FOSDEM23 Collab Dev Room Tiki Session Slides

The Relentless March of Markdown

Introduction

By Jonny Bradley at FOSDEM 2023



Front end developer with Tiki Wiki CMS Groupware

My Personal History with Text Markup Syntaxes

In the olden days...

- BBcode
- MediaWiki
- Tiki Wiki
- Textile
- Probably others... and then
- Markdown (should i explain what Markdown is?)

Who can remember all these syntaxes?

Imagine if there was only one?

• There can be only one...



Previous Moves Towards Standardisation

• Wiki Creole

Creole is a common wiki markup language to be used across different wikis

- Tiki Wiki (got as far as the wish list)
- XWiki (experimental)
- o TiddlyWiki (no relation)
- o DokuWiki
- MoinMoin
- and various others
- PHP PEAR Text Wiki classes

Transforms Wiki and BBCode markup into XHTML, LaTeX or plain text markup

- o Text Wiki BBCode
- o Text Wiki Cowiki
- o Text Wiki Creole
- o Text Wiki Doku
- Text Wiki Mediawiki
- $\circ \ Text_Wiki_Tiki$

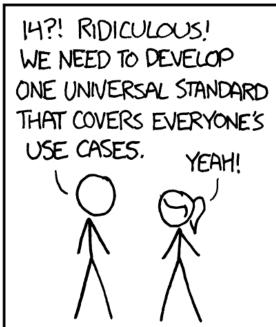
Used in the MediaWiki-Importer

We Have To Include This Right?

• The obligatory XKCD cartoon

HOW STANDARDS PROLIFERATE: (SEE: A/C CHARGERS, CHARACTER ENCODINGS, INSTANT MESSAGING, ETC.)

SITUATION: THERE ARE 14 COMPETING STANDARDS.





Thanks to xkcd https://xkcd.com/927/

Then when no one was looking...

Here comes Markdown!



A Brief History of Markdown

- 2004 Created by John Gruber and Aaron Swartz
- Divergence and duplication
- 2012/2014 CommonMark by Jeff Atwood, John MacFarlane and others
 - (Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International)
- 2020 GitHub Flavored Markdown

Widespread adoption

- Including:
 - o GitLab
 - Stack Overflow
 - o Reddit
 - Matrix
 - Nextcloud
 - \circ Discord
 - o Bugzilla
 - o and even Microsoft Teams , WhatsApp and Facebook!

Markdown in Tiki

- Markdown arrived in Tiki 25.0
- Markdown should become the default markup in Tiki 26 (maybe 27)
- Tiki wiki syntax should become legacy and read only in Tiki 27 (or maybe 28)
- We use Tiki Flavored Markdown Of course we have a *flavour* because...

- o CommonMark is deliberately simple for instance, no way of centring text
- Tiki uses "wiki plugins" to extend functionality e.g. {CENTER()}Some centred text{CENTER}
- WYSIWYG
 - Tiki has previously used CKEditor customised to use Tiki wiki markup
 - We adopted Toast UI Editor for Markdown WYSIWYG



https://ui.toast.com/tui-editor

Some Links

- More info here https://doc.tiki.org/Tiki-Flavored-Markdown
- Other new features in Tiki 25 here https://doc.tiki.org/tiki25
- Demo https://demo.tiki.org/25x/
- https://tiki.org/TikiFestFosdem2023

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- Marc Laporte of EvoluData and Victor Emanouilov (marc or victor at tiki dot org)
- Moba Group
- And a mysterious third anonymous benefactor
- by jonny@tiki.org



Addendum

There were persistent calls for more pictures of cats, specifically Mr Wilson

https://mrwilson.cat/blogpost2-More-human-witchcraft