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:

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

For site-wide module settings, click the **General** icon on the **Admin Panel** or Access


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-&gt;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 including small tutorial
- **Mods Type Modules**—links to modules that are installed as components

**Alias**
- **ModulesDoc**
- **Modules**