

Introduction to Mediawiki API

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Application Programming Interface (API)

Set of routine definitions, protocols, and tools for building software and applications

Used to get data from another application

Used to build an application around another one.

Underlying implementation and only exposing objects or actions

Credits of Mediawiki API

API developers:

- Yuri Astrakhan (creator, lead developer Sep 2006–Sep 2007)
- Roan Kattouw (lead developer Sep 2007–2009)
- Victor Vasiliev
- Bryan Tong Minh
- Sam Reed
- Brad Jorsch (lead developer 2013–present)

Please send your comments, suggestions and questions to
mediawiki-api@lists.wikimedia.org

Media Wiki API

Mediawiki - PHP, Mariadb

Output Response - json, xml, serialized PHP

Request - api.php

Yourwikiurl(any mediawikipowered website)/api.php

REST full Web API.

REST - representational state transfer -

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Representational_state_transfer

REST

representational state transfer

GET - List the URIs and perhaps other details of the collection's members.
(READ)

PUT - Replace the entire collection with another collection. (WRITE)

POST - Create a new entry in the collection. Return new URI (WRITE)

DELETE - Delete the entire collection. (WRITE)

How To access Mediawiki API

Api.php is the way to access a Mediawiki API

Eg: <https://en.wikipedia.org/w/api.php?action=query&titles=Main%20Page&prop=revisions&rvprop=content&format=json>

Endpoint - <https://en.wikipedia.org/w/api.php>

Details : https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/API:Main_page

Tutorial : <https://www.mediawiki.org/wiki/API:Tutorial>

Roan Kattouw's 2012 workshop on the MediaWiki web API

Information available through API

All Public Info in the wiki website.

Userpages, Categories, History, Metadata, Links, Images, Talks, Special Pages, Sandboxes etc..

Different Versions of API

API get updated with Mediawiki Versions

Confirm correct api version before building a call

No Large changes on API

API SandBox

Lets go for some Experiments

URL:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:ApiSandbox>

Demonstrate A Query

/w/api.php?action=query&format=json&prop=images&list=&titles=Chandigarh&imlimit=10

Edit with API

Generate API Token

Use Token to Edit something in Wiki

Bot Permission needed.

Play with Variables

`/w/api.php?action=query&format=json&prop=coordinates&list=&titles=Chandigarh`

`/w/api.php?action=query&format=json&prop=categories&list=&titles=Chandigarh`

`/w/api.php?action=query&format=json&prop=langlinks&list=&titles=Chandigarh`

Magic recipes

`prop=info` for basic page info

`prop=revisions` for page history

`prop=revisions&rvprop=content` for page wikitext

`action=parse` for page HTML

Info of a Page

Action query

Prop Info

Inprop URL

/w/api.php?action=query&format=json&prop=info&titles=Chandigarh&inprop=url

Revisions

Action query

Prop revision

Rvprop - id, timestamp, user, comment

`/w/api.php?action=query&format=json&prop=revisions&titles=Chandigarh&rvprop=ids%7Ctimestamp%7Cflags%7Ccomment%7Cuser&rvlimit=10`

Get Content

Action=query

prop=revisions

rvprop=content

Get the content in all revisions

Get HTML of a Page

Action=parse

`/w/api.php?action=parse&format=json&page=Chandigarh`

`/w/api.php?action=parse&format=json&page=Chandigarh&prop=text`

`/w/api.php?action=query&format=json&prop=extracts&titles=Chandigarh`

Sections

Section 0 is Introduction (content before contents)

`/w/api.php?action=parse&format=json&page=Chandigarh&prop=sections`

`/w/api.php?action=parse&format=json&page=Chandigarh&prop=text§ion=1`

Playing With JQuery

Create a sample application with jQuery

Play with API

Display the Output in HTML

Wikilite

Resources

Autogenerated documentation: [api.php](#)

Documentation on mediawiki.org: [API:Main page](#)

The API Sandbox -- example [w:en:Special:ApiSandbox](#)

[mail:mediawiki-api](#) -- [mediawiki-api@lists.wikimedia.org](#)

[mediawiki-api-announce@lists.wikimedia.org](#) -

[#mediawikiconnect](#) IRC channel

[Google Stackoverflow](#)

Thanks

