



Users do read manuals!

KDE Doc and wikis revealed

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Outline



- 1 Introduction
- 2 GUI Help Elements
- 3 User Manuals
- 4 Wikis
- 5 Conclusion

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Help! I need somebody...



Keywords

- Question <-> Answer
- Discovery
- Information
- Answers should be easy to find
- Part of the user experience

Where?

- GUI help, doc, wikis, forum, mailing lists, IRC,...

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Tooltips

- Mouse over a graphical element
- "Balloon"
- Short, precise
- Focus on the graphical element

Get new themes from the Internet

What's This?

- Shift + F1 or ? in top Window buttons
- More precise explanation about the graphical element
- Will indicate how to use the element
- Should answer the question: "What do I do with this?"

You need to be connected to the Internet to use this action. A dialog will display a list of themes from the <http://www.kde.org> website. Clicking the Install button associated with a theme will install this theme locally.

Contribute

With Qt Designer

- Easy to add tooltips and "What's This?" in .ui files
- Fill the toolTip and whatsThis fields for the widget
- Post patches on reviewboard

In code

- Directly in code: QToolTip and QWhatsThis classes
- QWidget::setToolTip() and QWidget::setWhatsThis()
- Post patches on reviewboard

=> Tip: you can simply send simple text to the doc team

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DocBook, fear not!



- User Manuals are written in docbook
- In English US
- DocBook = subset of SGML < XML
- Transformed to HTML by a script
- Displayed in KHelpCenter
- Screenshots are added

DocBook

```
<para>
You can then easily change the language by going in the
<guimenu>Language</guimenu> and choose the new language.
</para>
```

```
<listitem>
<para>
  By pressing <keycombo>&Alt;<keycap>F2</keycap></keycombo>. This will bring up
  the &krunner; dialog. Type <command>systemsettings</command>, and press &Enter;.
</para>
</listitem>
```

Examples of Docbook marking

KHelpCenter

Click on the language name you want to install and then on the **Install** button. If the language is successfully installed, a green tick is displayed in front of the language name and the **Install** turns to **Uninstall**. The data is immediately installed and available in KHangMan. You click on the **Close** button to close the Get New Words dialog (if you want another data file, you can repeat these steps).

You can then easily change the language by going in the **Language** and choose the new language.

Please note that you can now type the special characters in a language by displaying the **Special Characters** toolbar. This toolbar holds buttons with an icon of each special character per language like é in French for example. Clicking on such a button will write the corresponding letter in the input line and you validate your choice with **Enter**. You can of

Writing DocBook



Use an editor with syntax highlighting
The file is named "index.docbook"
Template in kdelibs/kdocbook
Start first with rough marking like `<para>`
Improve your text once you have a plan

Contribute

- You can contribute texts only
- Must know the application quite well
- Any small improvement helps!
- Send contributions to the kde-doc-english mailing list

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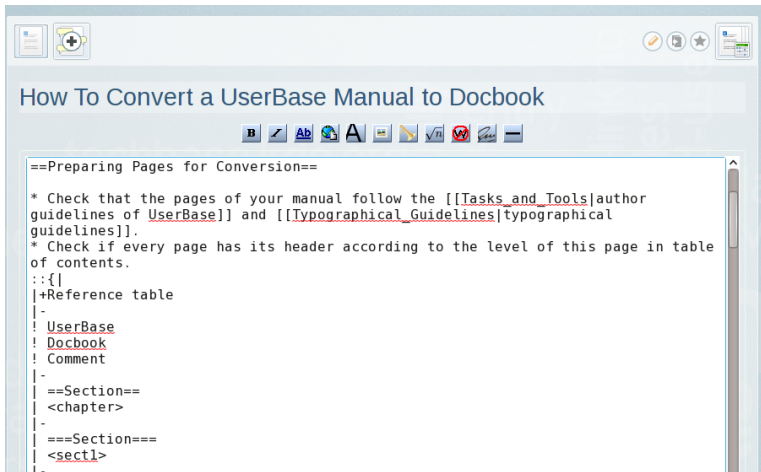
You have the power



Wiki:

- Collaboration
- Tool = only a web browser + internet
- Log In (Open ID)
- Edit the page
- Make your contribution
- That's all folks!

