



# Topic display category PDF refreshes

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We've rolled out a small change to the way topic display category PDFs work, and wanted to be sure you knew about it.

Topic display categories are a bit unusual, in that they display the full content of the articles they contain. So for each article in a topic display category, there are two PDFs that need updating when an article is updated:

- The article PDF
- The topic display category PDF

The article PDF is automatically regenerated each time you save an article with changes, but the topic display category PDF is generally only regenerated when the category itself is resaved.

We've wanted to update this or at least make it more transparent to our authors. PDF generation causes a fair amount of overhead, and regenerating an entire category's PDFs each time a small change is made seemed to have some potential performance impacts, especially in cases where you might be updating a lot of articles in the same category.

We've decided to keep the existing behavior. **We will only regenerate a topic display category PDF when the category itself is resaved.**

To help you know when a resave might be necessary, we've added some new messaging to the editor.

Now, once you update an article that's within a topic display category, all articles in the category will show a warning message at the top letting you know the topic display category PDF needs to be updated:

The screenshot shows the KnowledgeOwl interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'KnowledgeOwl Support', 'Knowledge Base', 'Library', 'Settings', 'Reporting' (with a red badge '85'), and 'View KB'. Below this is a sidebar with 'Articles', 'Manage', and 'Home Page'. The main content area has a yellow warning banner that reads: 'Articles in [Categories](#) have been updated. Resave [Categories](#) to regenerate the category PDF.' Below the banner are links for 'Write the docs', 'Categories', 'Old Links', 'Copy Link', and 'View Article'. At the bottom of the main content area, there is a permalink: 'https://support.knowledgeowl.com/help/topic-display-categories'. Below the screenshot is a dark blue box with the text 'Sample message for articles in the category'.

The category name is hyperlinked, and if you click that link, you'll jump straight to the category, which also has a warning message at the top:

The screenshot shows the KnowledgeOwl Knowledge Base interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the following items: KnowledgeOwl Support, Knowledge Base, Library, Settings, Reporting (with a notification badge '85'), and View KB. On the left side, there is a sidebar menu with the following items: Articles (highlighted), Manage, Home Page, Glossary, and Contact Form. The main content area features a yellow warning banner that reads: "Articles in this category have been updated. Resave to regenerate the category PDF." An arrow points from the "Articles" menu item to this banner. Below the banner, there are several options: "Write the docs" (with a plus icon), "Old Links" (with a gear icon), "Copy Link" (with a copy icon), and "View Category" (with an external link icon). A permalink field is shown with the text "https://support.knowledgeowl.com/help/categories". Below this, there are two links: "Add Short Title" and "Add Internal Note". A text input field labeled "Full Category Title" contains the text "Categories". At the bottom of the screenshot, there is a dark blue banner with the text "Sample message for the category itself".

**Resaving the category will generate the new topic display category PDF.**

**This should help add some transparency around when the topic display category PDF has become outdated, while also giving you the power to decide when you want to have it regenerated.**