

There are some repeatedly created, but unwanted page titles, and some commonly spammed wiki pages (external links or just nonsense text messages) on MediaWiki.org.

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Spam Protection for specific titles

If you are repeatedly receiving spam on a page that doesn't otherwise exist there are three ways of blocking the page from being edited once you have deleted it.

Additional suggestion for visitors: Watch *W/w/index.php*, *Talk:Main Page/* and other such pages on your own wikis and add any URLs added by spammers to your spam blacklist.

Method 1: Protecting a nonexistent page (preferred)

Foresight Wiki offers native protection of nonexistent pages now, and this is applied in the same manner as ordinary protection (of existing pages).

See also Special:Protectedtitles.

Method 2: Dummy page

This is the easiest method for older MediaWiki installations (before MediaWiki 1.12):

Create a template called `{{Unwantedpage}}` or so, and place it in the problem pages. By having some content on the pages you are able to protect them from editing, which may be more user-friendly than method 3, particularly if the pages may conceivably hold content in the future.

Method 3: Cascading protection

If you are using a version of MediaWiki with cascading protection enabled (since MediaWiki 1.10), then another method is to create a central page to administer the protection, and within that page transclude each problem page using code like this:

```
* {{nameofpage}}
```

Enabling cascading protection for the central page will then protect all transcluded pages as well, even if they don't exist, so it saves you polluting your wiki with a lot of dummy pages that you don't need.

This is the method we have used here on MediaWiki.org in 2007.

Note

As for all cases of cascading protection, be careful with it. Delete the unwanted page before you add it to the central page where cascading protection is enabled. Otherwise, especially if there are other templates placed on an unwanted page, and if you have thus protected other pages by accident, it might take some time to manually revert that protection.