

# ZIM (file format)

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The **ZIM** file format is an open file format that stores wiki content for offline usage.<sup>[1]</sup> Its primary focus is the contents of Wikipedia and other Wikimedia projects.

The format allows for the compression of articles, features a full-text search index and native category and image handling similar to MediaWiki, and the entire file is easily indexable and readable using a program like Kiwix – unlike native Wikipedia XML database dumps.

In addition to the open file format, the openZIM project provides support for an open-source ZIM reader called Kiwix.

ZIM stands for "Zeno IMproved",<sup>[2][3]</sup> as it replaces the earlier Zeno file format. Its file compression uses LZMA2, as implemented by the xz-utils library, and, more recently, Zstandard. The openZIM project is sponsored by Wikimedia CH, and supported by the Wikimedia Foundation.

## References

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1. "openZIM project wiki" (<https://openzim.org>). Retrieved 4 April 2012.
2. "Zeno File Format" ([https://openzim.org/Zeno\\_File\\_Format](https://openzim.org/Zeno_File_Format)). openZIM.org. Retrieved 10 April 2012.
3. ".ZIM File" (<http://filext.com/file-extension/ZIM>). *FILExt*. Retrieved 10 April 2012.

## External links

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- Official website of the **openZIM** project (<https://openzim.org/>)
  - The reference collection of ZIM files ([http://wiki.kiwix.org/wiki/Content\\_in\\_all\\_languages](http://wiki.kiwix.org/wiki/Content_in_all_languages))
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This page was last edited on 9 February 2022, at 17:58 (UTC).

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Kiwix on an Android-powered tablet shown the article from Wikipedia for Schools in offline usage