

# OpenVMS Technical Journal V12



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## Installing and configuring a wiki engine on OpenVMS

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This article provides a brief introduction to wikis, the advantages of a wiki for knowledge management, and a step-by-step approach to configuring a wiki engine (such as PmWiki) on an i64 system.

### Introduction

As Wikipedia explains (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wiki>), a wiki is a collection of web pages designed to enable anyone who accesses it to contribute or modify content, using a simplified markup language.

“Content management systems will always have their place in the publishing world, but they've never been the best tools for business collaboration. A simple open-source app called the wiki may soon rule the knowledge management roost.” – Ezra Goodnoe, [InternetWeek](#) 2005

A Wiki provides the following advantages:

1. A rich text editor, and the ability to add files and images
2. Content search
3. A collaborative environment for document sharing
4. Page revision history is available for audit and CM
5. Access from anywhere with a web connection

### Experimenting with wikis on OpenVMS

Almost a year ago I started experimenting with different wikis on OpenVMS, such as MediaWiki, TikiWiki, DokuWiki, etc. There were issues with all of them. For example, MediaWiki had a prerequisite for a PHP version that was not available on OpenVMS.

Still searching for a lightweight wiki, I came across PmWiki, which is free software under the GNU GPL, uses flat file (<http://www.pmwiki.org/wiki/PmWiki/FlatFileAdvantages>), and is very easy to install and configure.

### Installing and configuring PmWiki

#### Requirements

- OpenVMS v8.3 running on an i64 system
- CSWS\_PHP version 1.3 based on PHP 4.3.10
- CSWS v2.1-1 based on Apache

#### Installation

- Download pmwiki-2.2.0-beta65.zip from:  
<http://www.pmwiki.org/wiki/PmWiki/Download>
- Copy the kit to SYS\$COMMON:[APACHE] (assuming ODS-5 system disk; can be copied to any other ODS-5 disk)
- Unzip the kit:  
\$ unzip pmwiki-2^2^.0-beta65.zip

## Configuring

1. Modify `SY$COMMON:[APACHE.CONF]MOD_PHP.CONF` to reflect access path for PmWiki. Add below line (after the line containing - Alias /php/ "/apache\$root/php/scripts/")

```
Alias /wiki/ "/apache$common/pmwiki-2_2_0-beta65/"
```

2. Restart apache and open a web browser pointing to the pmwiki.php script on the server:  
<http://node.domain.com/wiki/pmwiki.php>
3. PmWiki will then analyze your system configuration and provide instructions (if needed) for creating the wiki.d/ directory, which will be used to hold the pages created for your site.
4. The following directories will be created:  
Directory `SY$COMMON:[APACHE.pmwiki-2_2_0-beta65]`  
`wiki_d.DIR;1`     `wikilib_d.DIR;1`
5. The names of these directories are expected to be `wiki.d.dir` & `wikilib.d.dir`, so rename them.
6. When you first install PmWiki, the `SY$COMMON:[APACHE.pmwiki-2_2_0-beta65.local]config.php` file does not exist. Copy the `sample-config.php` file (present in `SY$COMMON:[APACHE.pmwiki-2_2_0-beta65.docs]` directory) to `SY$COMMON:[APACHE.pmwiki-2_2_0-beta65.local]config.php` and use it as a starting point.

