

Improving the Wikipedia desktop experience

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Hello:)

We're Olga and Alex from the Readers Web Team at the Wikimedia Foundation and we're here to talk about improving the desktop experience.



Session agenda

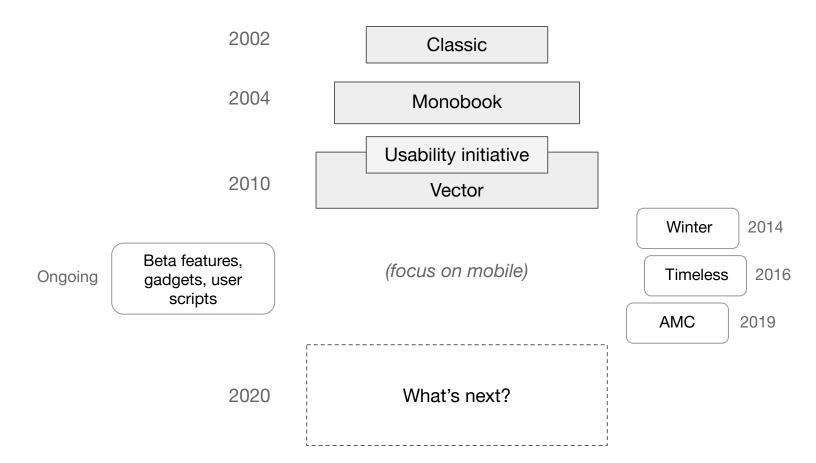
This is a 40 min session

- Looking back: how has the desktop site improved over time?
- How can we continue that trajectory of improvement to meet the new challenges we face?
- Brainstorm
- Discussion

Capture your thoughts and questions

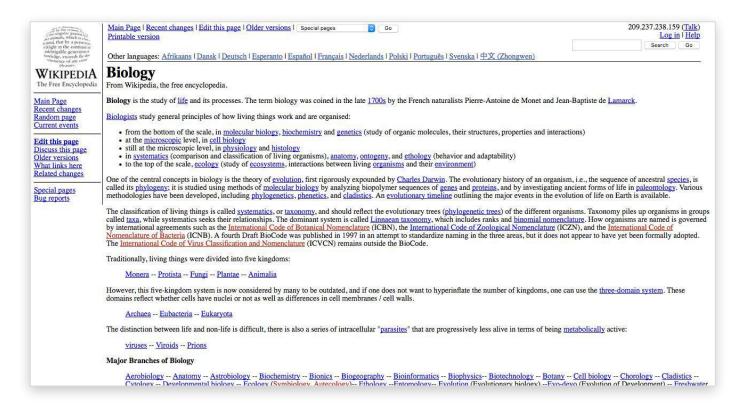
https://w.wiki/7Cf

A history of improvement



2002 - Classic 2004 — Monobook 2010 — Vector 2014 - Winter 2016 — Timeless

2020 — What's next?



A solid starting point, the DNA of which still remains today. This is the initial appearance of MediaWiki, before skins were introduced.

2004 – Monobook

2010 - Vector

2014 - Winter

2016 - Timeless

2020 - What's next?



The first MediaWiki skin. Attempting to ensure that key elements are prominent, showing messages and alerts, and article titles are clear. Also behind the scenes work on templates and HTML/DOM structure^[1].

