

Text

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An article longer than one or two pages when printed should be divided into sections to ease navigation (see Wikipedia manual of style and Wikipedia layout guidance). For most long articles, division into sections is natural anyway. Readers of the mobile version of Wikipedia can be helped by ensuring that sections are not so long or so numerous as to impede navigation



A page of about 30 kB to 50 kB of readable prose, which roughly corresponds to 4,000 to 10,000 words, takes between 30 and 40 minutes to read at average speed which is right on the limit of the average concentration span of 40 to 50 minutes. At 50 kB and above

it may be beneficial to move some sections to other articles and replace them with summaries per Wikipedia summary style. A rule of thumb below. Comprehension of standard texts at average reading speed is around 65%.



Articles that cover particularly technical subjects should, in general, be shorter than articles on less technical subjects. While expert readers of such articles may accept complexity and length provided the article is well written, the general reader requires clarity and conciseness. There are times when a long or very long article is unavoidable, though its complexity should be minimized.

Readability is a key criterion.

"Readable prose" is the main body of the text, excluding material such as reference also", "external bibliography, and images, Wikilinks and and formatting

Lists, tables,



footnotes and sections ("see links", etc.), diagrams tables and lists, external URLs, and mark-up.

and other

material that is already in summary form may not be appropriate for reducing or summarizing further by the summery style method. If there is no "natural" way to split or reduce a long list or table, it may



be best to leave it intact, and a decision made to either keep it embedded in the main article or split it off into a stand-alone page. Regardless, a list or table should be kept as short as is feasible for its purpose and scope. Too much statistical data is against policy

The following script is helpful

for estimating readable prose size:

Total article size should be kept reasonably low, because many users edit from low-speed connections including dial-up connections, smart phones and low-end broadband connections.

The text on a 32kB page takes about five seconds to load for editing on a dial-up connection, with accompanying images taking additional time, so pages significantly larger than this are difficult for older browsers to display. Articles of about 200kB (~30 pages) are not uncommon for topics that require depth and detail, but it's typical that articles of such size get split into two or more sub-articles

Mobile browsers can be a problem because these devices frequently have little memory and a slow CPU; long pages can take too much time to process, if they can be fully loaded at all. When using slow connections, e.g., a desktop computer with an analog modem dial-up

or the wireless connection of some mobile devices, long articles can take too much time to load. For notes on unrelated problems that

**Special event on Christmas Eve 2pm to 5pm
at the Village Hall. Please bring sandwiches
and cakes. Tea and Coffee will be provided.**



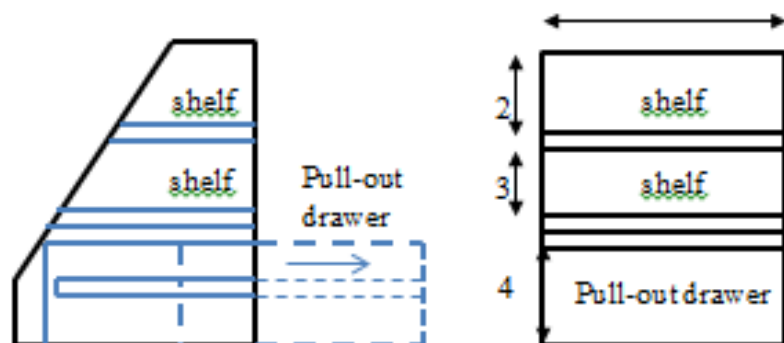
various web browsers have with Media Wiki sites, and for a list of alternative browsers you can download.

The maximum limit for Wikipedia is set by the Media Wiki software 2048 kilobytes

Very large articles should be split into logically separate articles. Long stand-alone articles are split into subsequent pages

alphabetically, numerically, or subtopically. For non-main-space articles, consider splitting and transcluding into the split parts.

When you split a section from a long article into an independent article, you should leave a short summary of the material that is removed along with a pointer to the independent article. In the independent article, put the `{{sub article}}` or `{{sub in}}` tag on the talk page to create a banner that refers back to the main article.



To conform with [wikipedia's](#) licensing requirements which permit modification and reuse but require attribution of the content contributors, the new page should be created with an edit summary noting "split content from [[article name]]". **(Do not omit this step or omit the page name.)** A note should also be made in the edit summary of the source article, "split content to [[article name]]".



(Do not omit this step or omit the page name.) A note should also be made in the edit summary of the source article, "split content to [[article name]]", to protect against the article subsequently being deleted and the history of the new page eradicated. The `{{copied}}` template can also be placed on the talk page of both articles.

As browsers have improved, there is no need for haste in splitting an article when it starts getting large. Sometimes an article simply needs to be big to give the subject adequate coverage. If uncertain, or with high profile articles, start a discussion on the [talkpage](#) regarding the overall topic structure. Determine whether the topic should be treated as several shorter articles and, if so, how best to organize them. If the discussion makes no progress consider adding one of the split tags in order to get feedback from other editors

A relatively trivial fact may be appropriate in the context of the larger article, but inappropriate as the topic of an entire article in itself. In most cases, it is a violation of the neutral point of view to specifically break out a

a *controversial* section without leaving an adequate summary. It also violates the neutral point of view policy to create a new article specifically to contain information that consensus has rejected from the main article.

and be sure that both the title and content of the broken-out article reflect a neutral point of view.

If a section of an article is a magnet for unhelpful contributions (such as the "external links" section or trivia sections), be aware that while moving it to another article may help to clean up the main article, it creates a new article that consists entirely of a section for unwanted contributions. If an article includes large amounts of material not suitable for inclusion in the encyclopedia, it is better to remove that content than to create a new article for it.

Surname	First Name	Position	Salary	Inc. Tax	Nett
Armstrong	Arthur	Manager	£25,000	3750	£21,250
Brown	Margaret	Admin Ast.	£18,000	2700	£15,300
Harrison	Tom	Apprentice	£15,000	2250	£12,750
Totals			£58,000	£8,700	£49,300

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Measuring "readable prose" size

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other material that summary form appropriate for summarizing summary style is no "natural" way a long list or table, leave it intact, and to either keep it main article split, alone page or table should be is feasible for its scope. Too much

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