

# PluginList format control block

The FORMAT control block is used to create individually formatted objects that can then be used in any of the individual OUTPUT methods.

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- [Display an Item Link \(tracker item\) linked to another item within a template page](#)
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## Available filters

Name	Description	Boolean	Sample	Tiki Version
default	Display a default value or a default file when no value is available	no	"empty", "1140" (fileId)	-
format	format the displayed value to something different than the db value (human readable)	no	"trackerrender", "date", "objectlink", etc. (see format parameters <a href="#">here</a> )	-
editable	Make the field editable so the value can be changed from the results display. Inline editing (found in admin control panels => trackers) must be enable. Must be used in conjunction with the trackerrender format (see above) and may require mode="raw" when using it with the table output template}		editable="inline"	-

Note that in some cases the field that will be displayed has its own behavior and it can clash with the format you selected. IE: A tracker field that is a "title" is pre-formatted as a link. If you set the format as "objectlink" (or you set the display inside a link) the display will end broken as Tiki will try to display a link inside a link.

For the default parameter, it's important to remember that the tracker field "Files" works a bit differently than the others with this parameter. The tracker field Files expect an Id from the [File Gallery](#). When most of the other fields type will display the text of the default parameters the default for "Files" must be an existing file in a gallery. The file can be an "anonymous" portrait file or a plain white image or an image with only the text "Not Available", etc. Whatever you feel right for your usage.

## Basic example

In most of the examples shown in [PluginList output control block](#) and [PluginList advanced output control block](#) you will see a FORMAT control block have been used. E.g. in the example shown for Table output as below, two FORMAT control blocks are used:

### Sample using the default table formatting

```
{LIST()} {filter type="trackeritem"} {filter content="water"} {OUTPUT(template="table")} {column field="title_link" sort="title" label="Title" mode="raw"} {column field="description" label="Description"} {column field="event_date" sort="tracker_field_18" label="Event Date"} {OUTPUT} {FORMAT(name="title_link")} {display name="title"}
```

```
format="objectlink"){FORMAT} {FORMAT(name="event_date"){display name="tracker_field_18"
format="date"}{FORMAT} {LIST}
```

The first FORMAT control block defines an object with the name `title_link` that is displayed in a specific way - this object reference is then used in the column control block in the body of the table OUTPUT. Similarly the second FORMAT control block defines the `event_date` object which is also used in a column control block.

A similar use of the FORMAT control block allows the normal set of Smarty variables, eg `{user}` etc, to be made available in Smarty templates - for example:

**Format example to reference a normal smarty variable**

```
{FORMAT(name="theuser")} { {user} } {FORMAT}
```

This creates a reference object `theuser` with the `userId` of the current user which can then be invoked in a server stored smarty template using the variable `{ $row.theuser }`.

## Examples of the use of the FORMAT control block (format and default value)

```
{LIST()} {filter field="tracker_id" content="1"} {filter field="tracker_status" content="o"} {OUTPUT()}
{DIV(class="h3")} {display name="name"}{DIV} {display name="photo"}%%% {display name="email"} {OUTPUT}
{FORMAT(name="name")} {display name="tracker_field_userName"}{FORMAT} {FORMAT(name="photo")} {display
name="tracker_field_userPhoto" format="trackerrender" default="1140"}{FORMAT} {FORMAT(name="location")} {display
name="tracker_field_userLocation" format="trackerrender" default="Unknown"}{FORMAT} {LIST}
```

Default parameter applied on the "photo" field will display a default generic image if not file found.  
 Default parameter applied on the "location" field will display the text "Unknown" if the field is empty.

## Example with comments

You might want to display all comments, and this script will retrieve them:

**Wiki Output Sample**

```
{LIST(cache="n")} {filter type="comment"} {pagination max="10"} {OUTPUT( template="table")} {column field="title"}
{column field="comment_content"} {column field="object_link" mode="raw"} {column field="date"} {OUTPUT} {FORMAT(
name="object_link")} {display name="object_id" format="objectlink"} {FORMAT} {sort mode="date_desc"} {LIST}
```

The FORMAT control block defines an object with the name `object_link` which is displayed in such a way that it is `object_id` which is displayed and formatted as `objectlink`; which makes the id clickable. This object reference is then used in the column control block in the body of the OUTPUT table.

