

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Why do schools hate Wikipedia so much?](#)

Samplif1re - December 17, 2014, 4:23 pm

Whenever a project is being handed out and the teachers go over it they always emphasize to not use Wikipedia "because all the information is fake and anyone can just change it".

Infact I got an auto F on a project once because one of my citations was from Wikipedia.

99% of the time, the information that I got from Wikipedia was legit and it got me some good grades on projects.

Do the teachers just not know or is it because its a lot easier to use Wiki and not do any actual research anywhere else?

Edit: To all the people saying anyone can edit, you do realize that most of the pages have protection on them and you need to meet certain requirements to change the pages right? Also mods check it.

And if anyone can change it, I highly doubt I would have such a good success rate with it.

Sketches - December 17, 2014, 4:24 pm

(Dec 17, 2014 05:23 PM)GavNation Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Whenever a project is being handed out and the teachers go over it they always emphasize to not use Wikipedia "because all the information is fake and anyone can just change it".

Infact I got an auto F on a project once because one of my citations was from Wikipedia.

99% of the time, the information that I got from Wikipedia was legit and it got me some good grades on projects.

Do the teachers just not know or is it because its a lot easier to use Wiki and not do any actual research anywhere else?

Could be that it's easier. But what they're saying is true as well. Anyone can change it. Are you sure you would want your information from there?

Paathurnax - December 17, 2014, 4:25 pm

Most, if not all, information on Wikipedia is cited from reliable sources that are usually academic in nature.

It pisses me off that most teachers don't realise that. It's the same at my university, we get marked down if we cite Wikipedia.

Trisomy 21 - December 17, 2014, 4:25 pm

schools don't care it's just some teachers because they don't understand how wikipedia works

LovelyLad - December 17, 2014, 4:26 pm

No because the info on wikipedia is not precise, im in college now and teacher honestly hate wikipedia. Wikipedia, is a source that everyone can edit, so most information might be true, but some are false.

Mittens - December 17, 2014, 4:26 pm

Because they want you to actually spend time looking for articles or essays through other websites that the school pays for. Many of my teachers know that the whole "Wikipedia is all fake" statement

is a lie but you'll still find many who legitimately believe it and discredit anything taken from the site.

(Dec 17, 2014 05:26 PM)LovelyLad Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) No because the info on wikipedia is not precise, im in college now and teacher honestly hate wiki pedia. Wikipedia, is a source that everyone can edit, so most information might be true, but some are false.

You sound very unfamiliar with wiki's, don't spread your bullshit.

Brooklyn. - December 17, 2014, 4:27 pm

When I use something off of wikipedia, I just cite a source that they used and not wikipedia because all of my teachers say the same thing

Weiss Schnee - December 17, 2014, 4:29 pm

Teachers tell me not to use wiki

I use wiki

I get A on my assignment

JuiceProductions - December 17, 2014, 4:30 pm

(Dec 17, 2014 05:26 PM)Mittens Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Because they want you to actually spend time looking for articles or essays through other websites that the school pays for. Many of my teachers know that the whole "Wikipedia is all fake" statement is a lie but you'll still find many who legitimately believe it and discredit anything taken from the site.

You sound very unfamiliar with wiki's, don't spread your bullshit.

Don't ip's get logged and certain people or articles can't be edited?

Mr. Fedora - December 17, 2014, 4:30 pm

It's easier to find information as everything is on one page most of the time. Teachers are supposed to teach you how to find information and wikipedia is completely countering that.

That and literally anybody can change it, usually it is people that know what the fuck they are talking about though

Samplif1re - December 17, 2014, 4:34 pm

(Dec 17, 2014 05:30 PM)Gnomes Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) It's easier to find information as everything is on one page most of the time. Teachers are supposed to teach you how to find information and wikipedia is completely countering that.

That and literally anybody can change it, usually it is people that know what the fuck they are talking about though

To all people who think anyone can change anything on wikipedia:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Protection_policy

Autocorrect - December 17, 2014, 4:34 pm

I prefer to use Wikipedia for the sources that they reference at the end of the page, rather than using Wikipedia as the actual source.

typhoid - December 17, 2014, 4:35 pm

because anyone can edit it and just because it has a source does not equate that the source is genuine and factual. simply put its poor research. If you're going to use wikipedia, cite wikipedias sources. not wikipedia.

