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Headlines Plugin

Show headline news in TWiki pages based on RSS and ATOM news feeds from external sites

Description

This plugin displays RSS and ATOM feeds from news sites. Use it to build news portals that show headline news.

Notes:

- [RSS](#) (Rich Site Summary) is an XML standard used to publish frequently updated works such as blog entries, news headlines and audio.
- [Atom](#) is an XML syndication format used for web feeds.
- [Syndic8.com](http://www.syndic8.com/) at <http://www.syndic8.com/> lists many RSS and ATOM feeds.

Syntax Rules

`%HEADLINES{"..."}%`

Parameter	Explanation	Default
"..."	Source of RSS or ATOM feed; this can be an url (starting with http) or a web.topic location for internal feeds	None; is required
href="..."	(Alternative to above)	N/A
refresh="60"	Refresh rate in minutes for caching feed; "0" for no caching	Global REFRESH setting
limit="12"	Maximum number of items shown	Global LIMIT setting
header="..."	Header. May include these variables: - \$channeltitle, \$title: title of channel (channel.title) - \$channellink, \$link: link of channel (channel.link) - \$channeldescription, \$description: description (channel.description) - \$channeldate, \$date: publication date of the channel (channel.pubDate) - \$rights: copyrights of the channel (channel.copyright) - \$imagetitle: title text for site (image.title) - \$imagelink: link for site (image.link) - \$imageurl: URL of image (image.url) - \$imagedescription: description of image (image.description)	Global HEADER setting
format="..."	Format of one item. May include these variables: - \$title: news item title (item.title) - \$link: news item link (item.link) - \$description: news item description (item.description) - \$date: the publication date (item.pubDate, item.date) - \$category: the article category (item.category)	Global FORMAT setting
newline="\$br"	Convert newlines in feed; "\$br" becomes <code>
</code> tag	"\$n" (newline)
filter="..."	Filter out content from feed; for example to delete an encoded break tag specify <code>"&lt;br&gt;"</code>	" "
touch="..."		N/A

Touch (edit/save) topics if the feed has updates. Specify a comma-space delimited list of TopicNames or Web.TopicNames, such as "%TOPIC%, Newsletter". Useful to send out newsletter using MailerContrib, showing new feeds since last newsletter. To update feeds, visit topics with feeds in regular intervals (using cron with wget or the like).
--

The `header` and `format` parameters might also use variables rendering the `dc`, `image` and `content` namespace information. Note, that only bits of interest have been implemented so far and those namespaces might not be implemented fully yet.

Rendering the `dc` namespace

The following variables are extracting the `dc` namespace info, that could be used in `header` and `format`. Note that some of the variables are already used above. This is done by purpose to use different feeds with the same formatting parameters. If there's a conflict the non-`dc` tags have higher precedence, i.e. a `<title> content </title>` is preferred over `<dc:title> content </dc:title>`.

- `$title`: channel/article title (`dc:title`)
- `$creator`: channel creator (`dc:creator`)
- `$subject`: subject text; this will also add an image according to the subject hash list, see above (`dc:subject`)
- `$description`: ... (`dc:description`)
- `$publisher`: the channel/article publisher (`dc:publisher`)
- `$contributor`: ... (`dc:contributor`)
- `$date`: ... (`dc:date`)
- `$type`: ... (`dc:type`)
- `$format`: ... (`dc:format`)
- `$identifier`: ... (`dc:identifier`)
- `$source`: ... (`dc:source`)
- `$language`: ... (`dc:language`)
- `$relation`: ... (`dc:relation`)
- `$coverage`: ... (`dc: coverage`)
- `$rights`: ... (`dc: rights`)

Rendering the `image` namespace

An `image:item` is converted into an `` tag using the following mappings:

- `src`: image url (`rdf:about` attribute of the `image.item` tag)
- `alt`: image title (`title`)
- `width`: image width (`image:width`)
- `height`: image height (`image:height`)

Rendering the `content` namespace

The variable `$content` is referring to the `<content:encoding> content </content:encoding>`.