This gives us the following result:

Title	Comment	Thread Id	Date
Is this syntax correct?	I don't seem to be able to include a poll in a wiki page with: <code>{poll id=2}</code> as indicated in this doc page. However, this does work: <code>{POLL(pollId=&amp;gt;2)}{POLL}</code> What's the difference between the two methods?	<a href="#">202</a>	2006-09-21 10:09:17

Title	Comment	Thread Id	Date
hmm...	isn't typing just [skype:echo123?chat] doing the same and easily enough ? Result: skype:echo123?chat maybe better would be to support (instead of the external icon) an icon depending on the protocol used at the beginning of the URL	198	2006-08-27 09:23:21
Own dogfood	SPeaking about own dog food - perhaps a rating field in the tracker can be good	192	2006-08-05 12:47:07
HELP with configuration	Hi everybody. I need help with the configuration of tikiwiki and active directory. I'm using the followings: PHP Version 5.1.4 Apache/2.2.2 (Win32) running on windows server 2003 Active Directory on Microsoft sever 2003 tikiwiki-1.9.3.2. I tried to use the examples of configuration found in tikiwiki.org with no results. The configuration I'm using is the following. Host : libad1.library.nova.edu Port : 389 Scope: Sub Base DN: dc=library,dc=nova,dc=edu Ldap User DN: OU=Systems Users User Attrib: samAccountName User OC: user Group dn blank Group attrib blank Group OC blank Member Attrib blank Member is dn n LDAP Admin User: pipopo pipopo is the domain administrator Please let me know what to correct... thanks, christian	191	2006-08-04 19:01:53
location of "Batch loading directory" not intuitive	Sorry, there is nothing "intuitive" about where to put the "Batch loading directory." Does it go in the html directory, in the tiki directory, elsewhere? This part of the documentation needs to be updated. edalton addendum: after extensive experimentation I figured out that the batch loading directory needs to go in the tiki directory. There may be a way around this, but I didn't find one. Just thought I should share this with everyone.	189	2006-08-03 12:58:59
Fantastico?	Do we want to mention Fanstasico-based installs? Lots of web hosts have the Fantastico CPanel with Tiki. This makes installation VERY easy.	187	2006-07-26 19:44:08
add link to tiki samples	On this intro page, we should add a link to sample sites using Tiki. There used to be a directory on TW.o that folks could submit their own Tiki to. Is it still active? Or a community webbring?	186	2006-07-26 19:42:55
Re: Thanks and can we get it functional?	I updated my chat files to 1.9.4. It behaves much better - it functions now. I had reviewed some of the files and thought that the feature was not being updated, but the new files have been worked on since 1.9.2. I am reviewing the operation of the chat now that I have it functioning on my multi-tiki install. I am going to spend some time working on the chat because I really want to use the feature. I want to see if the logging has been worked on and whether it works as well. I need to be able to log the chats for future reference. As I figure things out and attempt to fix problems as I find them, I'll try to do some work on the documentation too. I can't seem to log in on <a href="http://dev.tikiwiki.org/FeatureDev">http://dev.tikiwiki.org/FeatureDev</a> . Is there a trick? Jake & Hi Jake! & Thanks for the state of the union on the Chat Feature. & I would love to get this feature working even if it's basic & Can you make that page by adding a link from here instead? & <a href="http://dev.tikiwiki.org/FeatureDev">http://dev.tikiwiki.org/FeatureDev</a> & Can you help with the code too? & Thanks! & M ☐	185	2006-07-25 02:05:48
Thanks and can we get it functional?	Hi Jake! Thanks for the state of the union on the Chat Feature. I would love to get this feature working even if it's basic Can you make that page by adding a link from here instead? <a href="http://dev.tikiwiki.org/FeatureDev">http://dev.tikiwiki.org/FeatureDev</a> Can you help with the code too? Thanks! M ☐	184	2006-07-23 18:32:19

Title	Comment	Thread Id	Date
Never obfuscate an external URL with descriptive text.	hmmm, it seems to me we could find a wiki solution to this. Ex.: when a wiki link is used, in print mode, the URL is shown. Something like: <a href="http://tikiwiki.org/tiki-index.php?page=PluginNoprint">http://tikiwiki.org/tiki-index.php?page=PluginNoprint</a>	182	2006-07-12 05:45:46

- <<
- 1
- ...
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16 (current)
- 17
- 18
- 19
- ...
- 25
- >>

We see that this only gives us the information about the object (the comment in this case), but what if I want to have more information before visiting the comment?

One way to do this is to add a column which indicates the item being commented on. It is typically a wiki page or tracker item which is clickable and takes me there.

