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Thanks for joining the effort to document the progress of Tiki!

# Getting Started as an Author

1. Register at [tiki.org](http://tiki.org), then login here.
2. Read About the Tiki Documentation.
3. Read the page on our Documentation Lifecycle.
4. Learn How to Tag documentation pages effectively.
5. Browse the Documentation Status page.
6. Choose a page to improve (likely something you need help with yourself!, or look for them at [stub](#), for instance).
7. If content exists on [tiki.org](http://tiki.org) ([tw.o](http://tw.o)), transfer the content to documentation page. Be sure to:
  - Correctly format the page (based on the How to Tag information).
  - Link the documentation page to/from the [tw.o](http://tw.o) page.
8. Learn by doing. Newbies are welcome.
9. If in doubt, ask in the comments area of each page once you become a contributor to the site

# Sources of wisdom

In order to improve the documentation, you need wisdom about how the software works. Here are places to look.

1. **tiki.org** – If you can't find it here, do a search there first. Tiki.org was formerly the main center for documentation, but much of it is now out of date.
2. **Tiki.org forums** – Post a question in the appropriate forum.
3. **The 1.9 documentation** – Check the last comprehensive publication of Tiki documentation, which still provides a good overview and information on many features.
4. **dev.tiki.org** – Search the Tiki developers site.
5. **irc.tiki.org** – Developers and other users can often be found on IRC chat, but activity varies according to time of day, etc., so please be patient if you ask a question.

# Becoming an expert

If you have read and understand the following pages, you will be well on your way to becoming an expert.

- Documentation's Tiki Manual of Style (including Naming Conventions)
- Documentation status
- Documentation templates

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END OF NEW CONTENT  
(old content for refactoring)

Please read (and follow) these standards. You should also read about our documentation goals.

Basic Tiki concepts

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- **Page:** In the Tiki documentation, the term *page* is synonymous with *wiki page*.
  - **Feature:** A *feature* is a Tiki component that has a distinctive function, such as image galleries, file galleries, FAQs, banners, forums, or blogs. See Features for an overview of Tiki features.
  - **Terminology:** Review the Tiki Glossary for additional standard Tiki terminology.

Documentation integration

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All documentation pages are integrated into a wiki structure.

- **Standards**

*For examples, see **Documentation Templates**.*

Every page should uniformly follow the Tiki Manual of Style as applied in Requirements for example.

- **Status**

The Documentation Status is the hardcoded and commented version of the structure. If you add new pages, please add them with a visible indication **TO CREATE** so they can be added to the structure. Cleaning and page moving will occur frequently.

Required pages

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Each feature requires *at least* four pages of documentation.

- **Main Page**

Example Main Page: Blog

This is the primary page for the feature and should be named based on the feature. It defines and provides a brief overview of the feature. The page should link to any related resources (internal or external).

- **User Help**

Example User Page: Blog User

This page is for end-users of the feature, this also includes Admins who use their own sites. Organize the **User** page by *tasks* " what the user wants to accomplish (such as "Creating a New Blog" or "Preventing Other Users From Posting"). Use lots of screenshots and graphics to convey the information.

- **Admin Configuration**

Example Admin Page: Blog Config

This page provides information that Admins need in order to enable, configure, maintain, and troubleshoot the feature. Include system requirements information, potential impact to other features, or anything else useful to a system administrator.

- **Reference**

Example Reference Page: Blog Ref

This is page is for additional reference documentation. It includes the following information:

- Permissions relevant to the feature

- Pertinent database tables
- Administrative configuration options
- User options

**ML: This idea can be ok for certain large features, but it's overkill for the vast majority of features that should fit on one page. Let's not create pages artificially to try to fit the content into a structure.**

Getting started

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If you're registered and logged in, you can get started:

### 1. **Choose a topic or feature**

From the Documentation Status page, choose a feature to document.

### 2. **Find existing content**

Review <http://tiki.org> to see if documentation exists for the feature. If so, copy it to this site and reformat it, as necessary.

You may also want to review the old 1.6 TikiWiki documentation for additional information.

### 3. **Write what is missing**

Create or update the page so that it conforms to the formatting standards. Review the documentation examples for additional information, including sample pages.

### 4. **Work collaboratively**

Update Documentation Status so that other contributors know what you're working on (and what still needs to be done).