Editing the Userbase Wiki



How To Convert a UserBase Manual to Docbook

B **Ab** **A**

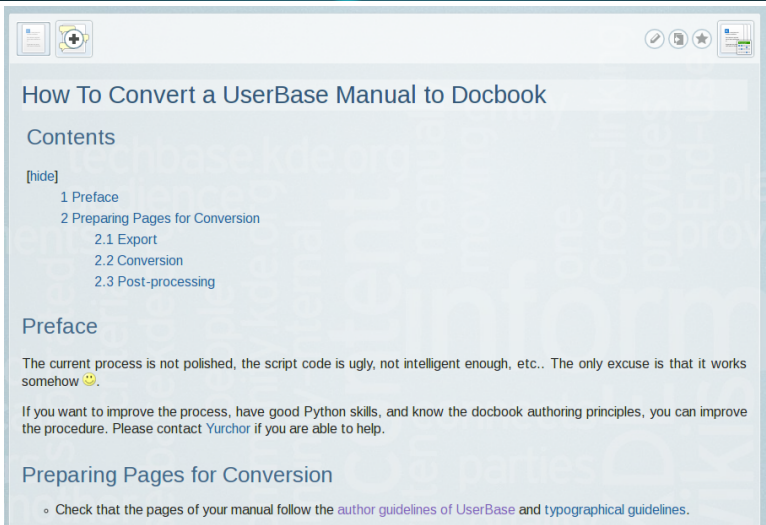
```

==Preparing Pages for Conversion==

* Check that the pages of your manual follow the [[Tasks_and_Tools|author
guidelines of UserBase]] and [[Typographical_Guidelines|typographical
guidelines]].
* Check if every page has its header according to the level of this page in table
of contents.
::{|
|+Reference table
|-
| UserBase
| Docbook
| Comment
|-
| ==Section==
| <chapter>
|-
| ===Section===
| <sect1>
|-

```

The Userbase Wiki



How To Convert a UserBase Manual to Docbook

Contents

[hide]

- 1 Preface
- 2 Preparing Pages for Conversion
 - 2.1 Export
 - 2.2 Conversion
 - 2.3 Post-processing

Preface

The current process is not polished, the script code is ugly, not intelligent enough, etc.. The only excuse is that it works somehow 😊.

If you want to improve the process, have good Python skills, and know the docbook authoring principles, you can improve the procedure. Please contact [Yurchor](#) if you are able to help.

Preparing Pages for Conversion

- Check that the pages of your manual follow the [author guidelines of UserBase](#) and [typographical guidelines](#).

UserBase

Content

- All information users (new, regular, advanced) need about KDE
- KDE in general, Plasma, Live CDs: getting started
- Every KDE application has a page (replaces static websites)
- HowTos and tutorials: task oriented
- Aim: create the best content to answer all users questions

Made by Users for Users!

TechBase + Community

<http://techbase.kde.org>

- For KDE developers
- The old developer.kde.org website was moved there
- Setting up a development environment
- Programming tutorials, release schedules

<http://community.kde.org>

- For KDE contributors
- Organising the community life
- Meetings preparations and logs
- Junior tasks for new contributors

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Conclusion

- Doc or wiki = the smallest contribution
- Make a difference
- Read the technical report associated with this presentation
- I am at your disposal today and tomorrow!

Contribution means

- We are KDE!

Resources

If you want to learn more about documentation



KDE Doc website

<http://l10n.kde.org/docs/>



Doc Mailing List

<https://mail.kde.org/mailman/listinfo/kde-doc-english>



KDE Docs Status

[http://techbase.kde.org/Projects/Documentation/KDE4_\(health_table\)](http://techbase.kde.org/Projects/Documentation/KDE4_(health_table))



IRC channel on Freenode

#kde-docs



Contributing to KDE UserBase

http://userbase.kde.org/Tasks_and_Tools



Questions?

Thank you!

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