So let's make some changes and see what we have:

**Wiki Output Sample**

```
{LIST(cache="n")} {filter type="comment"} {pagination max="10"} {OUTPUT( template="table")} {column field="contributors"} {column field="title"} {column field="comment_content"} {column field="parent_object_title" mode="raw"} {column field="object_link" mode="raw"} {column field="date"} {OUTPUT} {FORMAT( name="object_link")} {display name="object_id" format="objectlink"} {FORMAT} {FORMAT( name="parent_object_title")} {display name="parent_object_type"}: {display name="wikiplugin_objectlink" format="wikiplugin" type="parent_object_type" id="parent_object_id"} {FORMAT} {sort mode="date_desc"} {LIST}
```

Here we have just added a new column whose label is "Parent Object". The new FORMAT control block formats the parent\_object\_title field, which is the title of the comment's parent object, then with {display} tag we first display the name of the parent object, which is stored in the parent\_object\_type field. For example, if the parent object is a trackeritem, it will display "trackeritem:", and finally we display the link to the parent object, using the wikiplugin\_objectlink plugin. This plugin allows you to create a link to a Tiki object according to its type and its identifier. Here you specify the link format as "wikiplugin", the object type as parent\_object\_type, and the object id as parent\_object\_id. For example, if the parent object is a trackeritem with id 1, this will generate a link to "tiki-view\_tracker\_item.php?itemId=1". So you get a field that displays the name and link of the comment's parent object. For example, if the comment is linked to an item called "This is my first item", you display "trackeritem: This is my first item". This gives us the following result:

Title	Comment	Parent Object	Thread Id	Date
Is this syntax correct?	I don't seem to be able to include a poll in a wiki page with: {poll id=2} as indicated in this doc page. However, this does work: {POLL(pollId=&gt;2)}{POLL} What's the difference between the two methods?	wiki page: <a href="#">Poll Admin</a>	202	2006-09-21 10:09:17

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hmm...	isn't typing just [skype:echo123?chat] doing the same and easily enough ? Result: skype:echo123?chat maybe better would be to support (instead of the external icon) an icon depending on the protocol used at the beginning of the URL	wiki page: <a href="#">PluginSkype</a>	<a href="#">198</a>	2006-08-27 09:23:21
Own dogfood	SPeaking about own dog food - perhaps a rating field in the tracker can be good	wiki page: <a href="#">Features</a>	<a href="#">192</a>	2006-08-05 12:47:07
HELP with configuration	Hi everybody. I need help with the configuration of tikiwiki and active directory. I'm using the followings: PHP Version 5.1.4 Apache/2.2.2 (Win32) running on windows server 2003 Active Directory on Microsoft sever 2003 tikiwiki-1.9.3.2. I tried to use the examples of configuration found in tikiwiki.org with no results. The configuration I'm using is the following. Host : libad1.library.nova.edu Port : 389 Scope: Sub Base DN: dc=library,dc=nova,dc=edu Ldap User DN: OU=Systems Users User Attrib: samAccountName User OC: user Group dn blank Group attrib blank Group OC blank Member Attrib blank Member is dn n LDAP Admin User: pipopo pipopo is the domain administrator Please let me know what to correct... thanks, christian	wiki page: <a href="#">LDAP authentication</a>	<a href="#">191</a>	2006-08-04 19:01:53
location of "Batch loading directory" not intuitive	Sorry, there is nothing "intuitive" about where to put the "Batch loading directory." Does it go in the html directory, in the tiki directory, elsewhere? This part of the documentation needs to be updated. edalton addendum: after extensive experimentation I figured out that the batch loading directory needs to go in the tiki directory. There may be a way around this, but I didn't find one. Just thought I should share this with everyone.	wiki page: <a href="#">Image Gallery Config</a>	<a href="#">189</a>	2006-08-03 12:58:59
Fantastico?	Do we want to mention Fanstastico-based installs? Lots of web hosts have the Fantastico CPanel with Tiki. This makes installation VERY easy.	wiki page: <a href="#">Requirements</a>	<a href="#">187</a>	2006-07-26 19:44:08
add link to tiki samples	On this intro page, we should add a link to sample sites using Tiki. There used to be a directory on TW.o that folks could submit their own Tiki to. Is it still active? Or a community webring?	wiki page: <a href="#">Introduction</a>	<a href="#">186</a>	2006-07-26 19:42:55

Title	Comment	Parent Object	Thread Id	Date
Re: Thanks and can we get it functional?	I updated my chat files to 1.9.4. It behaves much better - it functions now. I had reviewed some of the files and thought that the feature was not being updated, but the new files have been worked on since 1.9.2. I am reviewing the operation of the chat now that I have it functioning on my multi-tiki install. I am going to spend some time working on the chat because I really want to use the feature. I want to see if the logging has been worked on and whether it works as well. I need to be able to log the chats for future reference. As I figure things out and attempt to fix problems as I find them, I'll try to do some work on the documentation too. I can't seem to log in on <a href="http://dev.tikiwiki.org/FeatureDev">http://dev.tikiwiki.org/FeatureDev</a> . Is there a trick? Jake & Hi Jake! & Thanks for the state of the union on the Chat Feature. & I would love to get this feature working even if it's basic & Can you make that page by adding a link from here instead? & <a href="http://dev.tikiwiki.org/FeatureDev">http://dev.tikiwiki.org/FeatureDev</a> & Can you help with the code too? & Thanks! & M ☐	wiki page: <a href="#">Chat</a>	185	2006-07-25 02:05:48
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- «
- 1
- ...
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16 (current)
- 17
- 18
- 19
- ...
- 25
- »

