Discover the WikiWikiWeb

Simple, Online Collaborative Publishing

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wiki:
quick, super-fast

The wiki–wiki term comes from Hawaiian language.

wiki (wikiwiki):
a webpage that can easily be changed through a web browser by its author, or others
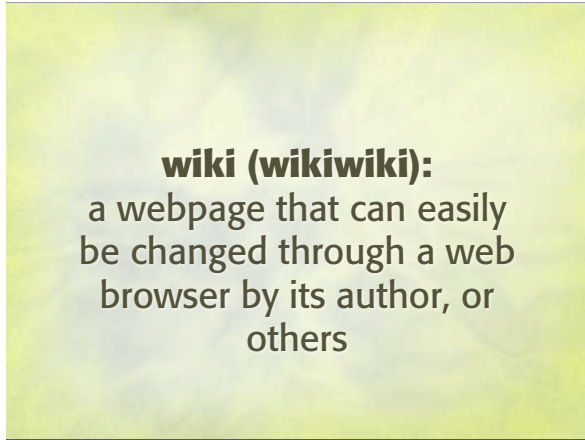
Being able to "surf" pages and edit them from the same console is a refreshing change for those of us who normally use an HTML editor like Dreamweaver or FrontPage.

The First Wiki:
http://c2.com/cgi/wiki?WelcomeVisitors

Listed here for historical reasons. The creators also have a page at http://www.wiki.org/

How does it work?

The page you're viewing is editable. You usually click a link on the page, and you can change the content in a form. Changes are immediate. Many wikis also track changes, so you can roll-back the wiki in time.

A Wiki for One
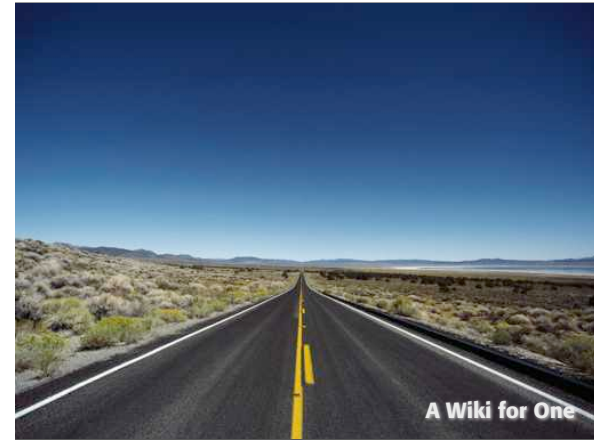
I love using a Wiki myself for personal productivity. Teachers, or students, can maintain their own space as well.

A Wiki for a Group

When you invite folks to the party, the wiki can become a collaboration environment. Ever use Blackboard or a message board?

Wikis on the Web

For those of you who like my fish, they come from the Hemera Photo Objects collection of clip art.

- http://en.wikipedia.org/
- http://en.wikiquote.org/
- http://en.wiktionary.org/
- http://species.wikipedia.org/
- http://wikisource.org/

The majority of these wikis use the multimedia wiki engine; I find some of the content of good quality.

Benefits of the Wiki Sites

- Free content
- Always editable by visitors
- Quality Content
- Multiple Languages

You cannot beat free.

Other Uses for Wikis

- professional collaboration on intranets
- documentation
- group/team logs
- teacher website
- personal productivity

CONSTRUCTION AHEAD

Be aware that your wiki can be a royal pain if not kept in check; if you don't trust your students and what they may say, be forewarned.

Educational Uses

- "Each lab team needs to present their findings on the wiki, and in the last 20 minutes of class we'll compare results and make some conclusions…"

- "Homework? Yes, each of you create a new wiki page and tell me why your composer made a significant contribution to western music. This will be a summary of this week's readings."

These are hypothetical situations where the use of a wiki plays into a teacher's goal for tech integration

Educational Uses

- "Yes, Mrs. Johnson—all the homework assignments are posted each night online. You guys have Internet at home? He can also post questions on my website and we answer the questions in class together..."

