**Instructions for Editing Wikipedia**

**Setting Up an Account**

1. Click on “Create account” on the upper-right of your screen.
2. Choose an *apolitical* username and a password you can remember.
3. Make some *uncontroversial* and *minor* edits on article(s) you are *interested* in, but not the JBS article (see instructions below on how to properly edit).
4. Once you have made a few edits, create a user page – user pages will help make your account appear “legitimate”, and your username will now be colored blue rather than red.
	1. Click on your username on the upper-right of the screen; it will be colored red prior to creation.
	2. Don’t reveal anything about your political beliefs or affiliation with JBS; user pages can be simple.
	3. Sample user pages (don’t copy-paste them): [User:VictorD7](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/User%3AVictorD7), [User:Boeldieu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/User%3ABoeldieu), [User:Knox490](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/User%3AKnox490), [User:Anupam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/User%3AAnupam), [User:Marquardtika](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/User%3AMarquardtika), [User:Snickers2686](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/User%3ASnickers2686).

**General Rules on How to Edit**

1. [This link](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help%3AEditing) might be helpful in learning how to edit
2. If you are new to editing, it’s good practice to keep two tabs open when editing: one in editing mode and the other in reader mode 🡪 this will help you to more easily learn Wikipedia code and what it stands for.
	1. Also try to edit regularly 🡪 “practice makes perfect”
3. *Always* cite “reliable” sources when adding new information.
	1. Wikipedia’s rules on “reliable” sources are biased in favor of left-wing sources and against conservative ones. Thus, do not cite any source more conservative than Fox News, and only use Fox sparingly.
4. Be as concise as possible when writing and adding new information; use dry language.
5. Be modest and incremental when editing 🡪 Don’t make 20 large changes all in the same edit. Instead, make one edit each for each change.
6. Edit from only *one* account per person 🡪 “socking” (editing from more than one account per person) could get you permanently banned from Wikipedia.
	1. Whenever practicable, try to edit from different locations/IPs. In the (very unlikely) event we’re investigated for socking, their result will be negative.

**Editing Rules Specifically for this Project**

1. Most of your time will be editing articles besides JBS’s to build up your Wikipedia profile and reputation. This way, you won’t be dismissed as a “single-purpose account.”
	1. Try to edit regularly to build up that reputation. It also looks better to have a regular editor than a sporadic one.
	2. Make uncontroversial edits 🡪 You do this by always using “reliable” sources, using very concise language, and without promoting a conservative or constitutionalist perspective.
		1. Try to do more than just “copyedits” (fixing typos, grammar, etc.). Try to make substantive edits.
	3. In general, edit uncontroversial articles 🡪 usually, these are lower-profile articles that get less traffic.
		1. An *exception* is articles of other “right-of-center” political organizations, as long it’s not excessive and as those edits are uncontroversial 🡪 it will look more “innocent” when editing the JBS article.
		2. Examples of uncontroversial articles:
			* Any town or county you’re from, lived in, or are familiar with – the smaller the better.
			* Your local state representative or state senator.
			* State/local-level politicians who have long since left office.
			* Non-American/British politicians who are *not* heads-of-state/government.
			* Lower-level political/career appointees within the Trump administration or previous administrations.
			* Relatively obscure historical figures, regardless of country.
			* Election articles, whether on the state/local level in the U.S./UK, or national elections in foreign countries 🡪 best to add short analyses, based exclusively on “reliable” sources.
2. Avoid getting into conflicts with other editors. Don’t revert other editors multiple times.
	1. If you’re reverted, either ask why (on the article “talk” page or the reverter’s personal “talk” page), or abandon the proposed change.
	2. Be polite and don’t say anything that could be interpreted as a “personal attack.”
3. In general, don’t intentionally edit the same articles with each other, especially if those articles are obscure; this will create suspicion that we’re working together.
	1. The main exception is the JBS article 🡪 most of us should have at least some presence on that article (through minor, uncontroversial edits) before making the most important changes. That way, it will look less suspicious should a dispute arise and people are needed to revert or comment on the “talk” page.

**Other Editing Tips**

1. Try to familiarize yourself with other aspects of Wikipedia, including “talk” pages (on the upper-left of the screen), the sandbox on the upper-right (used for test edits), and the “history” page for looking up past edits. Also, when time permits, try to read some of Wikipedia’s policies and guidelines, which will help when editing or dealing with a dispute.
	1. List of Wikipedia policies/guidelines: [HERE](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Template%3AWikipedia_policies_and_guidelines)
	2. List of Wikipedia essays, which are a level below (and less important than) guidelines: [HERE](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Template%3AWikipedia_essays)
2. Try to have fun when editing, by reading/editing topics that you’re genuinely interested in and making edits you think are helpful (within the parameters outlined above). This will make it less of a burden trying to gain experience and credibility.
3. You might be interested in “[WikiProject Conservatism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia%3AWikiProject_Conservatism).”
4. Feel free to ask whenever you have a question.