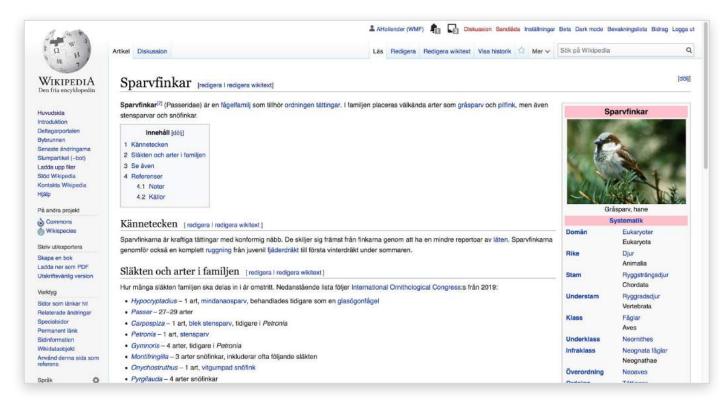
2004 — Monobook

2010 - Vector

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Following the Usability Initiative, the goal of Vector was to increase the usability of Wikipedia for new contributors by reducing barriers to public participation. Improve visibility of common navigation elements and reduce visibility of less common ones^{[2][3]}.

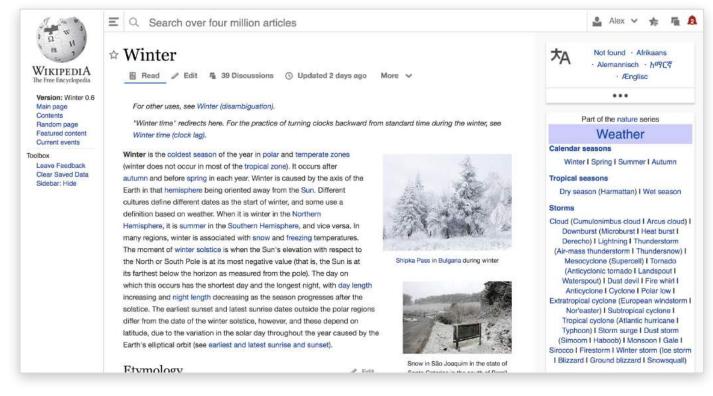
2004 — Monobook

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Tightly couple page actions and views to the page content itself, reduce interface clutter to focus on content, make search available at all times, synchronize design direction across devices and platforms^[4].

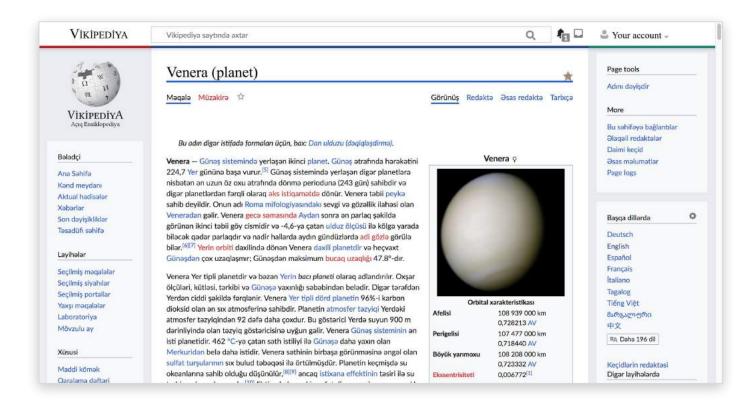
2004 — Monobook

2010 - Vector

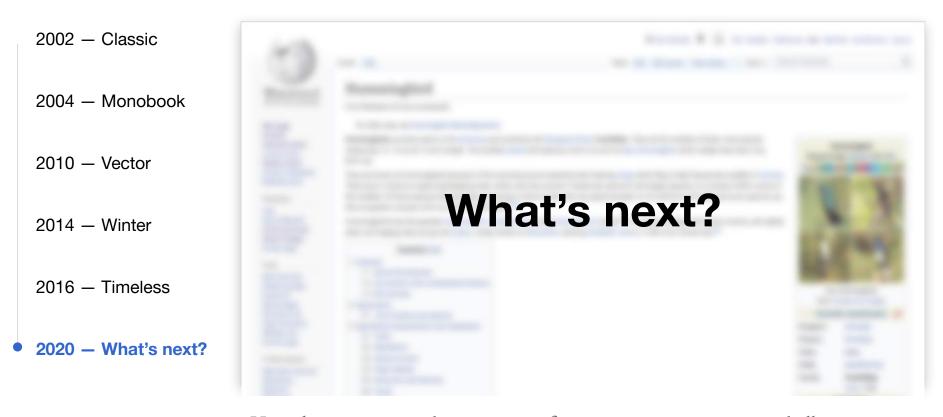
2014 - Winter

2016 - Timeless

2020 - What's next?