09wef - December 17, 2014, 4:36 pm

You can easily get away with using Wikipedia as most of the time by taking the information you need, then finding out where it is in the references, and listing that as where you got your information.

Autocorrect - December 17, 2014, 4:37 pm

(Dec 17, 2014 05:35 PM)typhoid Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) because anyone can edit it and just because it has a source does not equate that the source is genuine and factual. simply put its poor research. If you're going to use wikipedia, cite wikipedias sources. not wikipedia.

LOL. There's was a school in America that I won't name where someone edited the page to say that 'their skirts are higher than their grades'. ?

Mr. Fedora - December 17, 2014, 4:37 pm

(Dec 17, 2014 05:34 PM)GavNation Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) To all people who think anyone can change anything on wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Protection_policy

Confirmed accounts on some I believe it says?

I wouldn't think it'd be that hard to get one...

Lockheed - December 17, 2014, 4:37 pm

i dont cite wikipedia, i use the citations from the page.

- 1) makes me sound smarter
- 2) doesnt link to wikipedia.

Moon Rock - December 17, 2014, 4:37 pm

I'm in college now, and I've never done a project yet ? but I'd imagine because there is no way to verify it automatically and then it'd be the extra mile to verify the info for the teacher...

Mittens - December 17, 2014, 4:39 pm

(Dec 17, 2014 05:30 PM)JuiceProductions Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Don't ip's get logged and certain people or articles can't be edited?

Which is precisely why the "can be edited by anyone" is a lie. Sure, you can go ahead and vandalize an article but it will almost automatically get reverted by a bot. Go ahead and try vandalizing a popular article (account needed) and you'll get both account and IP banned.

Popular or widely viewed articles (the ones that everyone here would most likely be using) are always under high surveillance and crediting false information is extremely unlikely. Less popular articles that are vandalized won't stay like that for very long either, it may just take a bit more time.

DesmondTheMoonbear - December 17, 2014, 4:41 pm

(Dec 17, 2014 05:30 PM)JuiceProductions Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Don't ip's get logged and certain people or articles can't be edited?They IP ban people fra editing if they mess up once.

And there is literally thousands of Wikipedia mods on every second, so when people change something it is getting overlooked within 10 minutes at a maximum.

If you wrote something fake, it will be removed.

mockingjay - December 17, 2014, 4:41 pm

Agreed.

And do people not realize that pages on Wikipedia are moderated and that there are THOUSANDS of moderators and contributors who make sure everything is reliable, up to date and sourced properly.

Sumix - December 17, 2014, 4:41 pm

I just think teachers don't like the fact that you can go on Wikipedia and search for something then get legitimate information cited from multiple sources that easily. Teachers want students to use other resources such as books and other sites that they themselves deem legitimate.

LovelyLad - December 17, 2014, 4:42 pm

(Dec 17, 2014 05:26 PM)Mittens Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Because they want you to actually spend time looking for articles or essays through other websites that the school pays for. Many of my teachers know that the whole "Wikipedia is all fake" statement is a lie but you'll still find many who legitimately believe it and discredit anything taken from the site.

You sound very unfamiliar with wiki's, don't spread your bullshit.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Introduction>

"Don't be afraid to edit – anyone can edit almost every page"

now what, you sound to be unfamiliiar, don't spread your bull shit around.

DesmondTheMoonbear - December 17, 2014, 4:42 pm

(Dec 17, 2014 05:41 PM)mockingjay Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Agreed.

And do people not realize that pages on Wikipedia are moderated and that there are THOUSANDS of moderators and contributors who make sure everything is reliable, up to date and sourced properly. On the other hand, most of the mods is 13-18 years old.

Obimoto - December 17, 2014, 4:42 pm

"That averages out to 2.92 mistakes per article for Britannica and 3.86 for Wikipedia." -source = http://news.cnet.com/Study-Wikipedia-as-accurate-as-Britannica/2100-1038_3-5997332.html

Wikipedia is very close to other encyclopedias. Kinda sucks teachers don't like it, however there are ways around it. If you use Wikipedia, find the sources to the information you need and cite that instead.

