How do I get started editing Wikipedia?

1) **How do I find an article to edit?**
   Start with something general or important, and dig down into the specifics. Most of the big, important articles are in pretty good shape. It’s easier if you find a smaller, more specialized article that needs your help.

   Go to Wikipedia Design Portal [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portal:Design](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portal:Design) and click on a link that interests you. When you get to the new page, look for another interesting word. Keep clicking on interesting links to more specific articles until you find one that you’d like to improve.
   *For example:*
   - Portal > Office landscape > Industrial Engineering
   - Portal > Tulip Chair > Eero Saarinen
   - Portal > Industrial design > Industrial design (article) > Calculator Olivetti Divisumma 24 (picture)
   - Olivetti (article) > Marcello Nizzoli (article)

2) **How do I know an article needs improving?**
   - It has a banner that says “This article needs…. Please help improve it by…."
   - You read the article and notice it’s too brief, or confusing, or biased.
   - You read the article and notice it’s not up to date. (The designer is still alive but nothing’s been added since 2008.)
   - You read the article, and say to yourself, “I can do better.”

3) **Why don’t all Wikipedia articles have the same format for Citations/References/Sources?**
   Why don’t we all use MLA, APA, or Chicago Style? Because people have different ideas about how things ought to be done. The person who starts an article gets to choose the citation format for that article. If you make edits, you will follow the established form for that article.

4) **What changes can be made?**
   Add information. Edit paragraphs that are poorly written. Add inline citations. Add Wikilinks. Fix broken links. You can fix anything you believe needs fixing, so long as you act within the Wikipedia guidelines.

5) **How do I know what sources are good ones?**
   Wikipedia articles should be based on reliable, published sources. You are striving for a neutral point of view, and you cannot present original research.

6) **Where can I find images to include in an article?**
   Search the Wikimedia Commons [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main_Page](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main_Page)
Images from the Flickr Commons (but ONLY the Commons—not all of Flickr) can also be a source as they have no known copyright. As always, credit your source.

https://www.flickr.com/commons

7) I have more questions, where do I go?
   Google your question with the word “Wikipedia.”

Finally, remember the five fundamental principles of Wikipedia:

- Wikipedia is an encyclopedia.

- Wikipedia is written from a neutral point of view (When there’s a controversy, Wikipedia gives “the state of the question” more than a definitive answer.)

- Wikipedia is free content that anyone can use, edit, and distribute. Respect copyright, never plagiarize, and don’t be surprised when someone edits or uses your words!

- Editors should treat each other with respect and civility. Assume good faith. Act in good faith.

- Wikipedia has no firm rules. Be bold but not reckless in editing.