Intended to be a fully featured skin that emphasises both content and editing tools. Timeless is responsive and was based on Winter^[5].



How do we continue the trajectory of improvement to meet new challenges and new audiences?

New challenges & changing context

 Diversity and inclusion: more people are using Wikipedia from all over the world

Mobile + desktop: desktop is still approximately 49% of the 19.9 billion page views each month (en.wiki) Welcoming new editors: we need to welcome editors
 from all backgrounds

New patterns: new web patterns and capabilities are available to us (e.g. responsive web)

Wikipedia article on desktop for your first time...

Imagine you're reading or editing a



The Free Encyclopedia

Main page Contents Featured content Current events Random article Donate to Wikipedia Wikipedia store

Interaction

Help About Wikipedia Community portal Recent changes Contact page

Tools

What links here Related changes Upload file Special pages Permanent link Page information Wikidata item

Cite this page In other projects

Wikimedia Commons Wikibooks

Wikinews

Article Talk

Jupiter

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

What are all

these links?

but two-and-a-half times that of all the other planets in the Solar System combined. Jupiter and Saturn are gas giants; the other two giant Jupiter has been known to astronomers since antiquity.[18] It is named after the Roman god can reach an apparent magnitude of -2.94, bright enough for its reflected light to cast

hird-brightest natural object in the night sky after the Moon and Venus.

ith a quarter of its mass being helium, though helium comprises only about a tenth of the number of heavier elements,[21] but like the other giant planets, Jupiter lacks a well-defined solid surface. ape is that of an oblate spheroid (it has a slight but noticeable bulge around the equator). The several bands at different latitudes, resultin

s. A prominent result is the Great Red Spot, a giant storm that is known to ha rst seen by telescope. Surrounding Jupiter is a faint planetary ring system and a power including the four large Galilean moons discovered by Galileo Galilei in 1610. Ganymee that of the planet Mercury.

This article is about the planet. For the Roman god, see Jupiter (mythology). For other uses, see Jupiter (disambigua-

Jupiter is the fifth planet from the Sun and the largest in the Solar System. It is a giant planet with a mass one-thousandth that the Sun,

Jupiter has been explored on several occasions by robotic spacecraft, most notably du later by the Galileo orbiter. In late February 2007, Jupiter was visited by the New Horiz speed and bend its trajectory en route to Pluto. The latest probe to visit the planet is Ju 2016. [23] [24] Future targets for exploration in the Jupiter system include the probable ice-covered/

Contents [hide]

- 1 Formation and migration
- 2 Physical characteristics
 - 2.1 Composition
 - 2.2 Mass and size
 - 2.3 Internal structure

Where's the search bar?

Is Wikipedia only in

English? Can I read

its moon Europa.

this in Hindi?

edia

Q



Jupiter 2



I-disc view in natural color in April 2014[8]

Designations

/dgu:prter/ (4) listen)[1]

Jovian tives

Orbital characteristics[6]

Epoch J2000

Aphelion 816.62 million km (5.4588 AU)

Perihelion 740.52 million km (4.9501 AU) Semi-major axis 778.57 million km (5.2044 AU)

Orbital period 11.862 yr 4,332.59 d

Eccentricity 0.0489

Make Wikipedia feel more welcoming

Currently:

- The experience does not match current expectations of the modern web
- It feels disorienting and disconnected to people who are not used to Wikipedia
- This can cause readers and editors to have less trust in Wikipedia and to use the site less

Focusing on making Wikipedia more welcoming will allow new readers and editors to join our movement and contribute to the projects

Can you think of usability improvements that would help readers and editors alike...

