

Redmine - Feature #1208

Restructured text support for the wiki

2008-05-08 06:13 - James Turnbull

<b>Status:</b>	New	<b>Start date:</b>	2008-05-08
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal	<b>Due date:</b>	
<b>Assignee:</b>		<b>% Done:</b>	0%
<b>Category:</b>	Wiki	<b>Estimated time:</b>	0.00 hour
<b>Target version:</b>			
<b>Resolution:</b>			
<b>Description</b> We're a heavy user of Trac's support for restructured text ( <a href="http://docutils.sourceforge.net/rst.html">http://docutils.sourceforge.net/rst.html</a> ). We'd love to migrate to Redmine but we have no way to support our existing RST based documentation.  I'd like to see the Textile parser in Redmine supplemented with a RST parser also. As there is no RST parser in Ruby currently this could be tricky but figured I'd register the request at least.			
<b>Related issues:</b> Has duplicate Redmine - Feature #1860: reST (reStructuredText) support			
		<b>Closed</b>	<b>2008-09-05</b>

History

#1 - 2008-10-26 23:31 - Daniel Serodio

+1

I'm considering moving from Trac too, but ReStructuredText is a lot nicer than Textile...

#2 - 2008-11-13 11:44 - Chris Dew

+1

Yes, we also use Trac and rst. It would be good to see it in Redmine.

#3 - 2009-03-30 04:59 - Ilia Lobsanov

please add rst support...

#4 - 2009-03-30 11:22 - Jens Goldhammer

+1

#5 - 2009-03-30 12:02 - Paul Rivier

Redmine uses RedCloth to convert Textile to xhtml. In recent versions of redmine, one can add more wiki syntax engines, but we have to wonder if they should co-exist, and at which level ? IOW, should the whole instance use a uniform syntax ? Should this setting be per-project ? Per-wiki-page ?

What I mean is that using a wiki syntax or an other is generally a matter of personal taste and nothing else. A wiki is aimed at collaborative editing, so if many syntax co-exist in the same wiki, every users will have to learn them all to be able to edit any page. So IMO, a per-page freedom of syntax is a bad idea. At least per project syntax consistency is required, but still I don't like this idea.

The other possibility is to enforce the use of two-ways full-converters in redmine. Such a two-ways converter should be able to produce xhtml from a given wiki syntax, and produce back the same wiki syntax from xhtml. That way, each user can select the wiki syntax (s)he wants to work with, and data is stored in xhtml in the model. Per-user preference really is the right level for such a setting.

#6 - 2009-03-30 14:57 - Ilia Lobsanov

per-user preference sounds fine to me. the inline markup switch ala trac would be nice too. eg. #!html

#7 - 2009-10-27 21:44 - Manuel Vázquez Acosta

+10

Is this goint to be implemented? Issue [#1860](#) also ask for this.

I prefer reST because it:

- Allows line breaking a paragraph without losing track.

- Allows a blank line between items on a list without making two separate lists.
- Sublists are defined by indentation level. This is far more readable than several \* signs.

The cons:

- The extensible way of making custom links is something like `:rev:`12726`` which is worse than [r12726](#). However this could be easily overcome.

#### #8 - 2009-11-16 03:25 - Steve Steiner

I'd be just as happy with one setting for the whole installation. We use restructured text for any text-based documentation everywhere so there's no one on the team who even wants to use anything else.

I think, generally, a group is going to be used to one format or another and it doesn't need to be too granular.

Please do one global setting and, if anyone needs more, let them bring it up again later.

I love Redmine so far and this is the one real sore spot in an otherwise awesome product.

#### #9 - 2009-11-16 03:45 - Steve Steiner

Paul Rivier wrote:

Redmine uses RedCloth to convert Textile to xhtml. *In recent versions of redmine, one can add more wiki syntax engines*

Is there any documentation on how to do this, please?

I just upgraded to Redmine 0.8.7.stable but there's still only textile in the wiki formatting dropdown in the settings.

We only want to support restructured text across the whole app; nothing fancy, we just want restructured text to be the default everywhere.

Can this be done?

Thanks,

S

#### #10 - 2009-11-16 04:48 - James Turnbull

The issue remains that is NOT a native RST parser for Ruby. Until there is one the request for support is pretty much moot.

#### #11 - 2009-11-25 21:54 - William M.

I saw this issue and took [Larry Baltz's markdown formatter](#) and converted it into a simple [redmine reStructuredText formatter](#) plugin using either my [RbST reStructuredText gem](#) that processes RST via python's docutils or my [PandocRuby](#) wrapper for Pandoc.

The reason for including both options is that docutils supports all of RST but is slow (probably too slow for public-facing Redmine install), while Pandoc is faster but only supports a subset of RST (eg, no support for RST tables). Redmine does formatting via a helper, so each request is dependent on the performance of the formatter.

As James noted, there is no native Ruby reStructuredText parser and I wouldn't hold my breath for one, but this plugin should be sufficient. Note that I disabled the toolbar, but feel free to fork this and put a working one back in.

