

Wikidata for beginners

Wikidata is a collaboratively edited knowledge base. It provides a data which can be used by any language Wikipedia, and by anyone else, under a public domain license. This guide shows you how to do some basic editing of individual entries.

Find entries by searching.
Suggestions appear as you type.

Sign in to keep track of your editing via
“Contributions” and “Watchlist” or to set
editing “Preferences”

Labels tell
people the
names of
things in
different
languages.

Q-numbers
are unique
item
identifiers –
they mean
each page
can exist in
multiple
languages.

You can
create a
brand new
entry or
query
existing
entries –
links are in
the sidebar.

Description
tells people
they’ve
found the
correct
entry when
searching /
linking.

Each statement tells you about the
subject by showing a “property”,
and then a “value” for a specific
property that subject has (e.g. sex
or gender: female).

You can “edit” any existing
statements or “add” new ones to
an article. To add a new
statement, scroll down past all
the existing ones to find the “add
statement” button.

The screenshot shows the Wikidata page for June Almeida (Q6312196). The page includes a search bar at the top with the text 'June Almeida' and a search icon. Below the search bar, the name 'June Almeida (Q6312196)' is displayed, followed by the description 'virologist'. The page is divided into several sections: 'In more languages', 'Statements', and 'sex or gender'. The 'In more languages' section is a table with columns for Language, Label, Description, and Also known as. The 'Statements' section lists properties like 'instance of' (human), 'sex or gender' (female), and 'occupation' (virologist). The 'sex or gender' section is highlighted with a blue box. The sidebar on the left contains various navigation links such as 'Main page', 'Community portal', 'Project chat', 'Create a new item', 'Recent changes', 'Random item', 'Query Service', 'Nearby', 'Help', and 'Donate'. The top right corner has a user profile icon and links for 'Talk', 'Preferences', 'Beta', 'Watchlist', 'Contributions', and 'Log out'. Blue arrows point from the surrounding text to specific elements on the page: one points to the search bar, another to the user profile, a third to the 'In more languages' table, a fourth to the 'sex or gender' statement, a fifth to the 'add statement' button, and a sixth to the 'Q6312196' identifier.

Language	Label	Description	Also known as
English	June Almeida	virologist	
British English	No label defined	No description defined	
Italian	No label defined	No description defined	
French	June Almeida	No description defined	

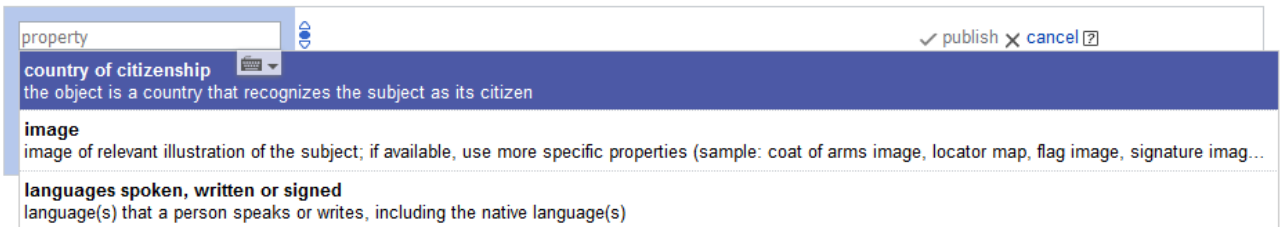
Statements

instance of Q5 human edit
0 references
[+ add reference](#)
[+ add value](#)

sex or gender Q525 female edit
0 references
[+ add reference](#)
[+ add value](#)

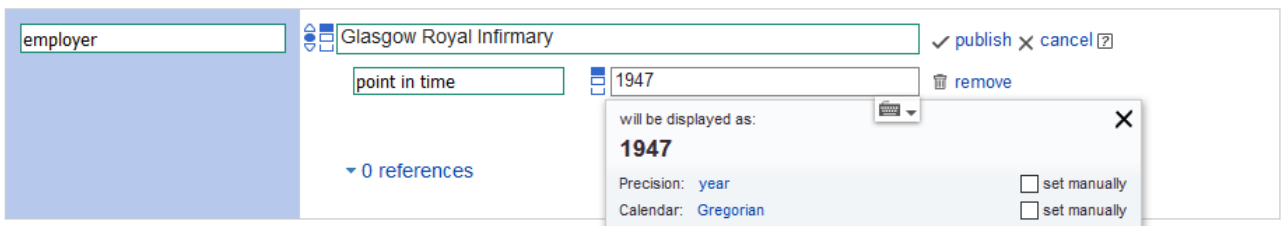
occupation Q27384 virologist edit
0 references
[+ add reference](#)
[+ add value](#)
[+ add statement](#)