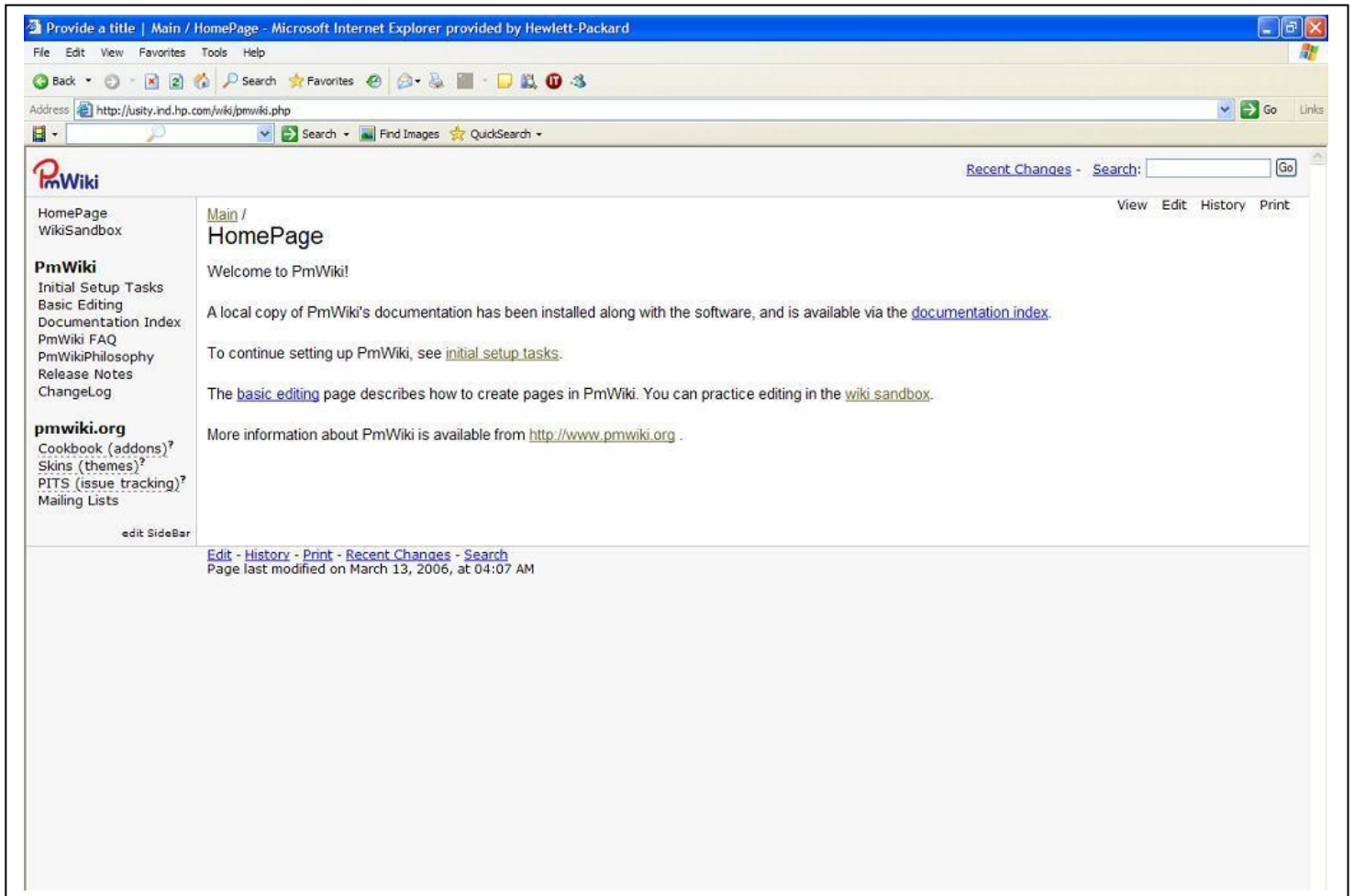
```
$copy SY$COMMON:[APACHE.pmwiki-2_2_0-beta65.docs]sample-  
config.php SY$COMMON:[APACHE.pmwiki-2_2_0-  
beta65.local]config.php
```

7. Modify (uncomment or add) `SY$COMMON:[APACHE.pmwiki-2_2_0-beta65.local]config.php`. For example, to add Logo, Title, Password, and Enabling upload uncomment the lines as below:

```
#Provide a title to your wiki  
$WikiTitle = "Provide a title";  
  
#If you want to have your own logo copy it to the  
#SY$COMMON:[APACHE.pmwiki-2_2_0-beta65.pub.skins.pmwiki]  
#directory  
$PageLogoUrl = "$PubDirUrl/skins/pmwiki/urlogo.png";  
  
#Provide password for the administrator  
$DefaultPasswords['admin'] = crypt('oneseecret');  
  
# Enable upload  
$EnableUpload = 1;
```

## Installing & configuring a wiki engine on OpenVMS -- Rishi Singhal

Your wiki is ready to go, so refresh your <http://node.domain.com/wiki/pmwiki.php> page. You should see a page similar to this:



### Tips and tricks

- While configuring PmWiki, if this is encountered:

Fatal error: Call to undefined function: preg\_match() in /apache\$common/pmwiki-2\_2\_0-beta65/pmwiki.php on line 43

```
Two PHP extensions present in SYS$COMMON:[APACHE.PHP]PHP.INI have to be uncommented
```

```
extension=php_pcre.exe
extension=php_session.exe
```

- To restrict upload by the privileged few, modify SYS\$COMMON:[APACHE.pmwiki-2\_2\_0-beta65.local]config.php as

```
#Set password for upload
$DefaultPasswords['upload'] = crypt('secrettwo');
```

- If you want to track the modifications history, modify SYS\$COMMON:[APACHE.pmwiki-2\_2\_0-beta65.local]config.php as

```
#While posting if you want the author name to be specified
#compulsorily
$EnablePostAuthorRequired = 1;
```

- To restrict editing by the privileged few, modify SYS\$COMMON:[APACHE.pmwiki-2\_2\_0-beta65.local]config.php as:

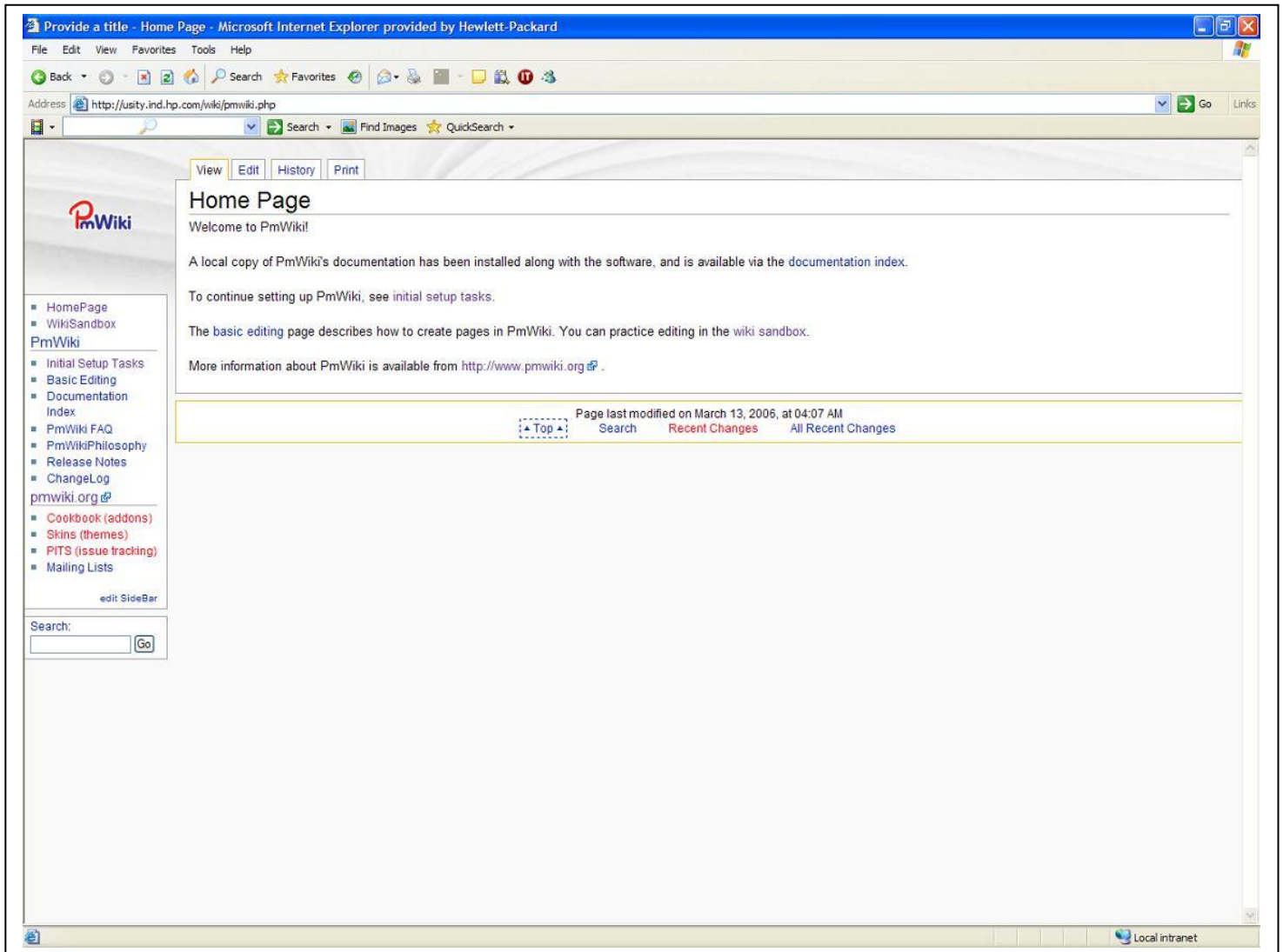
```
#Not everyone will be allowed to edit. All the pages are read only otherwise
$DefaultPasswords['edit'] = crypt('secretthree');
```

- To provide links to sharepoint (Microsoft® Windows®) use this format:  
%newwin%[[file:///&#92;\share\file.txt]]
- To use the same formatting as you have typed in the wiki editor, put your contents as:  
[@ formatted contents @]

- To use a different skin (goto <http://www.pmwiki.org/wiki/Cookbook/Skins>), such as monobook (makes PmWiki look like MediaWiki/Wikipedia):

Download monobook.zip, extract it into SYS\$COMMON:[APACHE.pmwiki-2\_2\_0-beta65.pub.skins] and add the following code to your local configuration file (SYS\$COMMON:[APACHE.pmwiki-2\_2\_0-beta65.local]config.php):

```
$Skin = 'monobook';
```



## For more information

Contact the author at [rishi.singhal@hp.com](mailto:rishi.singhal@hp.com).

For more information about PmWiki, go to: [www.pmwiki.org/wiki/PmWiki/PmWiki](http://www.pmwiki.org/wiki/PmWiki/PmWiki).