

PmWiki uses [WikiStyles](#) for styling text with color and other attributes. PmWiki 2.0 introduced the ability to control the styling further and to even place styles on blocks.

A style is specified within a pair of %-signs and styles the text that follows, as in:

```
This text is %color=red% red, %color=blue% blue, %% and normal (black).  
This text is red, blue, and normal (black).
```

There are a wide number of available style properties, borrowed primarily from HTML and CSS. In addition, an author can define a style "shortcut" by using the `define=` property. For example, to define a style of `%red%`, one can use:

```
%color=red define=mystyle% Here is some %mystyle% red text created using a  
style shortcut.  
Here is some red text created using a style shortcut.
```

Shortcuts can be combined with other styles, including other shortcuts:

```
%color=red define=lovelyred% %bgcolor=yellow define=likegrapefruit% %red% This  
text is red, %red bgcolor=#ccc% red on a grey background, and %lovelyred  
likegrapefruit% red on a yellow background.  
This text is red, red on a grey background, and red on a yellow background.
```

So far, this is all basically the same as what was available in PmWiki 1.0. PmWiki 2.0 includes the capability to style blocks, by using the `apply=` style property. Specifying `apply=block` in a WikiStyle will cause that style to be applied to the entire block, instead of just the text that follows:

```
This entire block %apply=block bgcolor=yellow% has a yellow background, even  
though the `WikiStyle appears in the middle of the line. %bgcolor=pink% Other  
inline (non-block) WikiStyles can appear in the middle of the line,%% as before.  
This entire block has a yellow background, even though the WikiStyle appears in the middle of the line.  
Other inline (non-block) WikiStyles can appear in the middle of the line, as before.
```

This means it's now possible to do right-aligned and centered text:

```
%block text-align=right% The text of this paragraph is right-aligned. %block  
text-align=center% The text of this paragraph is centered.  
The text of this paragraph is right-aligned. The text of this paragraph is centered.
```

In fact, PmWiki predefines `%right%` and `%center%` style shortcuts so that you can do this more simply:

```
%right% This is right-aligned. %center% This is centered.  
This is right-aligned. This is centered.
```

Authors can define their own custom styles:

```
%block bgcolor=#fdf define=Pm% %center bgcolor=#dfd border='3px dotted green'
define=goofy% %right bgcolor=#ffffcc border='1px dotted red' padding=5px
define=rediguana% %define=strike text-decoration=line-through% %Pm% Any text
that is on a light purple background is a comment from "Pm". %goofy% Here's some
text from Goofy. %rediguana% bla bla by rediguana! %goofy%Hello, I am
%strike%upset%% %strike%disheartened%% happy to meet you.
```

Any text that is on a light purple background is a comment from "Pm". Here's some text from Goofy. bla bla by rediguana! Hello, I am upset disheartened happy to meet you.

Styles can be applied to almost any kind of block:

```
* %block bgcolor=yellow% Here is a list item * Here's another list item *
Here's more of a list # A new list
Here is a list item Here's another list item Here's more of a list A new list
```

In particular, this means that outlines are now possible using the predefined %ROMAN%, %roman%, %ALPHA%, and %alpha% list-block styles. The style has to be specified on the first item in the list (and we may develop an alternate syntax for this sort of ordered list):

```
# %ROMAN% Top level ## %ALPHA% second-level ## second-level ## second-level ###
third-level ### third-level ## second-level ### third-level ##### %alpha%
fourth-level ##### %roman% fifth-level ##### fifth-level ##### fourth-level #
top-level # top-level
Top level second-level second-level second-level third-level third-level second-level third-level fourth-level
fifth-level fifth-level fourth-level top-level top-level
```

[WikiStyles](#) can be combined with CSS stylesheets to do this automatically -- see [Cookbook:OutlineLists](#).

## Q & A

### How do I get a block of preformatted text?

Use something similar to this (assuming you want markup within the block to be interpreted as wiki markup and URIs to be recognized).

>>white-space=pre<< This block of text is 'preformatted', see all the white-space and linebreaks are preserved. Links such as [\[\[wiki styles\]\]](#) etc still work. >><<

This block of text is *preformatted*, see all the white-space and linebreaks are preserved. Links such as [wiki styles](#) etc still work.

## How do I get a block of preformatted text with a colored background and a border?

Use something similar to this (note that wiki markup etc is not recognized within the block):

```
%block bgcolor=#f0f9ff border='1px solid gray' padding=5px%[@ ip access-list
extended example-acl remark ** This is an example acl ** deny ip any host
10.0.0.1 permit ip any any @]
 ip access-list extended example-acl remark ** This is an example acl ** deny ip
any host 10.0.0.1 permit ip any any
```

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