Object Attributes and Relations

This feature was started in Tiki5 and will be more & more used in Tiki6

Attributes should be used to create cross-feature functionality.

Attributes

To implement transversal features such as geolocalization of objects in tiki, Object Attributes were introduced. Not unlike user preferences, they are key-value pairs stored in the database and are associated to the type and itemId (same as object permissions).

To avoid the inconsistencies seen in the preference naming conventions, the attribute library enforces a few conventions.

1. Attribute names may only contain lowercase letters and dots.
2. Two levels of scoping are required. First level for bundled attributes must be tiki. Custom extensions can use an other prefix. Second level must be some sort of package name. The rest is up to the implementor.

Valid attributes would be **tiki.geo.lat** or **tiki.geo.lon**

Library code is located in *lib/attributes/attributelib.php*. The library allows to:

- Get all attributes for an object as a map using get_attributes().
- Set a single attribute on an object using set_attribute().

Because all values are fetched at once, the length of the content **must remain small**. The limit of the size of attribute and relation names is 25 characters.

Current attribute usage in the tiki.* namespace

Please document namespace use here as you start using new attributes in Tiki features

Attribute	Usage	
tiki.article.*	Custom attribute fields for articles	Not appropriate! Attributes should be applicable to all object types
tiki.comment.ranges	Range information for annotatorjs for inline comments (since 17)	
tiki.content.url	File gallery files location of remote content	
tiki.content.expires	File gallery files expiration of remote content	
tiki.content.lastcheck	File gallery files last check time of remote content	
tiki.content.source	Same as tiki.content.url if not a "reference"?	
tiki.content.etag	File gallery files etag of remote content	
tiki.geo.lat	Latitude coordinate of the object	
tiki.geo.lon	Longitude coordinate of the object	
tiki.geo.google.zoom	Zoom level of an object used in Google Maps	
tiki.icon.src	Icon url for object such as trackeritems	
tiki.object.lock	Username of who locked the object (since 15)	
tiki.object.image	Used in forums?	

tiki.object.layout	Page layout to be used (used in wiki pages)
tiki.proposal.accept	Proposal plugin +1 vote
tiki.proposal.undecided	Proposal plugin 0 vote
tiki.proposal.reject	Proposal plugin -1 vote
*.rating.override	Ratings?
tiki.relation.target	Label to be used when referring to the target of a relation
tiki.relation.source	Label to be used when referring to the source of a relation
tiki.sync.provider	Remote tracker sync providor
tiki.sync.source	Remote tracker sync source
tiki.sync.last	Remote tracker sync last sync time
tiki.tracker.pretty.views	Invalid and probably unused (from r34097)
tiki.wiki.autotoc	Override the global pref for autotoc per wiki page
tiki.wiki.page_hide_title	Override the global pref for show title per wiki page
tiki.wiki.namespace	Namespace of a wiki page

Relations

The Object Relations allow to qualify a relationship between any two objects in the system or with external resources (URLs). Just like attributes, the qualified name of the relationship must be scoped.

Relations are managed with lib/attributes/relationlib.php ⬀.

Because all values are fetched at once, the length of the content **must remain small**. The limit of the size of attribute and relation names is 25 characters.

Current relation usage in the tiki.* namespace

Please document any relations used in Tiki features here

Relation	Usage
tiki.article.attribute	Relationship between an article type and its related custom attribute fields
tiki.article.attach	Used in the Articles tracker field to attach articles to a tracker item
tiki.file.attach	Attaches File Gallery files to objects (tracker items so far?)
tiki.friend.follow	used by the friends feature to indicate a friendship/following relationship
tiki.friend.request	used by the friends feature to indicate a request to be friends
tiki.general.related	Any generic relationship not specific to any feature/module
tiki.link.$type	Links wiki pages ($types are probably semantic etc)
tiki.mustread.complete	Used by the Must Reads feature to indicate that a Must Read is complete
tiki.mustread.required	Used by the Must Reads feature to indicate that a Must Read is required by a user
tiki.mustread.comment	Used by the Must Reads feature to indicate that a Must Read is requires a comment by a user

tiki.mustread.respond_privately	Used by the Must Reads feature to indicate that a Must Read needs a private reply by a user
tiki.mustread.circulation	Used by the Must Reads feature to indicate that a Must Read requires a user to circulate it
tiki.social.like	used by PluginLike for liking of objects
tiki.source.creator	used by PluginInsert to keep track of which page created the Tracker Item via this plugin
tiki.sheet.$type	Relates sheets and trackers
tiki.user.favorite	Links users to favourite objects (wiki pages only so far?)
tiki.user.banned	To ban users from objedcts (groups initially for 8.x could be extended)
tiki.wiki.linkeditem	used by the Wiki tracker field type to link a wiki page with a tracker
tiki.wiki.linkedfield	used by the Wiki tracker field type to link a wiki page with a tracker

Displaying links to relations using the object_link smarty tag

A smarty tag like this will show a link to the object that is at the target end of the relation. The text of the link will be the "tiki.relation.target" attribute set for that relation (i.e. the attribute for an object of type 'relation' and relationId, if any. If there is no such attribute set for that relation, then it will show the usual link as per the normal behavior of the object_link tag.

```
{object_link type=relation_target id=x}
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alias
- object
- objects
- attribute
- attributes
- relation
- relations