- "Pick out your four strongest essays on the class wiki and we're going to publish them online for literature week."

boiled down...
wikis are a convenient, easy way to get content into hypertext

I want to *wiki*.
How do I get started?

I say there are two options... get help, or do it yourself.

Option 1:
Install Wiki server software on server

1. Befriend Tech Support Guru

2. Buy her her favorite snacks

3. She installs wiki software and sets up an admin account

4. Week later: you're *wikiing* away!

Wiki Possibilities

- DokuWiki
- ErfurtWiki
- MediaWiki
- PmAWiki
- UniWakka
- WackoWiki
- WikkaWiki
- phpWiki

These are some of the wikis available—but there are more! A search through Google will illuminate the possibilities further. I included these as they are available through opensourcecms.com.
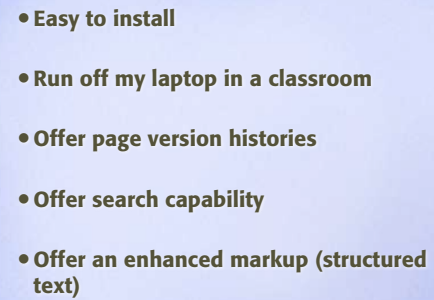
Test Wikis Online

- http://www.opensourcecms.com/
- Allows visitors to test pre-installed versions of popular content management systems, including Wiki-wikis.

What would my 'perfect' Wiki be like?

Easy to use? Easy to install? To maintain?

- Easy to install
- Run off my laptop in a classroom
- Offer page version histories
- Offer search capability
- Offer an enhanced markup (structured text)

It should run out the box, too, I imagine. Wikis that are set up for the whole world to use might have some robust security too.

Instiki
http://www.instiki.org/
(Option 2)

Ah... so easy to install, you'll have time to savor sweet pineapple chunks as you wiki-away your day.

Instiki Features

- 2-Step install

- Markup Content with 3 different models of structured text

- RSS Feeds, Export to HTML

- Create multiple "webs" or individual wiki spaces

- *I've never seen a Wiki this easy to set up, this easy to understand, as faithful to web standards and with code I can actually read. Brilliant!—Rik Hemsley*

The two steps? Download and run.

Instiki Platforms, Requirements

- Mac OS X
- Windows
- Linux

- Under Mac OS X, Instiki comes with an installer—you simply double-click the app!

Sorry, Windows and Linux. The Mac version is just so simple to use... just make sure you have Ruby installed—this application is written in that language.
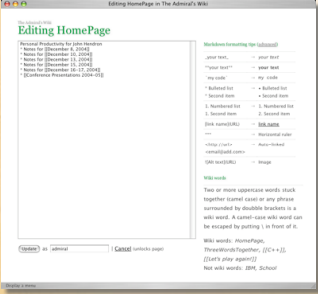

Personal Instiki Uses

- Daily Productivity
  - Action Items
  - Daily Notes
  - Collaboration at Meetings
- Content stays on laptop, can be ported to any computer; can be accessed over network

