

# Module

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 <http://example.org/tiki-admin.php?page=general>.

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

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- [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

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- [ModulesDoc](#)
  - [Modules](#)
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