

# Namespaces

Available since [Tiki10](#). By default, the namespace separator is set to `:_:` (colon, underscore, colon), but this can be changed in the "[Admin Wizard: Set up Namespace](#)" or in the [Workspace](#) admin panel.

You can also have multiple levels of namespaces.

## 1.1. Activating name spaces

You can do so since [Tiki12](#) in one of the last screens of the [Admin Wizard](#) (see "[Set up some advanced options](#)" ), and you can set it up in the next screen ("[Set up Namespace](#)"). Or if you search for "Namespace" in `tiki-admin.php` (activate experimental preferences, as of [Tiki12](#) )



The screenshot shows the "Namespace" configuration page in Tiki. It features a pink background and includes the following elements:

- A checked checkbox labeled "Namespace" with a help icon and a refresh icon.
- A heading: "The namespace separator should not".
- A bulleted list of restrictions:
  - contain any of the characters not allowed in wiki page names, typically `/?#[!@$&+;=<>`
  - conflict with wiki syntax tagging
- A label "Namespace separator:" followed by a text input field containing `:_:`.
- A checked checkbox labeled "Hide namespace indicator in structure path" with a help icon and a refresh icon.
- A section titled "Settings that may be affected by the namespace separator" with a help icon.
- Text: "To use `::` as a separator, you should also use `:::` as the wiki center tag syntax."
- Note: "Note: a conversion of `::` to `:::` for existing pages must be done manually"
- An unchecked checkbox labeled "Center text using `:::` instead of `::`" with a help icon.
- Text: "If the page name display stripper conflicts with the namespace separator, the namespace is used and the page name display is not stripped."
- A label "Page name display stripper:" followed by a text input field containing `:` and a help icon.

## 1.2. How to use

### 1.2.1. Easiest: through Workspaces UI

The easiest way to take advantage of the Namespaces feature is to use it through the [Workspaces UI](#) feature, which will perform the hard work for you (objects, categories, permissions, perspectives, namespaces...).

Alternatively, you can create your wiki pages following common namespaces by hand (see below).

### 1.2.2. Custom: hand-made

Create 2 pages with the following names and they will both be in the same abc namespace:

- abc:\_:123
- abc:\_:456

## 1.3. User pages

In Tiki, [user pages](#) follow the convention

User:JohnSmith

## 1.4. Categories

Similar but different to namespaces, you can categorize pages in any number of [categories](#). Whereas a page can only be in one namespace.

The easiest way to take advantage of the Namespaces feature is to use it through the [Workspaces UI](#) feature, which will perform the hard work for you, setting also the categories and perspectives that comply with the namespaces you chose for them.

## 1.5. Best Practice

The default ":" namespace separator will be urlencoded to "%3A\_%3A" which is not really human readable. According to <https://stackoverflow.com/questions/1856785/characters-allowed-in-a-url> the only really usable characters, if one wants to avoid urlencoding, are: "-" / "." / "\_" / "~". So best practice would be to build your separator from these characters to end up with human-readable URLs. It would be perfectly possible to use just a single character like the ".", but that might be used in a page name and therefore users could end up creating a namespace by accident. It really depends on one's use case. The author of this paragraph once had a site where ~username was used for the UserPage, so it wouldn't work on this kind of geek-site. Apart from that the ~ works very nicely. It is quite a rare character and in the average wiki use case won't appear in page names.

## 1.6. Related

- [Workspaces UI](#)
- <https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Help:Namespaces>

alias

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- [NameSpace](#) | [Names Spaces](#) | [Name Space](#)