

Wikipedia: Five pillars

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Many thousands of editors volunteer their time, viewpoints, creativity, and knowledge with the intention of creating the most accurate and complete encyclopedia possible.

There are no strict rules and no real hierarchy of power, but somewhere out of this potential chaos some order has been established, setting the bare minimum of behaviors to create Wikipedia. The community's basic [policies and guidelines](#) are summarized below.

The five pillars

The fundamental principles of Wikipedia may be summarized in five "[pillars](#)":



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Wikipedia has no firm rules

Wikipedia has [policies and guidelines](#), but they are not carved in stone; their content and interpretation can evolve over time. [The principles and spirit matter more than literal wording](#), and sometimes improving Wikipedia requires making exceptions. [Be bold](#) but not [reckless](#) in updating articles. And [do not agonize over making mistakes](#): [every past version of a page is saved](#), so mistakes can be easily corrected.