## Using Font Awesome icons instead of content depending on the value of the field content

Tweaking the sample above and using font awesome (integrated in Tiki) you can display corresponding icons for a content. In this demo case we have a tracker with a "gender" field that hold 2 values, "male" or "female". There is a "male" and a "female" icon in Font Awesome and as both use the same term we can assign it to a div type icon and class.

```
{LIST()} {filter field="tracker_id" content="42"} {OUTPUT(template="table")} {column label="Title" field="title"
sort="title"} {column label="Gender" field="gender"} {OUTPUT} {FORMAT(name="gender")}{DIV(type=i class=fa fa-
{display name="tracker_field_gender"})}{DIV}{FORMAT} {LIST}
```

## Editable inline sample using the table template

```
{column label="First Name" field="firstName" mode=raw} ... {FORMAT(name="firstName")}{display
name="tracker_field_firstName" format=trackerrender editable=inline}{FORMAT}
```

## Editable inline sample in a smarty (or wiki) template

In this wikiplugin embedded in a smarty (or wiki) template the field is set to be editable inline (note: format="trackerrender" is required as well as the Inline editing (found in admin control panels=>trackers)

```
{wikiplugin _name=list} {literal} {filter content="2" field="tracker_id"} {output(template="mytemplate.tpl")}
{ALTERNATE()} empty {ALTERNATE} {FORMAT(name="name")}{display name="tracker_field_name" editable="inline"
format="trackerrender" default=""}{FORMAT} {/literal} {/wikiplugin}
```

So the 2nd column uses a FORMAT plugin where the contents of the field in question, tracker\_field\_data, is used as the class for a div but the default (used if the data field is empty) is set to be the bootstrap class "hidden" so the contents, the check mark, only appears if there is some data.

Obviously if the data is the name of some other class weird stuff might happen, but for most usual cases, it works as expected and saves having to make a new smarty template just for this simple list.

(Tip and example taken from a message from JonnyB in the developers list - thanks!)

## Using Font Awesome icons instead of content depending on the value of the field content

Tweaking the sample above and using font awesome (integrated in Tiki) you can display corresponding icons for a content. In this demo case we have a tracker with a "gender" field that hold 2 values, "male" or "female". There is a "male" and a "female" icon in Font Awesome and as both use the same term we can assign it to a div type icon and class.

```
{LIST()} {filter field="tracker_id" content="42"} {OUTPUT(template="table")} {column label="Title" field="title"
sort="title"} {column label="Gender" field="gender"} {OUTPUT} {FORMAT(name="gender")}{DIV(type=i class=fa fa-
{display name="tracker_field_gender"})}{DIV}{FORMAT} {LIST}
```

It will display a 🍀 if the content of the field = male and a 🍀 if the content of the field = female.

## Display an Item Link (tracker item) linked to another item within a template page

When you use a template to display your plugin list you want other item related or linked to the item to open using the same template (or another it doesn't matter) but not to open the trackers built-in system. For this you need to enable the [Alias feature](#) and set it to use the template to display the tracker item, "record-" for this sample.

When you use an item link to link an item to other item (related, friend of, etc.) this is a kind of a problem. Item link has 2 option to display and item link. Value and Link. Value display the id of the content (ie: 6). Link display the value of the content linked to the tracker item (ie: Bernard).

Your link should be like:

```
[record-6|Bernard]
```

So it open the item "Id6" in the "record-" template showing the value "Bernard" for the link. To achieve this you need to create and use 2 row.

```
{FORMAT(name="name")}{display name="tracker_field_contact" format=trackerrender}{FORMAT}  
{FORMAT(name="id")}{display name="tracker_field_contact"}{FORMAT}
```

The first one **with** format=trackerrender will display the content of the tracker Item Link field as it is shown in the tracker (Bernard).

The second one **without** the format=trackerrender will show the real value for this field (6).

The assemble your link as follow:

```
[record-{{display name="id"}}|{{display name="name"}}]
```

It will complete the trick and open the item 6 using the record- template while the link displayed will show the right value, Bernard.

## Using smarty to format variables (from Tiki 26+)

Instead of using wiki format, you can specify **template** or **tplwiki** arguments to refer to a smarty template stored in a file or a wiki page. See [PluginList-output-control-block#Parameters](#) for more info on accepted values.

### All the LIST Plugin control blocks

- [PluginList pagination or list control block](#)
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- [PluginList format control block](#)
- [PluginList display control block](#)
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