

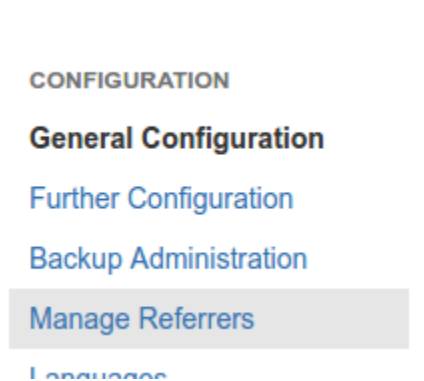
Navigation Link Macro for Confluence

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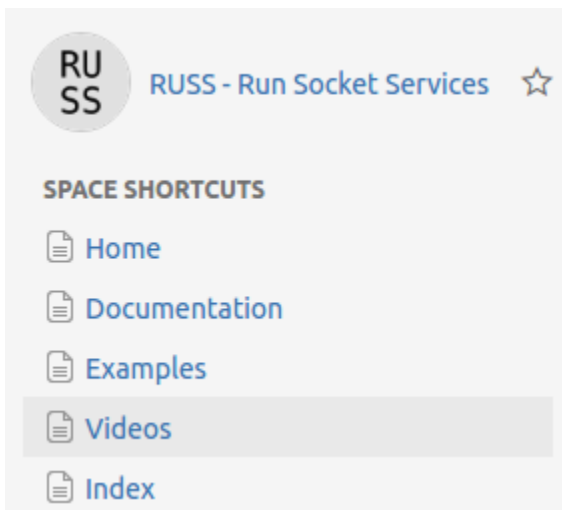
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Introduction

The Navigation Link macro comes from the desire to provide links that have a flat look with menu style behavior and could be used in the Confluence sidebar and pages. Links that **look** like this can be seen in the Admin sidebar, e.g.,:



and in the standard sidebar (in Confluence 6, Global Look and Feel theme) for links to Pages, Blog, and space shortcuts:



Macro

Macro settings:

- Macro Name: navlink
- Visibility: Visible to all users in the Macro Browser
- Macro Title: Navigation Link
- Description: Link suitable for navigation in sidebar.
- Categories: Navigation
- Macro Body Processing: No macro body

Macro code:

```
## Macro title: navlink
## @param address:title=Address|type=confluence-content|required=true
## @param linktext:title=Link text|type=string|required=true
## @param display:title=Display|type=enum|enumValues=block,
inline|default=block
<a class="navlink" href=$paramaddress style="display: $paramdisplay;"
>$paramlinktext</a>
```

Edit popup:

Link suitable for navigation in sidebar.

[Documentation](#)

Address *

Link text *

Display

When using the macro in the sidebar, it is necessary to provide the path part of the URL. E.g., `/display/MISC/MyPage`, otherwise the link will something like `/display/MyPage`.

Stylesheet

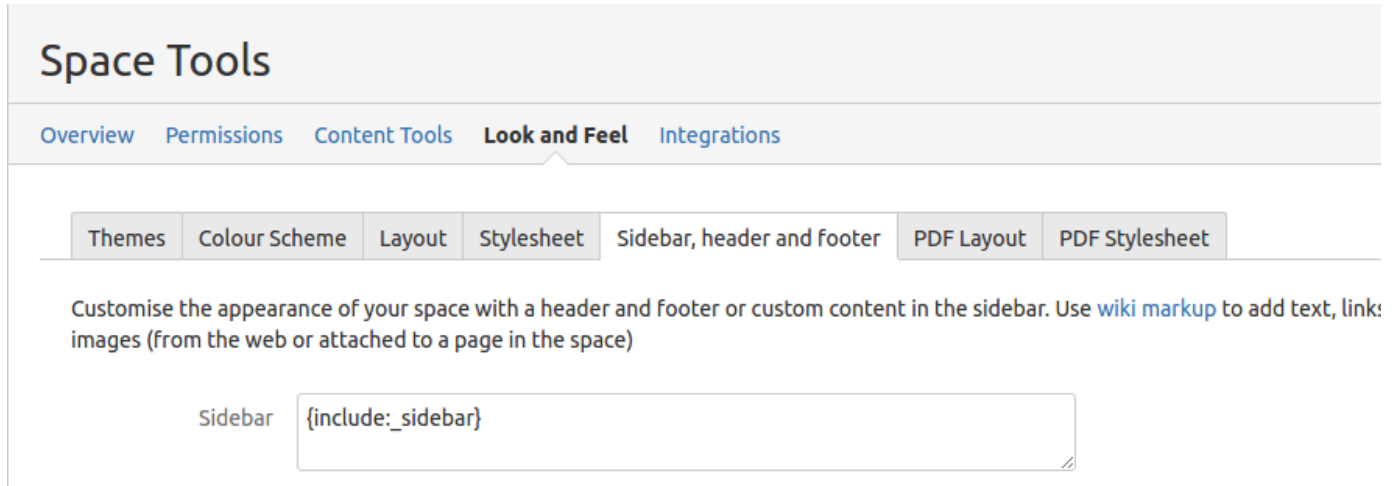
The Global Stylesheet needs some CSS settings to give the link set up by the macro its flat look and behavior:

```
a.navlink {
display: block;
line-height: 1.1;
padding: 4px 4px;
word-wrap: break-word;
}
a.navlink:hover {
background: #e5e5e5;
}
a.navlink:active {
text-decoration: none;
}
a.navlink:link {
text-decoration: none;
}
```

