

## Bugs & Wish list

Improved include in wiki pages | Tiki Wiki CMS Groupware :: Development

Improved include in wiki pages

### Status

Closed

### Subject

Improved include in wiki pages

### Version

23.x

24.x

25.x

26.x

### Category

- Feature request
- Easy for Newbie Dev

### Feature

Wiki (page view, edit, history, rename, etc)

Wiki Syntax (text area, parser, external wiki, etc)

### Resolution status

New

### Submitted by

Jonah Thomas

### Lastmod by

Jonah Thomas

### Rating

(1)

### Description

1. The command is tremendously useful for naive wiki users who add content. It lets them create macros and re-use them at will.

So I suggest that this might deserve an alias `{macro }` and deserve a description in the wiki syntax help.

Also a slight simplification. If there is no `'page="name"'` text but there is `{macro "name"}` then use `"name"` anyway.

Any user could do `{macro "myheader"}` at the top and `{macro "myfooter"}` at the bottom and `{macro "myusualrant"}` wherever they want. They just have to make an orphan wiki page for each macro they want.

2. This is so useful and flexible that you might deprecate the "apply content template" thing on the Properties tab. It is hardly any easier to use, and it allows the user to choose only one macro at the beginning. It should keep working for the users who have already used it, but there's no particular reason for anyone to use it again.

3. To really put the icing on the cake, you might let admins have two macros for each user page, one at the top and one at the bottom. These should not be visible when the user edits the page. So for each page category, the admin could decorate it a special way. Some might automatically get polls

or other info visible. Or dancing bunnies, or whatever. It lets admins customize user wiki pages without coding, in ways that are hard to do without coding now. Without annoying users with the displayed calls on their edit pages which they might edit wrongly.

#### Solution

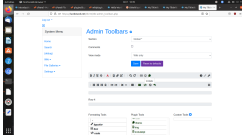
Put the Include plugin token on the user menu in the wiki editor.

It might be valuable to have this as the default case, or maybe not.

Maybe it would be better to let users make their own Content Menus, and make that choice more prominent. Or maybe not.

#### Workaround

##### Solution #1.



##### Solution #2.



#### Importance

5

#### Priority

25

#### Demonstrate Bug (Tiki 19+)

Please demonstrate your bug on [show2.tiki.org](http://show2.tiki.org)

Version: `trunk` ▼

#### Demonstrate Bug (older Tiki versions)

Please demonstrate your bug on [show.tikiwiki.org](http://show.tikiwiki.org)

Version: `18.x` ▼

#### Ticket ID

7832

#### Created

Wednesday 22 September, 2021 19:51:54 GMT-0000  
by Jonah Thomas

#### LastModif

Friday 01 October, 2021 20:46:13 GMT-0000

#### Comments



Jonny Bradley 23 Sep 21 16:17 GMT-0000

Hi @Jonah Thomas

I don't totally follow what you're trying to do but have you looked at Plugin Alias?

Maybe that will help?



Jonah Thomas 24 Sep 21 17:24 GMT-0000

From the documentation Plugin Alias ought to do a whole lot of what I want, easily.

I tried to do that, and so far have failed on V21.4. I can make an alias that works with no visible variables. I haven't yet found out how to do it with variable. My V21.4 does not work the same as the documentation <https://doc.tiki.org/Plugin%20Alias> which dates from 2019.

I have not managed to get the my\_plugin example to work from <https://doc.tiki.org/Plugin-Alias> which also dates from 2019. I think this is my own inexperience and not an actual bug.

"I don't totally follow what you're trying to do"

It's a very simple idea. I want my users to have a simple macro they can use.

So for example a user might make a wiki page named "myrant" that has the text "I am the greatest HTML coder and the best all-round human being in the world!". Maybe another that sets up a poll, and another that shows backlinks.

Then whenever he wants to, at the bottom of a page he's editing he can put

```
{macro myrant}  
{macro mypoll}  
{macro mybacklinks}
```

And it does all that.

Or if he's likely to want the same three a lot, he could make name a page "myfooter" and have it include

```
{macro myrant}  
{macro mypoll}  
{macro mybacklinks}
```

A simple convenience, that should be documented for casual users.

There's a similar convenience for admins that looks harder to do. I want it, but it may be beyond my abilities for a long time.



Marc Laporte 25 Sep 21 01:35 GMT-0000

I confirm PluginAlias is the right tool

But it would be more like:

```
{myrant} which is an alias of PluginInclude  
{mypoll}  
{mybacklinks} which is an alias of PluginBacklinks
```



Jonah Thomas 25 Sep 21 03:41 GMT-0000

Thank you!

I might not understand well enough how PluginInclude works. I don't expect random users to create {myrant} as an alias of PluginInclude, while they might understand

```
{macro page="myrant"}
```

or

```
{macro "myrant"}
```

or even better

```
{macro myrant}
```

And

{macro mypoll} would include from a page that would call the polling and also whatever explanation or decorations they want to add.

Users wouldn't need to understand it very well, particularly when they could look at each other's macro pages that work and copy them, changing whatever they feel competent to change.



Jonah Thomas 01 Oct 21 20:04 GMT-0000

I confirmed that it would be very hard to get this the way I wanted it.

So I expanded my want. I wanted naive users to get a menu where they could just put in the name of the page they wanted to Include, and the system would write the code for them.

Like it already does for wiki links.

When I looked, that was already there. All I had to do was find the Include plugin on a list and move it to the wiki editor's user menu. That's all!

It even gives a list of wiki pages for users to click on so they don't have to type out the name.

I advocate that this be a default. Perhaps with fewer options on the menu so there will be less to confuse users. User macros are a potentially powerful feature.

Here's a possible reason not to do that, though. This basically duplicates the "content template" Users could be given the ability to create and use their own content templates. I think that would be more efficient, because the action happens when the edited wiki page is saved. The include happens when the page is delivered, at runtime.

Content templates are somewhat hidden from users and are take a little more effort to learn to use, but the result is more efficient

Also, when you can include any webpage, there is nothing to say which ones were written to be macros. The content templates are listed together as special templates intended for that purpose.

So maybe the include macro isn't that good. But include and content templates are both available.  
So this wish is fulfilled.



Marc Laporte 01 Oct 21 20:57 GMT-0000

I am glad you found something that works! As you learn more Tiki, you'll more often than not find that there is way to do it with a combination of the existing features.

PluginInclude is cool because it handles page renames and it warns users if an edit affects other pages.

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/item7832-Improved-include-in-wiki-pages>