediawiki.org MediaWiki]`

[MediaWiki](http://mediawiki.org)

Numbered external link  
`[http://mediawiki.org]`

[\[1\]](http://mediawiki.org)

External links with file icons  
`[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/.avi video]`  
`[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/.ogg sound]`  
`[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/.pdf document]`

[video](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/.avi)  
[sound](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/.ogg)  
[document](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/.pdf)

See [#External links icons](#) for currently supported icons and extensions.

External link to the same host  
`http://{SERVERNAME}/pagename`

<http://calidusas.org>

External link to other host passing the pagename  
`http://google.com/search?q={PAGENAMEE}`

[http://google.com](http://google.com/search?q={PAGENAMEE})

Mailto link  
`[mailto:info@example.org email me]`

[email me](mailto:info@example.org)

Mailto named with subject line and body  
`[mailto:info@example.org?Subject=URL%20Encoded%20Subject&body=Body%20Text info]`

[info](mailto:info@example.org?Subject=URL%20Encoded%20Subject&body=Body%20Text)

## 1.3 External link icons

Test link	Icon	Trigger
[2]	<a href="#">external-link-ltr-icon.png</a>	.external, http://, gopher://
[3]	<a href="#">lock-icon.png</a>	https://
[4]	<a href="#">mail-icon.png</a>	mailto:
[5]	<a href="#">news-icon.png</a>	news://
[6]	<a href="#">file-icon.png</a>	ftp://
[7]	<a href="#">talk-icon.png</a>	irc://
[8]	<a href="#">audio-icon.png</a>	.ogg, .mid, .midi, .mp3, .wav, .wma
[9]	<a href="#">video-icon.png</a>	.ogm, .avi, .mpeg, .mpg
[10]	<a href="#">document-icon.png</a>	.pdf, .pdf#, .pdf?

### 1.3.1 How to avoid auto-links

By default, when you write a URL as is, it will be transformed to an external link.

To avoid that effect, put the URL between `<nowiki>` tags as in:

```
<nowiki>http://mediawiki.org</nowiki>
```



## 1.4 Interwiki links

Interwiki links are links with the internal link markup to a website registered in advance. For example, you can link to the Sunflower article on <http://en.wikipedia.org> by typing `[[wikipedia:Sunflower]]`, which will result in a link [wikipedia:Sunflower](#). This is because `http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/` is registered to your wiki by default with the prefix of `wikipedia`. *This link may not work properly, if the admin of your wiki has changed the setting.* Unlike internal links, interwiki links do not use page existence detection, so an interwiki link will appear blue even if the page does not exist on the remote wiki.

Similar to internal page links, you can create piped links, with alternate link label, e.g. `[[wikipedia:Sunflower|big yellow flower]]`.

Basically this is an abbreviation for longer URLs. A very similar link could be created as a normal external link by typing `[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sunflower big yellow flower]`, but interwiki links allow you to type out an easy and compact link, almost as if you are linking to a page on your own wiki.

To edit the [Template:Mediawiki](#) on your site, see the [Template:Mediawiki](#).

### 1.4.1 Interlanguage links

If your wiki has other language versions, you may find [?interlanguage links?](#) in the [sidebar](#), just below [toolbox](#) in the box named [?in other languages?](#)

Interlanguage links behave similarly to interwiki links, except that they are listed in the sidebar. To create an interlanguage link from a page, just type `[[language prefix:pagename]]` wherever you like in the page; the language prefix is the prefix specified at your wiki for the other language version (typically the [ISO language code](#)).

If you want to make the interlanguage link appear in the content of the page, you can add a colon before the language prefix:

```
[[[:en:Sunflower]] en:Sunflower
```

## 1.5 See also

- [Linked images](#)
- [meta:Help:Links](#)

