## The Trac Wiki Engine

## Error: Macro TracGuideToc(None) failed

'NoneType' object has no attribute 'find'

Trac has a built-in wiki engine, used for text and documentation throughout the system. <u>WikiFormatting</u> is used in <u>wiki pages</u>, <u>tickets</u>, <u>check-in log messages</u>, <u>milestone</u> and <u>report</u> descriptions. It allows for formatted text and hyperlinks in and between all Trac modules.

Editing wiki text is easy, using any web browser and a simple <u>formatting system</u>, rather than more complex markup languages like HTML. The reasoning behind its design is that HTML, with its large collection of nestable tags, is too complicated to allow fast-paced editing, and distracts from the actual content of the pages. Note though that Trac also supports <u>HTML</u>, <u>reStructuredText</u> and <u>?Textile</u> as alternative markup formats.

The main goal of the wiki is to make editing text easier and *encourage* people to contribute and annotate text content for a project. Trac also provides a simple toolbar to make formatting text even easier.

The wiki itself does not enforce any structure, but rather resembles a stack of empty sheets of paper, where you can organize information and documentation as you see fit, and later reorganize if necessary. As contributing to a wiki is essentially building an hypertext, general advice regarding HTML authoring apply here as well. For example, the <u>2Style Guide for online hypertext</u> explains how to think about the <u>2overall structure of a work</u> and how to organize information <u>2within each document</u>. One of the most important is ?make your HTML page such that you can read it even if you don't follow any links.?

Learn more about:

- <u>WikiNewPage</u> creation, which can be configured to start from a <u>page template</u>
- WikiFormatting rules, including advanced topics like WikiMacros and WikiProcessors
- How to use <u>WikiPageNames</u> and other forms of <u>TracLinks</u> which are used to refer in a precise way to any resource within Trac

If you want to practice editing, please use the SandBox.

Before saving your changes, you can *Preview* the page or *Review the Changes* you've made. You can get an automatic preview of the formatting as you type when you activate the *Edit Side-by-side* mode. *There is a* <u>configurable delay</u> between when you make your edit and when the automatic preview will update.

Some more information about wikis on the web:

- A definition of <u>?Wiki</u>, in a famous wiki encyclopedia
- The <u>?History</u> of the original wiki
- A wiki page explaining <u>?why wiki works</u>

See also: TracGuide