Many teachers think it's too easy, and others don't believe in its credibility...

Mittens - December 17, 2014, 4:45 pm

(Dec 17, 2014 05:42 PM)LovelyLad Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Introduction>

"Don't be afraid to edit – anyone can edit almost every page"

now what, you sound to be unfamiliiar, don't spread your bull shit around.
almost

Editing and vandalizing a page are two completely different actions.

(Dec 17, 2014 05:26 PM)LovelyLad Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) No because the info on wikipedia is not precise I am well aware that anyone can edit a wiki. Like I clearly said, go ahead and edit "not precise" information to an article and let me know how long it takes for it to get reverted and your account to get banned.

The RooT - December 17, 2014, 4:45 pm

They 'dis-like' it because they don't understand the fact that Moderators/Administrators actually have to approve the edits, They think anyone can just go and edit as they please. And they also don't like

that some of the information is outdated there.

Revamp - December 17, 2014, 4:46 pm

My english teacher said its not bad, just use the links Wikipedia has cited.

InspectorGadget - December 17, 2014, 5:15 pm

Cite the source Wikipedia cites, not Wikipedia itself.

The source you cite on Wiki might change and make your point void.

It's also not a solid source of information. The places the users cite however, likely are a solid source.

BottleOWater - December 17, 2014, 5:23 pm

Wikipedia is now a really good site and recommended by alot of my college teachers , but they still say to double check but most of the pages of information have protection on it which means its safe, teacher that don't know this are outdated.

B?ue - December 17, 2014, 5:25 pm

Wikipedia is well maintained tho.

Any pages that get ruined or just modified in general are checked and backed up really fast.

It probably is because of how easy it is to get information from one place.

They want you to do more research.

Dex? - December 17, 2014, 5:28 pm

gee i wonder why

Water Aura - December 17, 2014, 5:30 pm

To all the people that state, "It could be easily changed just by anybody."

Do you understand how Wikipedia works?

> No

?

Dex? - December 17, 2014, 5:32 pm

(Dec 17, 2014 06:30 PM)Water Aura Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) To all the people that state, "It could be easily changed just by anybody."

Do you understand how Wikipedia works?

> No

?

It literally can.

All you need is an account and 10 edits and you can start editing the semi-protected pages which is usually the good shit.

B?ue - December 17, 2014, 5:33 pm

Lol I actually posted this on here a while ago :)

[img]http://www.dotrising.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2014/08/geggs.png[/img]
(top right)

iExploits - December 17, 2014, 5:35 pm

When you edit something in Wikipedia and save the changes you've made, the changes are only visible to your IP address. Each and every change you make will be up for approval. Its complex algorithm will automatically accept minor changes like spelling errors, grammatical mistakes (e.g., "a oven" edited to "an oven").

All the other edits that are done are manually approved and inspected. Most importantly, if the Wikipedia article is a popular article, it will definitely be up for approval and will be approved manually.

Try and edit a word out from one of the popular articles on Wikipedia (Taylor Swift, for e.g.) Your changes will be manually approved.

eiqht - December 17, 2014, 5:36 pm

Instead of citing Wikipedia, use one of Wikipedia's citations.

Water Aura - December 17, 2014, 5:44 pm

(Dec 17, 2014 06:32 PM)Dex? Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) It literally can.

All you need is an account and 10 edits and you can start editing the semi-protected pages which is usually the good shit.

sorry dex mmaster i will not be hq again ?

AntontheGreat - December 17, 2014, 5:46 pm

because everything can be edited in a moments notice

vercenta - December 17, 2014, 5:46 pm

Gotta love teachers logic...

"Don't use wiki because anyone can edit it"

Oh.... You mean like history?

Shockley - December 17, 2014, 5:49 pm

It's the blacks fault. Blame the nigs.

Brandon1027 - December 17, 2014, 5:51 pm

I just use the sources a Wikipedia page has for a certain topic.

Dex? - December 17, 2014, 6:05 pm

(Dec 17, 2014 06:44 PM)Water Aura Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) sorry dex mmaster i will not be hq again ?