#### #12 - 2010-03-02 11:31 - Paolo Freuli

Hello,

I am migrating from trac to redmine.

Migration worked fine except for RST, so I tried to install the RbST and redmine reStructuredText formatter plugin (following instructions found at github link).

After installing python, docutils, RbSt and reStructuredText formatter plugin,

redmine is not starting any more.

The following error is shown:

```
Loading development environment (Rails 2.3.5)
/opt/redmine-0.9.2-0/ruby/lib/ruby/site_ruby/1.8/rubygems/custom_require.rb:31:in `gem_original_require': no such file to load -- RbST
(MissingSourceFile)
from /opt/redmine-0.9.2-0/ruby/lib/ruby/site_ruby/1.8/rubygems/custom_require.rb:31:in `require'
from /opt/redmine-0.9.2-0/apps/redmine/vendor/rails/activerecord/lib/active_support/dependencies.rb:156:in `require'
from /opt/redmine-0.9.2-0/apps/redmine/vendor/rails/activerecord/lib/active_support/dependencies.rb:521:in `new_constants_in'
```

Any help is appreciated.

Thanks

#### #13 - 2010-03-02 13:50 - Paolo Freuli

Hello,  
I am migrating from trac to redmine.  
Migration worked fine except for RST, so I tried to install the RbST and redmine reStructuredText formatter plugin (following instructions found at github link).  
After installing python, docutils, RbSt and reStructuredText formatter plugin,  
and now the plugin shows up correctly in the Plugins section.  
I am now trying to figure out how to use it.  
More: is the plugin supposed to get invoked when migrating from a trac site with wiki pages using restructured text?  
Thanks

**#14 - 2010-03-12 09:18 - carlos lopez**

Hello,  
  
You must install rbst. **gem install RbST**  
  
If the problems persists (the same happens to me (I am using Debian)) the solution is weird.  
  
You need to edit the file `lib/redmine_restructuredtext_formatter/wiki_formatter.rb` and change the line `require 'RbST'` to `require 'rbst'` \*  
  
Paolo Freuli wrote:

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from /opt/redmine-0.9.2-0/apps/redmine/vendor/rails/activerecord/lib/active\_record/dependencies.rb:521:in `new\_constants\_in'  
  
Any help is appreciated.  
Thanks

**#15 - 2010-03-16 01:10 - William M.**

My bad. Yeah, the require didn't play well with case-sensitive file systems. It should be fixed in the github repo now.

**#16 - 2010-04-10 09:29 - William M.**

FWIW, my plugin has moved to [http://github.com/alphabetum/redmine\\_restructuredtext\\_formatter](http://github.com/alphabetum/redmine_restructuredtext_formatter)

**#17 - 2010-04-11 03:49 - James Turnbull**

William - any chance you could add support for macros and TOC etc?

**#18 - 2010-05-14 01:31 - Greg Thornton**

I created a similar plugin that should be a little more turnkey. It has a simple toolbar and help link like the Textile formatter and updates some styles for the fixed-length nature of reSt. If you have Pygments installed you can also use the sourcecode directive and get free pygmentized syntax highlighting. There is currently no RbST requirement in my version either, but that may change since the author recently pushed an update just for me. =)

Documentation is forthcoming, but from now on the master branch will remain stable.

[Red reSt - Redmine reStructuredText wiki formatter](#)

**#19 - 2011-04-30 07:38 - Ebrahim Mohammadi**

I added a toolbar to William's plugin: [http://github.com/ebrahim/redmine\\_restructuredtext\\_formatter](http://github.com/ebrahim/redmine_restructuredtext_formatter)

Note that my fork has some other changes as well.

**#20 - 2011-05-06 09:06 - Ebrahim Mohammadi**

"reStructuredText" is one word. Please fix the title.

**#21 - 2011-05-06 09:11 - James Turnbull**

Not sure it really matters but even if it did - I can't update the title.

**#22 - 2011-05-14 03:52 - Ebrahim Mohammadi**

I've replaced plain textarea of redmine\_restructuredtext\_formatter with CodeMirror 2 for syntax highlighted rich text editor for reStructuredText. Feel free to give it a try after checking out my [codemirror branch](#). Any kind of feedback is welcome.

**#23 - 2013-12-19 04:10 - Jon Wong**

Is this plugin fit for purpose? Should this issue be closed?

I'm considering JIRA vs Redmine based on this. I'll need the following from Redmine:

- **Markdown** for issues (reST is good to have here)
- **reST** for wiki (must have)

Consider that **Markdown** syntax is very similar to **reST**. They complement each other. We use **reST** for complex documents, and **Markdown** for quick notes.

Ah, I see this *Redmine* instance uses *Textile*. In *Markdown*, Asterisks mean **bold** in *Textile*.

Nested lists in *Textile* is a deal-breaker for me. General human-readability is better with *reST*.

Nothing compares to *Redmine*. We hope to use *Redmine* if at all possible.