Where did the language switcher go?

es as strong as that of Earth, ranging from 4.2 gauss (0.42 m

making it the strongest in the Solar System (except for suns ddy currents—swirling movements of conducting materials—within th

thought to be gene on the moon to emit large amounts of sulfur dioxide forming a gas torus alon hydrogen core. The volcaorbit. The gas is ionized in the magnetosphere producing sulfur and oxygen ions. They, together with hydr/ originating from the atmosphere of Jupiter, form a plasma sheet in Jupiter's equatorial plane. The plasma in the sheet corotates with the planet causing deformation of the dipole magnetic field into that of magnetodisk. Electrons within the plasma sheet generate a strong radio signature that produces bursts in the range of 0.6-30 MHz. [84]

At about 75 Jupiter radii from the planet, the interaction of the magnetosphere with the solar wind generates a bow shock. Surrounding Jupiter's magnetosphere is a magnetopause, located at the inner edge of a magnetosheath—a region

I want to search without scrolling all the way back to the top

between it and the how shock. The solar wind interacts with these regions, elongating the magnetosphere on Jupiter's lee ne orbit of Saturn. The four largest moons of Jupiter all orbit within ar wind [44]

> rticles about the planet. As lo moves through re generated through a cyclotron maser mei upiter can exceed the solar radio output.[85]

The table of contents would be helpful right now



Aurorae on the north pole of Jupiter as viewed by Hubble



Infrared view of Jupiter's southern lights, taken by the Jovian Infrared Auroral Mapper

that carry ionized matter into

cone-shaped surface. When

tools

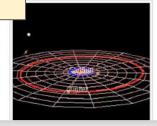
se episodes of radio emission from the planet's polar regions. Volcanic activity on Jupiter's moon lo (see below) injects gas

Jupiter is the only planet who average distance between Jupiter with the Sun lies outside the volume of the Sun, thoug un is 778 million km (about 5.2 times the average dist

AU) and it completes an orbit every 11.8 ers. This is approximately two-fifths the orbital period of Saty ning a near orbital resonance between the two largest planets in the Solar System, [87] The elliptical orbit of Jupiter is inclined 1,31° compared to Earth, Because the eccentricity of its orbit is 0.048, Jupiter's distance from the Sun varies by 75 million km between its nearest approach (perihelion) and furthest distance (aphelion).

The axial tilt of Jupiter is relatively small: only 3.13°. As a result, it does not experience significant seasonal changes, in contrast to, for example, Earth and Mars.[88]

I want my user



Make Wikipedia easier to use

If you're a newcomer or a casual reader:

- Basic functions can be difficult to find (e.g. switching languages)
- Important features are not highlighted while less important features are prominent
- The structure of the navigation distracts from the content itself

If you're a new or experienced editor:

- Basic features like creating an account or viewing important article information are difficult to find
- Features that are important do not always have the visibility they deserve

So, how do we improve it?

What we want to do:

- Focus on the content
- Provide easier access to everyday actions (e.g. search, language switching, edit)
- Put things in logical and useful places
- Increase consistency in the interface with other platforms - mobile web and the apps
- Eliminate clutter

What we don't want to do:

- Touch the content
- Remove any functionality
- Drastically change the layout
- Redesign the site