I've begun to use my wiki as a personal assistant, following a David Allen prescription for enhanced organization.
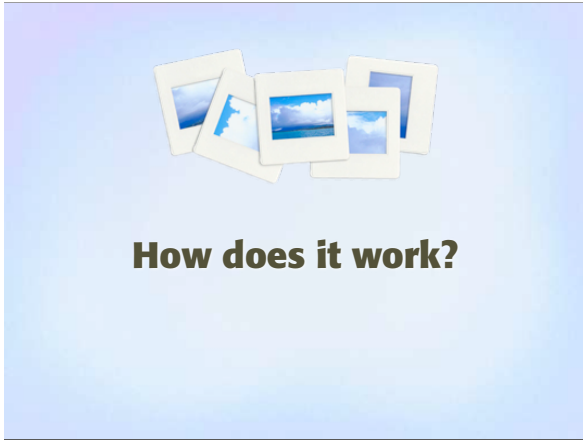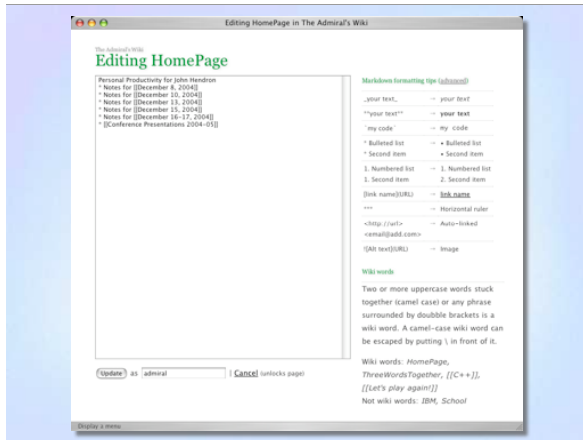
Wikis are Simple

- Spell checking is handled by the OS (Safari is being used here)

- Markdown is my structured-text system of choice

- Create links by creating [[wikiwords]]

I love Markdown, by John Gruber (daringfireball.net). I use it to publish every webpage... I know XHTML, but this is far more productive—even more so than Dreamweaver.

Want to create a link? Make it a wikiword. This makes a new, blank webpage. Click on it in your site, and you can begin editing right away!


Another Option:
MoinMoin
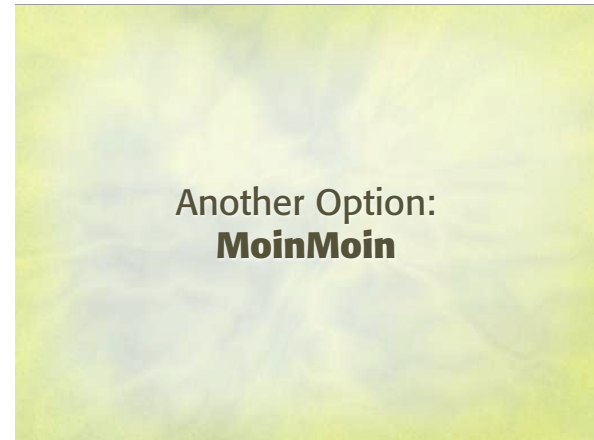
Moin X

- **More Advanced than Instiki**

- **Based on Python**

- **Easy to Install**

- **Uses Structured Text, but not Markdown**

- **Supports attachments, e-mail notifications, and page themes/templates**

http://moinmoin.wikiwikiweb.de/WhyWikiWorks

"MoinX is ideal for keeping notes and howtos, organising links and much more. Whenever I was looking into something new and it took me some time to figure out how it works, I wrote some short notes about it. Of course I do this with MoinX."—
http://educational.blogs.com/instructional_technology_/2005/02/moinx.html
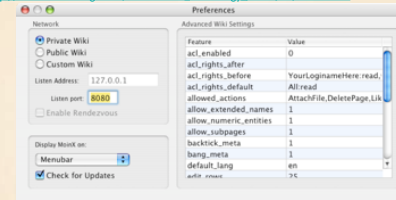
- MoinX is an OS X version that is as easy to install as Instiki

- http://moinx.antbear.org/

Questions?

Feel free to e-mail me (jhendron@glnd.k12.va.us) if you think of something later.

- Wikis accommodate multiple users
- Markup is simple with 'Markdown'
- Wikis allow you to 'go back in time,' and track revisions to documents
- Instiki is easy to install and configure
- Class projects can be exported as HTML and posted in a static format

Review... you can also use a wiki for a classroom website to communicate with parents.

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Look for more handouts and my education–
technology weblog at johnhendron.net.
Thanks for visiting my session today. I'm
honored to have you as a guest, and hope you
walk away with something helpful. – John