This style information must be in a stylesheet because the `:hover`, `:active`, and `:link` settings cannot be inlined in the `style` attribute.

Using It

For use in the sidebar, I disable the sidebar links that can be configured using the "Space Tools Configure sidebar" and customize the space-specific sidebar ("Space tools Look and Feel"):

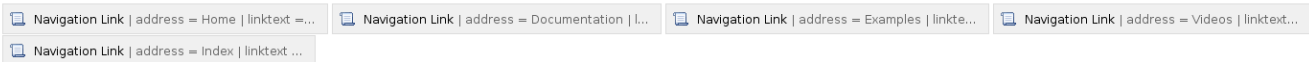


The screenshot shows the 'Space Tools' configuration page. The 'Look and Feel' tab is active. Underneath, there are several sub-tabs: 'Themes', 'Colour Scheme', 'Layout', 'Stylesheet', 'Sidebar, header and footer', 'PDF Layout', and 'PDF Stylesheet'. The 'Sidebar, header and footer' sub-tab is selected, displaying a text input field with the content `{include:_sidebar}`. Above the input field, there is a descriptive text: 'Customise the appearance of your space with a header and footer or custom content in the sidebar. Use [wiki markup](#) to add text, link, images (from the web or attached to a page in the space)'. The 'Sidebar' label is positioned to the left of the input field.

pointing to a special page called `_sidebar` which looks like:


`_sidebar`

SHORTCUTS



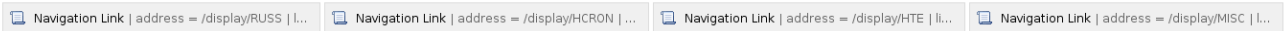
The screenshot shows four navigation links in a row, each with a small icon and text: 'Navigation Link | address = Home | linktext =...', 'Navigation Link | address = Documentation | l...', 'Navigation Link | address = Examples | linkte...', and 'Navigation Link | address = Videos | linktext...'. Below them is a fifth link: 'Navigation Link | address = Index | linktext ...'.

CONTACT



The screenshot shows two navigation links: 'Navigation Link | address = /display/SITE/Con...' and 'Navigation Link | address = /display/SITE/Con...'.

SPACES



The screenshot shows four navigation links: 'Navigation Link | address = /display/RUSS | l...', 'Navigation Link | address = /display/HCRON | l...', 'Navigation Link | address = /display/HTE | li...', and 'Navigation Link | address = /display/MISC | l...'.

*Because some of the content (e.g., contacts, spaces) in the `_sidebar` is reused in other spaces, the actual `_sidebar` page uses the `IncludePage` macro to pull in separate `_contacts` and `_spaces` pages which are in a different space set up for such things.

Result

The result is quite aesthetically pleasing and works as desired:

The image shows a sidebar menu for a project named 'RUSS - Run Socket Services'. At the top left is a circular logo with 'RU' over 'SS'. To its right is the text 'RUSS - Run Socket Services' followed by a star icon. Below this are three section headers: 'SHORTCUTS', 'CONTACT', and 'SPACES'. Under 'SHORTCUTS' are links for 'Home', 'Documentation', 'Examples', 'Videos', and 'Index'. Under 'CONTACT' are links for 'Email' and 'Discussion'. Under 'SPACES' are links for 'RUSS - Run Socket Services', 'hcron - Periodic Command Scheduler' (which is highlighted with a grey background), 'HTE - HTML Tree Engine', and 'Miscellany'.

Using the macro and `_sidebar` page, the sidebar benefits from a menu like look and feel and can also be tailored more fully than is possible using "Space tools > Configure sidebar".

Although the focus has been on the sidebar, the macro can be used in regular pages and be combined with, e.g., panels and tables, to provide a menu like look and feel.