A helpful metaphor

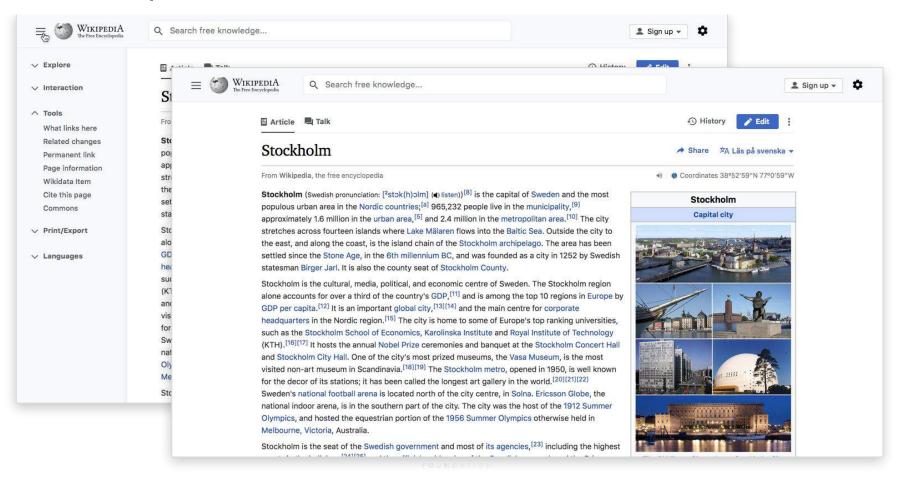


As any good librarian would keep their library well-organized as it grows, so must we with our website. This gives us a better foundation on which we can continue to grow and introduce new features.

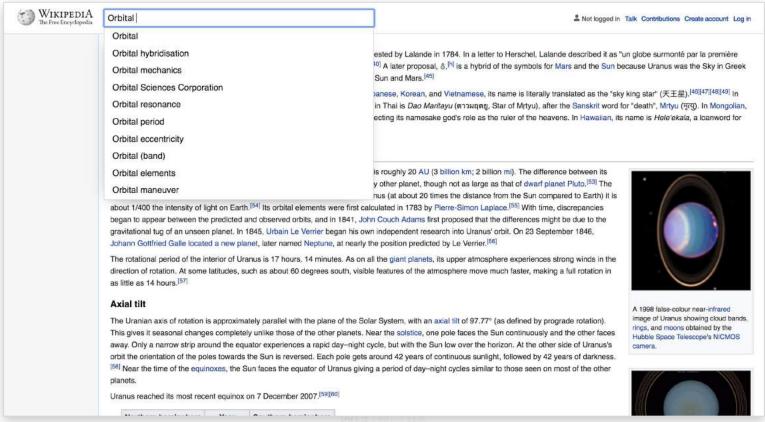
(we're not sure...but here's some thoughts)

What might this look like?

Contextual experiences, focus on the content



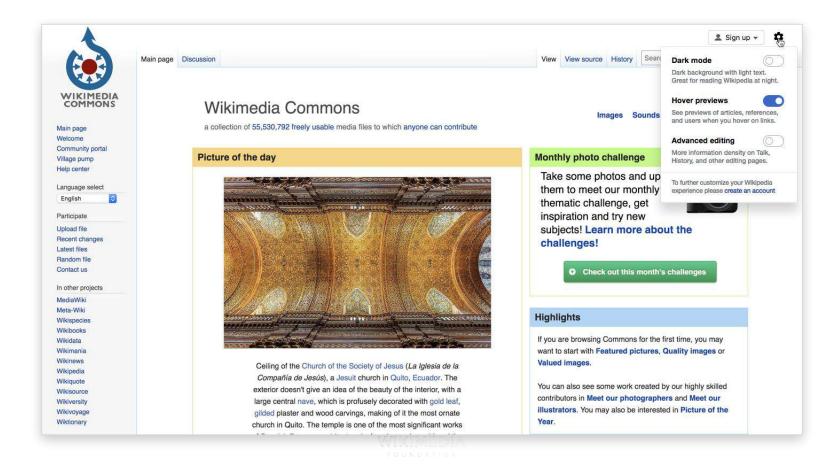
Easier access to everyday actions: search



