

Bugs & Wish list

Category Defaults don't work as designed | Tiki Wiki CMS Groupware :: Development

Category Defaults don't work as designed

Status

● Open

Subject

Category Defaults don't work as designed

Version

9.x

Category

- Usability

Feature

Category

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Rating

★★★★★ (0) ?

Description

So I've been vexed by the "category_defaults" tiki preference settings since they got expanded in version 9.x to include object name and object type. Supposedly you can add filters to set the default category based on the object name using a regex, and additionally set the default category to only assign if the object type is a wiki page. This is a fantastic feature! However, I've never been able to get it to work. The syntax is confusing and poorly documented (naturally), but the real problem is that even when you get it exactly right, the feature's still broken.

I am not a coder, and even though I have commit privs, I don't think I'm prepared to "fix" this in the source, so maybe somebody can help the community out with this information.

Workaround

After revisiting the problem today, I have come up with two issues that are at the root of this problem. The first and most painfully obvious is that the object name and object type variables for this setting are nulled out in the array that is build for them by the Manipulator.php file located at /lib/core/Category/. On line 31, you've got:

```
Manipulator.php
```



```
function addRequiredSet(array $categories, $default, $filter=null, $type=null)
```

Once I took the "=null" bits out it actually did parse these two elements into the array. Brilliant. No more beating my head against a wall.

The second issue is that the preference box at Admin > Categories for Category Defaults doesn't record the setting properly. I had to go look in my database using phpMyAdmin and see what was actually written there in the tiki_preferences table for the category_defaults row. Apparently the first line of the text area gets parsed incorrectly, and if you don't have any object name filter to

specify, it chokes on the second colon and takes your input for object type as being the variable for object name. I was able to replicate this bug in both 9.3 and 9.4. The second line of text (and presumably additional lines - I only checked two) get parsed correctly, but since the first line is munged up, the whole thing breaks.

For example, in my environment this is the correct setting I was striving for in Category Defaults:

Category Defaults

*1/3::wiki page *11/12::wiki page

I don't have any object name filter, but I only want the categories assigned to wiki pages. Unfortunately, saving this data records the following in the database:

Broken category_defaults

```
a:2:{i:0;a:4:{s:10:"categories";a:1:{i:0;s:2:"*1";}}s:7:"default";s:1:"3";s:6:"filter";s:11":wiki page";s:4:"type";s:0:"";}i:1;a:4:{s:10:"categories";a:1:{i:0;s:3:"*11";}}s:7:"default";s:2:"12";s:6:"filter";s:0:"";s:4:"type";s:9:"wiki page";}}
```

As you can see, the first "filter" setting is " :wiki page" with a line feed and carriage return embedded behind it. Compare it to the second line, which gets parsed correctly. I had to manually edit my record to be like this:

Working category_defaults

```
a:2:{i:0;a:4:{s:10:"categories";a:1:{i:0;s:2:"*1";}}s:7:"default";s:1:"3";s:6:"filter";s:0:"";s:4:"type";s:9:"wiki page";}i:1;a:4:{s:10:"categories";a:1:{i:0;s:3:"*11";}}s:7:"default";s:2:"12";s:6:"filter";s:0:"";s:4:"type";s:9:"wiki page";}}
```

This, my friends, works as expected.

Why does the text area input not get parsed correctly into the database for the first line? That is an exercise for the reader, I guess.

Importance

5

Easy to solve?

5

Priority

25

Demonstrate Bug (Tiki 19+)

Please demonstrate your bug on show2.tiki.org

Version: trunk ▼

Demonstrate Bug (older Tiki versions)

Please demonstrate your bug on show.tikiwiki.org

Version: 18.x ▼

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Tuesday 10 September, 2013 20:04:57 GMT-0000

Comments

Attachments

filename	created	hits	comment	version	filetype
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No attachments for this item

The original document is available at
<https://dev.tiki.org/item4442-Category-Defaults-don-t-work-as-designed>