Like that one nigga said above

You wouldn't be able to fuck with pages that are popular

And even non popular pages, you can't just plaster dicks either

GoofyGoober - December 17, 2014, 6:08 pm

Everyone one of my teachers has told me this bullshit, it really pisses me off.

Cubs - December 17, 2014, 6:14 pm

Wikipedia is one of the most reliable resources out there. It isn't like someone can change Barack Obama's page right now and call him a monkey.

Samplif1re - December 17, 2014, 6:17 pm

(Dec 17, 2014 07:14 PM)Cubs Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Wikipedia is one of the most reliable resources out there. It isn't like someone can change Barrack Obama's page right now and call him a monkey.
>Checked Page
>Doesn't say he's a monkey
>/s

HF User - December 17, 2014, 6:30 pm

Well, there is a pretty obvious reason for this.

In the early 2000s, the spam and protection wiki bots weren't nearly as good as they are now, I can't stress enough.

So, a few teachers, professors, saw their students citing all this garbage.

They ended up spreading the ill word of Wikipedia in workshops.

g0han - December 17, 2014, 6:39 pm

Just use the sources the wikipedia page uses

deiski - December 17, 2014, 6:44 pm

(Dec 17, 2014 05:29 PM)dragonvein Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Teachers tell me not to use wiki

I use wiki

I get A on my assignment

I got an A as well from rewording an article.

chzq - December 17, 2014, 7:21 pm

They hate it because it's like a cheat sheet.... They want you to do the research yourself

idolizegianna - December 17, 2014, 8:01 pm

Yea my teacher said the same thing. It's true though anyone can change it

Hug- - December 17, 2014, 8:04 pm

I hated when they did that... it really annoyed me...

The Winter Soldier - December 17, 2014, 8:22 pm

I always use Wikipedia on my essays. I just cite a bullshit source. My teachers don't check

Proficiency - December 17, 2014, 8:23 pm

Doesn't your edits on Wikipedia have to be approved before it's actually put on the site?

SaketSaket - December 18, 2014, 12:14 am

One of my niece's school teacher told me that 60% info on Wikipedia is fake, so don't use it...

Samplif1re - December 18, 2014, 3:24 am

(Dec 17, 2014 09:23 PM)Lycaons Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Doesn't your edits on Wikipedia have to be approved before it's actually put on the site?

Yeah exactly. The changes you make can be seen by you, but only you until it is approved.

'Palladium - December 18, 2014, 3:38 am

Because anyone can edit or create Wikipedia pages.

mockingjay - December 18, 2014, 8:43 pm

(Dec 17, 2014 05:42 PM)DesmondTheMoonbear Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) On the other hand, most of the mods

is 13-18 years old.

Um, what are you even talking about? Where is your source for this statistic? (there's none)

Sasaki Haise - December 18, 2014, 8:46 pm

Because it's general knowledge that can be edited falsely even for a split minute and at the end of the day, it's just mostly well grammar and punctuated opinions.

GreenMartian - December 18, 2014, 9:06 pm

Honestly man I think they just want to make sure you have real information based on the idea they have that ("don't believe everything on the internet is true unless its from a .gov website") I personally think this is dumb of them aswell and you should not have recieved and F have you consulted your principal about this issue?

shajaams - December 18, 2014, 9:09 pm

I think its because they dont want you to copy paste an entire article without thinking, use their references :p

hacc - December 18, 2014, 9:12 pm

Teachers usually aren't good with computers. they don't understand the concept of wikipedia; how there are moderators who make sure people don't just change the stuff to nonsense. they probably don't even know what a moderator is. they just hear "anyone can change it" and make a bunch of assumptions about how its not credible. i have tested it out one time. I changed a completely random article about plums and by the end of the day it was back to normal.

i think its a good place to start with any research. you get familiar with other terms and get ideas of other stuff to look up.

~Jay~ - December 18, 2014, 9:32 pm

Just look at what Wikipedia uses for citations and use that. Don't just try to rage against the machine and fail for no reason.

