What is a Wiki?

Different people have different ideas about what a wiki really is, but whatever angle you look at it, a **Wiki is a piece of server software that allows users to collaborate in forming the content of a Web site.** With a Wiki, any user can edit the site content including other users' contributions using a regular Web browser. Basically, a Wiki web site operates on a principle of collaborative trust.

A Wiki allows visitors the opportunity to edit the content of the site from their own computers. Visitors can also create new content and change the organization of existing content.

Wikis can be used for a large variety of tasks, from personal note-taking to collaborating online, creating an internal knowledge base, assembling an online community, and managing a traditional website. An example is the collaborative encyclopedia [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org).

[Watch “Wiki in plain English”.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...) (YouTube video)


Next week: Wikis and Blackboard