

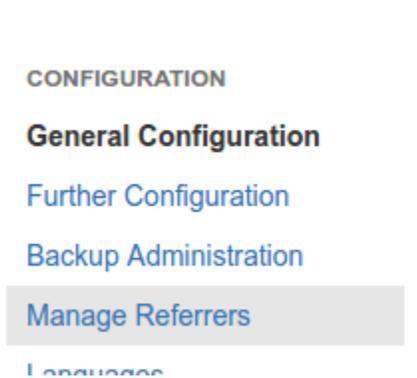
# Navigation Link Macro for Confluence

## Contents

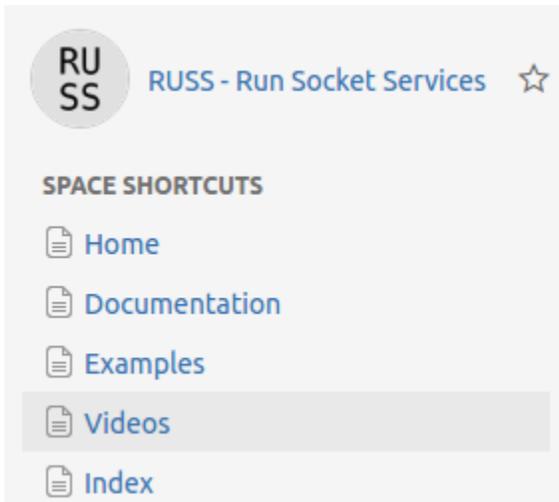
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## Introduction

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 \*

Miscellany|

Link text \*

Home

Display

block ▼



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"):

# Space Tools

Overview Permissions Content Tools **Look and Feel** Integrations

Themes Colour Scheme Layout Stylesheet Sidebar, header and footer PDF Layout PDF Stylesheet

Customise the appearance of your space with a header and footer or custom content in the sidebar. Use [wiki markup](#) to add text, links images (from the web or attached to a page in the space)

Sidebar

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

## `_sidebar`

### SHORTCUTS

[Navigation Link | address = Home | linktext =...](#) [Navigation Link | address = Documentation | l...](#) [Navigation Link | address = Examples | linkte...](#) [Navigation Link | address = Videos | linktext...](#)  
[Navigation Link | address = Index | linktext ...](#)

### CONTACT

[Navigation Link | address = /display/SITE/Con...](#) [Navigation Link | address = /display/SITE/Con...](#)

### SPACES

[Navigation Link | address = /display/RUSS | l...](#) [Navigation Link | address = /display/HCRON | l...](#) [Navigation Link | address = /display/HTE | li...](#) [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:



[RUSS - Run Socket Services](#) ☆

### SHORTCUTS

- [Home](#)
- [Documentation](#)
- [Examples](#)
- [Videos](#)
- [Index](#)

### CONTACT

- [Email](#)
- [Discussion](#)

### SPACES

- [RUSS - Run Socket Services](#)
- [hcron - Periodic Command Scheduler](#)
- [HTE - HTML Tree Engine](#)
- [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.