

How to improve Wikipedia (and your career) without getting the Internet mad at you

John P. Sadowski ~ Harvard Kennedy School, March 26, 2013

Type the abbreviations into Wikipedia's search bar to access the relevant page.

The five pillars (WP:5P)

- Wikipedia is an encyclopedia.
- Wikipedia is written from a neutral point of view.
- Wikipedia is free content that anyone can edit, use, modify, and distribute.
- Editors should interact with each other in a respectful and civil manner.
- Wikipedia does not have firm rules other than these five general principles.

Core content policies

- Neutral point of view (WP:NPOV)
- Verifiability (WP:V) by reliable sources (WP:RS)
- No original research (WP:NOR)

Conflict of interest editing (WP:COI and WP:BPCOI):

- **Learn Wikipedia's rules** before you break them.
- **Be up-front** about your associations with the subject.
- **Avoid creating new articles** about yourself or your organization.
- **Avoid making controversial edits** to articles related to your associations.
- **Don't push** people to change their minds about issues relating to your associations.
- **Ask for help** appropriately.

More information

- Wikipedia's welcome page (WP:WELCOME)
- "The Teahouse": help for new editors (WP:Teahouse)
- Wikipedia Signpost newsletter (WP:Signpost)
- *Good Faith Collaboration: The Culture of Wikipedia* by Joseph Reagle (available free online at <http://reagle.org/joseph/2010/gfc/>)