In Tiki, a **module** is simply a box of content (which may or may not have "chrome" such as borders and title backgrounds). All side-column information of this site is presented through modules. The **Modules Admin** page is used to add modules to and manage modules in the module zones of a Tiki site.

Here's a screenshot:

![Default Tiki page with the Menu module in the left column.](image)

Some common uses for modules are to:

- Display **menus**
- Add special **features**
- Display custom information to users
- List most recent or most frequent actions or items

After adding modules, you can re-order them, assign **permissions** to them (so they appear only for specific user **groups**), or even allow them to be customized by specific users.

**Configuring and Displaying Modules**


These settings will apply to all modules on the site and are explained in more detail at **Module Admin**.

There are two ways to configure and display individual modules:

1. **Using the Admin Modules Panel**
   - Located at **Admin->Modules** or **tiki_admin_modules.php**
   - Allows you to:
     - Set module parameters
     - Create custom modules
     - Place modules in the left or right column and, since **Tiki7**, other areas like the page header and footer
   - Documentation at **Module Admin**

2. **Using PluginModule**
   - Allows you to:
     - Display a module in a page or within other features (like blogs, articles, etc.) besides the left or right columns
     - Also place module content inside of a user module
     - Set module parameters
   - See **Index of Modules**

**Modules vs. Plugins**

The distinction between **modules** and **plugins** is a little blurry. Technically speaking, modules are the **containers** and plugins are the **content**. However, the predefined modules included with the default Tiki installation contain plugins/content, but they are commonly called **modules**, too.

**Where to Go From Here**

- **Module Admin**--Introduction to the module admin pages for site-wide and individual module settings
Assigning Modules--How to select a module to configure it
Module Settings Interface--Interface for configuring individual module settings
Module Settings Parameters--Explanation of standard parameter settings for modules
Creating Custom Modules--How to create custom modules
Index of Modules--Links to the documentation of individual modules

Related Pages
- User Modules--how (if the feature is active) users can choose and place their modules
- Creating Custom Modules--how to create simple and advanced custom modules includin small tutorial
- Mods Type Modules--links to modules that are installed as components

Alias
- ModulesDoc
- Modules