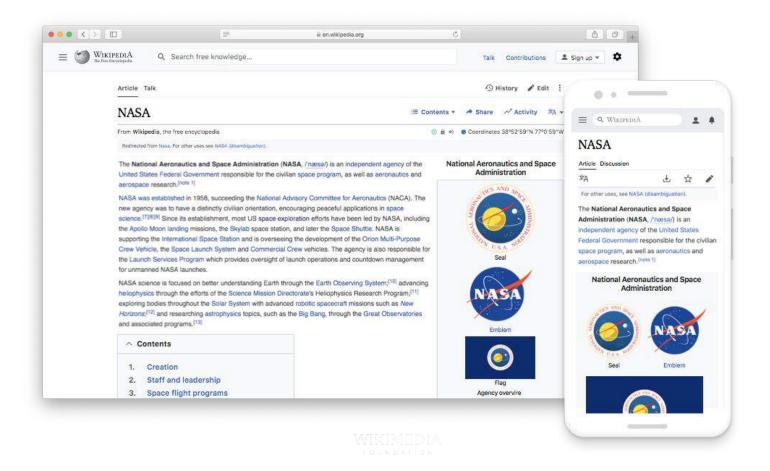
Easier access to everyday actions: Edit & Languages



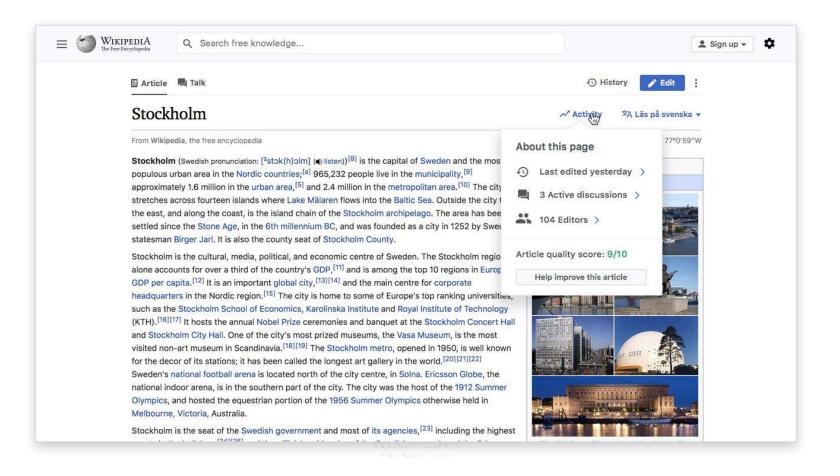
Putting things in logical & useful places



Increase consistency in the interface with other platforms - mobile web and the apps



Putting things in logical & useful places



Other considerations and constraints

How do we approach defining and building these updates? What social and technical considerations should we think about?

Social Considerations

- Not altering the experience on existing skins
- Staying true to our roots, improving while staying recognizable
- Be considerate of the needs of various audiences: newcomers, experienced readers, new editors, experienced editors

Technical Possibilities

- Creating a new skin
- Making gradual tweaks to Vector (current default desktop skin)
- Making gradual tweaks to Minerva (current default mobile skin)
- Something else...

Breakout groups (brainstorm/feedback)

Group 1: how might we make Wikipedia more welcoming? (Alex)

Group 2: how might we make Wikipedia easier to use? (Quiddity)

Group 3: how do we work with the social and technical constraints and considerations around these ideas? (Olga)

- Please be positive, constructive, and respectful
- Prioritize generating ideas and questions over having conversations
- Write everything down on post-its

Q&A

Our roadmap

Stage 1: Research & requirements

Stage 2: Prototyping & technical planning

Stage 3: Development, deployments, & analysis

Stage 4: Finishing touches and final deployments

Get involved

Project page

https://www.mediawiki.org/ wiki/Reading/Web/Desktop Improvements

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Citations

- 1. https://meta.wikimedia.org/wiki/Layout-design-document
- 2. https://usability.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia Usability Initiative
- 3. https://usability.wikimedia.org/wiki/Acai Designs
- 4. https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Winter#Purpose
- 5. https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/Skin:Timeless

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