Chance? - December 18, 2014, 9:36 pm

Not sure why teachers have always hated Wikipedia. Yeah, people say anyone can edit whatever they want but if that was truly the case, wouldn't a bigger amount of the information be fake? I'm pretty sure Wikipedia reviews the information more than most teachers think. I'm finishing up my second year of college and I've used Wikipedia my entire life, never had a single problem with it.

MrOrang - December 23, 2014, 4:44 am

My school does not really care about this as long as you put it in your resources and put in the date you viewed the article on wikipedia.

Tomb Raider - December 23, 2014, 4:46 am

The excuse they will use 100% of the time is that anyone can edit it so it is not accurate. But Wikipedia is amazing and 99% is correct. For the rare occasion someone does edit a page trying to be funny it is monitored closely and be removed quickly.

I really do wish teachers would allow Wiki

montana12345 - December 23, 2014, 5:02 am

I use wikipedia anyway. They just hate it because one time one smart guy said that wikipedia is unprecise..

'Snorlax - December 23, 2014, 10:48 am

Wikipedia is not a trustworthy source, simply because anyone can write there. If your Wikipedia page has no sources, it's most likely fake, if you can't find it anywhere else.

Handsome Banana - December 23, 2014, 10:49 am

At the bottom on the wikipedia page you can find the sources for the whole article. Just cite those instead of wikipedia.

ISO - December 23, 2014, 11:18 am

Because most important part of the information is covered in the same place and teacher want student to search information from everywhere on the internet.

WebcamPython - December 23, 2014, 11:22 am

Its because "Anyone can edit it" but they dont realize its actually a reliable source.

Chuck. - December 23, 2014, 11:23 am

1. They do not want you to copy and paste.
2. They want you to actually research
3. It gets too easy.

Rooter - December 23, 2014, 11:25 am

(Dec 17, 2014 05:25 PM)Vancouver Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Most, if not all, information on Wikipedia is cited from reliable sources that are usually academic in nature.

It pisses me off that most teachers don't realise that. It's the same at my university, we get marked down if we cite Wikipedia. This, most important topics are also locked to prevent vandalism.

Tutelary - December 23, 2014, 11:26 am

You'd be surprised on how a lot of things are done. Check out the history of any controversial page. It's ridiculous. Anywho, don't use Wikipedia itself, use it as a general overview and check the sources it provides. I'm sure there are moderators but they aren't really prominent. I've done a few petty vandalism runs by changing a single number in a date, they don't get rid of it. But it's a game. You have to be careful as doing too much gets it removed.

Stack Overflow - December 23, 2014, 11:42 am

I've never understood it either. Most teachers are unable to comprehend the fact that you need sources for your information to submit to Wikipedia, or else it is flagged with a warning saying that no sources/too few sources were specified.

I recall a couple of years back, I asked a teacher if I could use the source links on a Wikipedia page that the author used for my project. She shot back at me asked "Are the sources from Wikipedia?" "Well, they are the sources the author used to write that Wikipedia entry..." "If it in any way comes from Wikipedia, you can't use it."

Fuck you, Mrs. P.

Ta-kun - December 23, 2014, 11:45 am

Wikipedia can be a useful place for information on most things, yes like your teacher says it can be edited by anyone, but most of the information is cited from reliable places. Another thing is your teacher may just want you to actually browser for your work or information, instead of going to one site.

XHakz - December 23, 2014, 11:52 am

When I was in school my teachers hated it to, but for one project I was able to prove everything I got

a Wiki :P they let it slide and I only got a 75% on the project.

'Snorlax - December 23, 2014, 12:36 pm

(Dec 23, 2014 12:42 PM)Poon Lagoon Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I've never understood it either. Most teachers are unable to comprehend the fact that you need sources for your information to submit to Wikipedia, or else it is flagged with a warning saying that no sources/too few sources were specified.

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Fuck you, Mrs. P.

Well of course. Wikipedia is not a reliable source. Anyone can edit the page and write whatever the fuck they want.

If you want to use a source from Wikipedia, go to the bottom and find it. If you can't find it, go find the source another place than Wikipedia.

It's not trustworthy and you can't use it in a report, simply because anyone and their mother can edit the page.

Triicky - December 23, 2014, 1:02 pm

they dont like it because nothing can proved to be 100% cited also because anyone can edit the information from any alias and say its true