Editing Wikidata entries



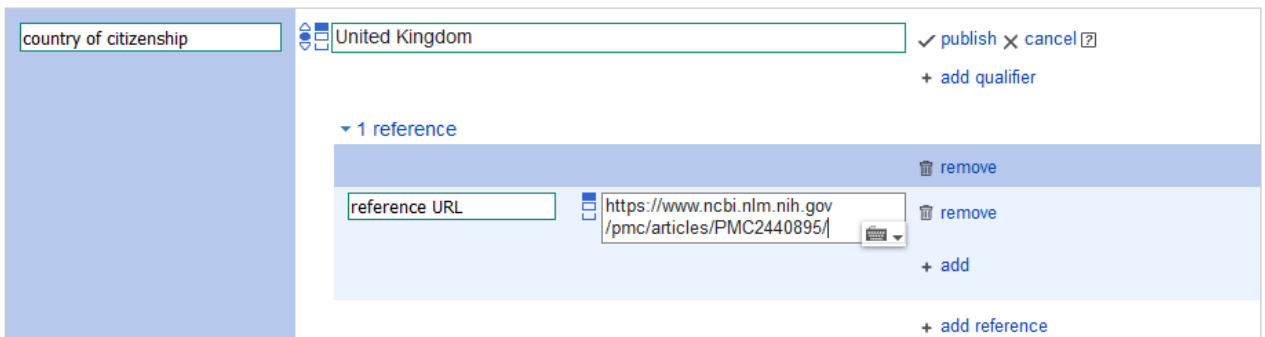
A screenshot of the Wikidata property selection interface. The search bar contains the word "property". Below it, a list of suggested properties is shown. The first property is "country of citizenship" with a description: "the object is a country that recognizes the subject as its citizen". Other properties include "image" (description: "image of relevant illustration of the subject; if available, use more specific properties (sample: coat of arms image, locator map, flag image, signature imag...") and "languages spoken, written or signed" (description: "language(s) that a person speaks or writes, including the native language(s)"). At the top right, there are "publish" and "cancel" buttons.

When editing, Wikidata suggests popular properties that are missing. You can also start typing to search for a property that you'd like to add. Sometimes it's not obvious what the property name should be so you can look at pages for other similar people/places/things to see examples of useful properties.



A screenshot of the Wikidata edit interface for the item "Glasgow Royal Infirmary". The "employer" property is selected. A "point in time" qualifier is added to the value "1947". A tooltip is visible over the "1947" value, showing "will be displayed as: 1947" and options for "Precision: year" and "Calendar: Gregorian", each with a "set manually" checkbox. There are "publish" and "cancel" buttons at the top right, and a "remove" button next to the value. Below the value, it says "0 references".

You can add a “qualifier” to specify details, e.g. “point in time” when something happened, “start date” or “end date”, “position” someone held in an organisation, and so on.



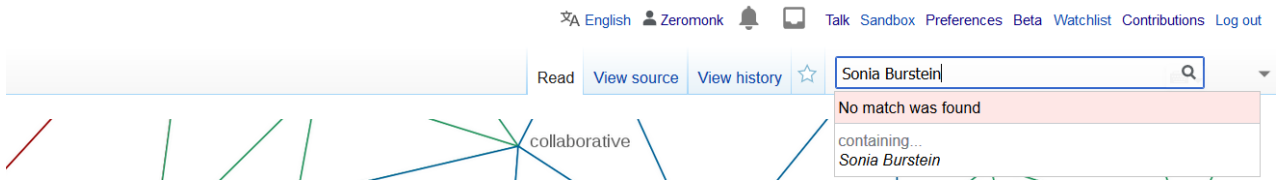
A screenshot of the Wikidata edit interface for the item "United Kingdom". The "country of citizenship" property is selected. A "reference URL" is added with the value "https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2440895/". There are "publish" and "cancel" buttons at the top right, and an "add qualifier" button below them. Below the reference, there are "remove" and "add" buttons for the reference, and an "add reference" button at the bottom.

Add references to all edits. Info might come from a “reference URL”, be “stated in” a book, or “imported from” a language version of Wikipedia. You can find guidance on how to reference by typing “Help:Sources” into the Wikidata search box.

You can take a tour in your language by typing “Wikidata:Tours” into the search bar. There are tours for both Items and Statements.

There's a video in English on how to create SPARQL Queries and visualise data at: https://media.ed.ac.uk/media/Wikidata+Sparql+Query+Tutorial/1_7v9v6s04

Adding Wikidata entries



To create a new page, first search for the person/place/thing to see if it already exists. It's also helpful to search Wikipedia, which redirects better (if something exists with a different name): if you find a Wikipedia article, check for a Wikidata item link in the grey bar on the left.



If your person/place/thing doesn't exist you can click on "Create a new item" in the grey bar on the left of any Wikidata page.



Create a new Item

Please make sure that the item you want to create complies with our [notability policy](#) and that [it doesn't already exist](#).

If you want to create an item about a [living person](#), be mindful of their privacy.

We appreciate it if you create a [label](#) and a [description](#) for all of your new items.

The first letter of your label should only be capitalized if it is a [proper noun](#) ([Q147276](#)), and your description should *not* be phrased as a sentence.

To create a new lexeme, please use [Special:NewLexeme](#).

By clicking "Create", you agree to the [terms of use](#), and you irrevocably agree to release your contribution under the [Creative Commons CC0 License](#).

Create a new Item

Language:

Label:

Description:

Aliases, pipe-separated:

Fill in labels, description and other names and click "Create".

Then edit the entry like you would any other.