

Topic display categories

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Topic display categories display the full text of all articles they contain on a single page, like one very long article. Readers can view all the topic display category's articles on a single page, reading it like a book or choosing which articles to read.

Example: Authors

Topic display categories:

- Can only contain articles (not subcategories)
- Can be displayed accordion style, with each article collapsed below its title and clicking the title expands the content
- Can be displayed tabs style, with each article in a different tab at the top of the page
- Can have quick links, or a mini table of contents, at the top of the article that link to each article on the page
- Can have the first article set as an "intro" which will display above any of those controls
- Include their own Display Options to set all of that behavior Image 2018

Recommended use cases

Topic display categories are ideal for topics where you want a series of articles presented on a single screen, like chapters from a book or steps in a process. These are great for Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) or long user guides.

For example, you might have an FAQ page with 20 frequently asked questions and answers. If you set this up using a topic display category, you would create the 20 FAQs as 20 separate articles.

When someone wants to read your FAQs, they can browse to the topic display category and view all the FAQs in one place. However, when someone searches for one of the FAQs, the individual FAQ article comes up in search, giving them the answer immediately rather than sending them to the FAQ page and requiring them to browse to their question.

Besides FAQs, longer documentation with multiple steps or sections are often good candidates for topic display categories. Some readers might want to view the full documentation in one place like a guide, whereas others might only need or want help with one section or step. Breaking up the documentation into separate articles in a topic display category allows people searching to get straight to the step or section they need, while people who want to view the documentation in full can use the topic-based category page.

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	Sample topic display category, using c	uick links and override article link	s opti	ons	

Layout options

There are three available layout options:

Layout Options

- Obstault Display all articles using the default layout
- \odot Accordions Collapse all articles into expandable blocks
- \odot Tabs Display all articles as tabs
- 1. Default: This option will display the full text of all articles in the topic display category.
- 2. Accordions: This option places each article into an expandable block, with the article title displayed as the block heading. The blocks are collapsed and include a + / icon displayed before them:

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Related Ar	ticles				
Accordions disp	blay option				

3. Tabs: This option creates a separate tab for each article, using the article's title as the tab label.

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	Owl intro Barn owl B	arred owl				
ŀ	Here is my intro article: Here's an alphabetical list of owls commonly found in North America.					
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Display options

There are five additional display options for topic display categories. You can select as many or as few of these as you'd like:

Display Options
Quick Links — Include a clickable table of contents at the top of the category
Short Article Titles — Display the short article titles when available
Override Article Links — Always navigate to the article section within this category page when the article link is clicked
\square Intro article — Set the first article in this category to display at the top of the page with no title
Hide description — Hide the category description on this category page
The Display Options available

- 1. Quick Links: creates a clickable Quick Links section, like a table of contents, at the top of the category. Clicking a link jumps you to that section of the category:
 - For the Default layout option, this will scroll you to the article.
 - For the Accordions layout option, it will expand the accordion and scroll you.
 - $\circ\;$ For the Tabs layout option, this will navigate to the appropriate tab.
- 2. Short Article Titles: When this box is checked, if the articles in this category have short titles, those will be used for:
 - The article's title (for Default this adjusts the title as it displays; for accordions it adjusts the accordion text; for tabs it adjusts the tab label)
 - The article's Quick Links link, if selected
- 3. Override Article Links: By default, articles in topic display categories can also be accessed as standalone

articles from search.

- Checking this box means that any time a link for this article is clicked (permalink, search result, and so on), it will open the topic display category with this article open/visible instead. This can be useful if you want to force people to view the content in-context.
- Leave this box unchecked if you also want the article to appear as a standalone article.
- 4. Intro Article: You can check this box to set the first article in your topic display category to be an "intro article".
 - The intro article is displayed at the very top of the category with no article header, immediately under the category header. If you've used the Accordions or Tabs layout options or the Quick Links display option, the intro article will appear above those. With this option selected, reorder the articles to change which one is used as the intro. Here, we've used the option so that our intro article text displays above our other controls:

		Refine Search here	Q Contact	Us Logout	Resource guide
	Home				
	Test topic display category 😂 🖶				
	Here's an alphabetical list of owls commonly found in North America	L			
	Barn owl Barred owl				
	Barn owl				
	Barred owl				
	Related A	rticles			
	Intro article + Quick Links + Acco	rdion display options. W	'hew!		
The intr	o article title will only be hidden i	n the topic display ca	tegory a	nd its PDI	F. It will

The intro article title will only be hidden in the topic display category and its PDF. It will be displayed in the Standard PDF and Custom PDF exports. And if the category is set up to display articles as standalone articles, too (you don't have the Override Article Links option checked), the title will display normally in the standalone article, too!

5. Hide description: By default, the topic display category page will display the category description between the category's title and the rest of the content. Check this box to hide that description. We find this especially useful when you're using the Intro article, since usually the Intro article is more detailed than the category description!

Table of Contents options

As with other categories, you have the option to set whether a click in the table of contents will Toggle the

category open/closed in the table of contents or Navigate to it. You can also choose to Hide contents of the category. See Customize category behavior in the table of contents for more details.

Table of contents appearance

Since topic display categories generally contain other content, they typically have an expand/collapse icon in the table of contents. See Category appearance in the table of contents for more details.

PDFs

Because topic display categories display all of their articles' content, they also get their own PDFs. When you update an article in a topic display category PDF, you'll need to resave the category itself to update its PDF. You'll see a warning message across all articles in the category once this occurs:

Sample warning of outdated topic display category	
PDF	

As well as in the category itself:

Once you resave the category, the category's PDF automatically updates.