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Shorthand Basics

*If you can enter text, you're ready for Foswiki. With a few simple rules, you'll be able to use plain text to create well-styled postings, instantly. What you are going to learn here is called **T**opic **M**arkup **L**anguage, or simply TML. So here comes a fast-track guide to shorthand basics:*

General text formatting

- Separate each **paragraph** with a blank line.
- To display a **bold type** word or phrase, use asterisks: `*bold type*`.
- To display an *italic* word or phrase, use underscores: `_italic_`.
- To display ***bold with italics*** word or phrase, use *double* underscores: `__bold italic__`.
- To display a word or phrase in `MONOSPACED TYPE`, use equal signs: `=like this=`.
- Use `==double equal signs==` for bold: **`bold mono`**.
- To display colored text, enter:__ `%RED% red text %ENDCOLOR% and %GREEN% green text %ENDCOLOR%` to get red text and green text .
  - `%<color>%` text must end with `%ENDCOLOR%`. If you want to switch from one color to another one you first need to end the active color with `%ENDCOLOR%`, e.g. write `%RED% some text %ENDCOLOR% %GREEN% more text %ENDCOLOR%`.
  - DefaultPreferences defines some commonly used colors: %YELLOW%, %RED%, %PINK%, %PURPLE%, %TEAL%, %NAVY%, %BLUE%, %AQUA%, %LIME%, %GREEN%, %OLIVE%, %MAROON%, %BLACK%, %GRAY%, %SILVER% and %ENDCOLOR%.
- To display headings, type (from the beginning of a line) three dashes (-), from one to six plus signs (+), a space, and your heading text.
  - The quantity of plus signs is related to the size of the heading - the more plus signs you use, the smaller the heading.
  - You can insert a nested table of contents, generated from headings, by placing `%TOC%` wherever you like on a page (see System.Macros for more `%TOC%` options).
- Use **`<verbatim>`** to enclose code excerpts, filenames, and other unformatted text:

```
<verbatim>
unformatted text!
and more of it!
```

</verbatim>

Macros and special characters (advanced)

- %MACROS% can be set inside verbatim tags - they are not disabled. For more detailed information, see Macros.

- If you want to display angle brackets, enter them as HTML codes instead of typing them in directly:
  - `<` = <
    `>` = >
  - ***You enter:*** `(a > 0)`
    Result: `(a > 0)`

- Sometimes you will not see the `&` charachter and you need to excape it to see it as it is. The reason behind is that `&` has a special meaning in HTML - it starts so called character entities, like `'©'` which is the © copyright character.
  - Type `'This & that'` to get `'This & that'`.

Internal and external links

- To link to another Wiki topic in the same web, type the WikiWord of that topic: `WebHome`.

- To link to a Wiki topic in a different web, type the name of the web, and a dot, first: `Sandbox.WebHome`.

- A Wiki topic that doesn't exist will appear highlighted, with question mark at the end, prompting you (or someone else) to start that topic by clicking the **?**: ExampleOfANewTopic? (click the **?**, but don't save, to preserve the example!).

- To create an external link, type the full URL: `http://foswiki.org/`.

- To prevent a WikiWord from becoming a link, place `<nop>` or an exclamation mark (`!`) in front of the WikiWord: **<nop>NoLinkPlease** or **!NoLinkPlease**.

- To escape the exclamation mark escape, try prefixing a `<nop>`, e.g. write `A <nop>!= B` to get "A != B". Alternatively, use the HTML entity `!`, which renders as an exclamation mark, e.g. write `A != B` to get "A != B".

Bullet and numbered lists

- To indent with a bullet, enter `[space][space][space][asterisk][space]`.

    - Use multiples of 3 spaces to **nest bullets**.
        - That's 3-6-9 spaces...

- To create a numbered list:
    1. Start items in a **numbered list** with `[space][space][space][1][space].`
    2. The "1" (or **any number**) will be replaced by a correct numbering order.
    3. To add a new paragraph without restarting list numbering, use the %BR% variable, like this:
       Text added (in a new paragraph)
    4. and the numbered list continues.

Always start **counting** spaces for bullets or numbers from the beginning of a new line.

Others

- To display an image in a topic, attach it and type in edit mode:
  `%ATTACHURL%/yourimagefilename.jpg`

- Three (or more) consecutive **hyphens** will create a horizontal rule:
  `---`

Follow GoodStyle recommendations when editing topics. In general, it is always nice to add one's signature at the end of a topic or comments. To add your signature, type `Main.YourName`, it will then expand to WikiGuest.

See EditingShorthand for the complete set of formatting rules.

Related Topics: WikiWords, Macros, EditingShorthand, FileAttachment

Edit | Attach | Print version | History: %REVISIONS% | Backlinks | Raw View | More topic actions

Topic revision: r0 - 09 Jan 2009 - 13:00:00 - ProjectContributor

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