Examples

Slashdot News

Write

```
%HEADLINES{ "http://slashdot.org/slashdot.rdf"
```

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```
header="*[[${link}][${title}]]:* $description"  
format="$t* [[${link}][${title}]]"  
limit="4"  
}%
```

to get the latest Slashdot news as a bullet list format:

Slashdot

News for nerds, stuff that matters

- [US Mulls Cutting Huawei Off From Global Chip Suppliers](#)
- [World's First Opioid Vending Machine Opens In Vancouver](#)
- [Pier 1 Files For Bankruptcy, Warns of Dangers In Handful of Online Vendors Dominating Retail Sales](#)
- [New Email-Based Extortion Scheme Targets Website Owners Serving Ads Via Google AdSense](#)

Plugin Settings

Plugin settings are stored as preferences settings. Do *not* change the settings here, they are here only for illustration purposes showing the default values. Define the settings in `Main.TWikiPreferences`. For example, to customize the `HEADLINESPLUGIN_USERAGENTNAME` setting, add a `* Set HEADLINESPLUGIN_USERAGENTNAME = ...` bullet in `Main.TWikiPreferences`.

- Refresh rate in minutes for cached feeds. Set to 0 to disable caching:
 - ◆ Set `HEADLINESPLUGIN_REFRESH = 60`
- Maximum number of items shown:
 - ◆ Set `HEADLINESPLUGIN_LIMIT = 100`
- Use `LWP::UserAgent` if set to 1, or fallback to TWiki's internal `getUrl()` method if set to 0:
 - ◆ Set `HEADLINESPLUGIN_USELWPUSERAGENT = 1`
- Timeout fetching a feed using the `LWP::UserAgent`:
 - ◆ Set `HEADLINESPLUGIN_USERAGENTTIMEOUT = 20`
- Name of user agent:
 - ◆ Set `HEADLINESPLUGIN_USERAGENTNAME = TWikiHeadlinesPlugin/2011-07-08`
- Default header: (variables are explained in the syntax rules)
 - * Set `HEADLINESPLUGIN_HEADER = <div class="headlinesChannel"><div class="headlinesLogo"><im`
- Default format of one item: (variables are explained in the syntax rules)
 - * Set `HEADLINESPLUGIN_FORMAT = <div class="headlinesArticle"><div class="headlinesTitle"><a`
- Allow HTML in header and format parameters of the `HEADLINES` variable. If set to 0, HTML is **not** allowed those in parameters. This is to guard against Cross-Site Scripting (XSS) attacks. The `HEADLINESPLUGIN_HEADER` and `HEADLINESPLUGIN_FORMAT` plugin settings allow HTML regardless of this setting.
 - ◆ Set `HEADLINESPLUGIN_ALLOWHTML = 0`
- Values taken from `configure`: (only supported if `CPAN:LWP` is installed)
 - ◆ `$TWiki::cfg{PROXY}{HOST}` - proxy host, such as `"proxy.example.com"`;
 - ◆ `$TWiki::cfg{PROXY}{PORT}` - proxy port, such as `"8080"`;
 - ◆ `$TWiki::cfg{PROXY}{SkipProxyForDomains}` - domains excluded from proxy, such as `"intra.example.com, bugs.example.com"`;

Style Sheets

The default HEADER and FORMAT settings use the following styles. See the style.css file defining the default CSS properties (indentation illustrates enclosure).

- headlinesRss: output of the HeadlinesPlugin (div)
 - ◆ headlinesChannel: channel header (div)
 - ◇ headlinesLogo: channel logo (div)
 - ◇ headlinesTitle: channel title (div)
 - ◇ headlinesDate: channel date (div)
 - ◇ headlinesDescription: channel description (div)
 - ◇ headlinesRight: channel copyright (div)
 - ◆ headlinesArticle: one news item (div)
 - ◇ headlinesTitle: article title (div)
 - ◇ headlinesDate: article date (span)
 - ◇ headlinesCreator: author of article (span)
 - ◇ headlinesSubject: subect category of the article (span)
 - ◇ headlinesText: article text (div)

Plugin Installation Instructions

This is a pre-installed plugin. TWiki administrators can upgrade the plugin as needed on the TWiki server.

Show details Hide details

Note: You do not need to install anything on the browser to use this plugin. The following instructions are for the administrator who installs the plugin on the TWiki server.

- For an *automated installation*, run the configure script and follow "Find More Extensions" in the in the *Extensions* section.
- Or, follow these *manual installation* steps:
 - ◆ Download the ZIP file from the Plugins home (see below).
 - ◆ Unzip `HeadlinesPlugin.zip` in your twiki installation directory. Content:

File:	Description:
<code>data/TWiki/HeadlinesPlugin.txt</code>	Plugin topic
<code>pub/TWiki/HeadlinesPlugin/style.css</code>	Default CSS
<code>lib/TWiki/Plugins/HeadlinesPlugin.pm</code>	Plugin Perl module
<code>lib/TWiki/HeadlinesPlugin/Core.pm</code>	Plugin core

- ◆ Set the ownership of the extracted directories and files to the webserver user.
- ◆ Make sure the dependencies listed in the table below are resolved.

Name	Version	Description
Digest::MD5	>=2.33	Required. Download from CPAN:Digest::MD5
LWP::UserAgent	>=5.803	Optional. Download from CPAN:LWP::UserAgent

- Plugin *configuration and testing*:
 - ◆ Run the configure script, enable the plugin in the *Plugins* section
 - ◆ Configure the plugin: See plugin settings above.
 - ◆ Test if the installation was successful: See example above.

Plugin Info

- One line description, shown in the TextFormattingRules topic:
 - ◆ Set SHORTDESCRIPTION = Show headline news in TWiki pages based on RSS and ATOM news feeds from external sites

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Copyright:	© 2002-2018 Peter Thoeny, TWiki.org ; © 2002-2018 TWiki:TWiki.TWikiContributor ; © 2005-2007 Michael Daum wikiring.de
License:	GPL (GNU General Public License)
Plugin Version:	2018-07-13

Show Change History Hide Change History

2018-07-13:	TWikibug:Item7846 : Sanitize parameters; add HEADLINESPLUGIN_ALLOWHTML setting; sanitize malicious scripts in feed; remove non-functional Wired feed example
2018-07-05:	TWikibug:Item7841 : Copyright update to 2018
2016-01-08:	TWikibug:Item7708 : Copyright update to 2016
2015-11-06:	TWikibug:Item7697 : New filter and newline parameters; fix Atom feed parser to support Google Alerts
2015-07-28:	TWikibug:Item7678 : HeadlinesPlugin not working well on Fast CGI and mod_perl
2015-01-10:	TWikibug:Item7604 : Switch from GPL v2 to v3
2013-11-18:	TWikibug:Item7385 : Encode "[" and "]" to avoid problems with TWiki [...] [...] links; code-refactor to use registerTagHandler and OO style.
2013-02-16:	TWikibug:Item7091 : Use TWISTY in installation instructions section and change history
2013-01-29:	TWikibug:Item7131 : HeadlinesPlugin doesn't match pattern in multiple lines.
2012-12-10:	TWikibug:Item7070 : HeadlinesPlugin doesn't support multiple disks.
2012-11-13:	TWikibug:Item7016 : Restore changes for earlier versions with LWP
2012-11-13:	TWikibug:Item7020 : Categorize TWiki Variable
2012-10-31:	TWikibug:Item7016 : Utilize <guid> value when it is available
2012-09-05:	TWikibug:Item6837 : Doc fixes
2011-07-17:	TWikibug:Item6764 : Add VarHEADLINES variable documentation; doc improvements; setting NO_PREFS_IN_TOPIC
2011-07-08:	TWikibug:Item6725 : Change global package variables from "use vars" to "our"
2010-05-16:	TWikibug:Item6433 : More doc improvements
2010-04-25:	TWikibug:Item6433 : Doc fix: Changing TWIKIWEB to SYSTEMWEB
2010-02-27:	TWikibug:Item6313 : Fixed bug in ATOM feed with <link ...></link> instead of <link ... /> -- Peter Thoeny
2009-09-30:	fixed bug in lastBuildDate of feeds affecting touch parameter functionality -- Peter Thoeny
2009-08-29:	added touch parameter -- Peter Thoeny
12 Feb 2009:	{PROXY}{HOST} supports domain with and without protocol -- Peter Thoeny
06 Feb 2009:	added {PROXY}{SkipProxyForDomains} configure setting, added USERAGENTNAME plugin setting -- Peter Thoeny
11 Dec 2008:	added {PROXY}{HOST} and {PROXY}{PORT} configure settings -- Peter Thoeny
13 Sep 2007:	fixed parsing of content:encoded
23 Jul 2006:	improved atom parser; if a posting has no title default to 'Untitled'
26 Apr 2006:	added lazy compilation
10 Feb 2006:	packaged using the TWiki:Plugins/BuildContrib ; minor fixes
03 Feb 2006:	

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	off-by-one: limit="n" returned n+1 articles; make FORMAT and HEADER format strings more robust
23 Jan 2006:	released v2.00
05 Dec 2005:	internal feed urls must be absolute
02 Dec 2005:	added web.topic shorthand for internal feeds
29 Nov 2005:	fixed CDATA handling
21 Nov 2005:	added ATOM support; extended RSS support; added dublin core support; added content support; optionally using LWP to fetch feeds to follow redirections; corrected CPAN dependencies ; recoding special chars from html integer to entity encoding to increase browser compatibility; added css support; use <code>getWorkArea()</code> if available
11 May 2005:	TWiki:Main.WillNorris: added DevelopBranch compatability
31 Oct 2004:	Fixed taint issue by TWiki:Main.AdrianWeiler; small performance improvement
29 Oct 2004:	Fixed issue of external caching if mod_perl or SpeedyCGI is used
02 Aug 2002:	Implemented caching of feeds, thanks to TWiki:Main/RobDuarte
11 Jun 2002:	Initial version (V1.000)
Perl Version:	5.8
Plugin Benchmark:	GoodStyle 100%, FormattedSearch 99.5%, HeadlinesPlugin 94%
Plugin Home:	http://TWiki.org/cgi-bin/view/Plugins/HeadlinesPlugin
Feedback:	http://TWiki.org/cgi-bin/view/Plugins/HeadlinesPluginDev
Appraisal:	http://TWiki.org/cgi-bin/view/Plugins/HeadlinesPluginAppraisal

Related Topics: [VarHEADLINES](#), [TWikiPlugins](#), [AdminDocumentationCategory](#), [TWikiPreferences](#)

This topic: [TWiki > HeadlinesPlugin](#)

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Note: Please contribute updates to this topic on TWiki.org at [TWiki:TWiki.HeadlinesPlugin](#)