



Navigation

What is it?

Microcyte is able to create, edit, manage and remove pages within a website using the site management functions. The site management functions allow microcyte to keep track of the site structure and generate the website navigation on demand. This navigation is generated in the form of HTML unordered lists and you can generate and display these lists using the Microcyte navigation API. The lists can be styled to fit into any template design you require through the use of CSS.

How do you build it?

The API

The navigation API is used through simple PHP function calls. There are a number of API calls, each one has a different purpose and output. The following table details the API calls and their output.

API Call	Description
<code>\$currentpageid</code>	This is actually a microcyte global variable which contains the id of the currently open page. This variable is automatically set by the system and can be used with many of the following functions
<code>getNavForDisplay()</code>	<p>This generates a HTML unordered list of the entire navigation tree as configured in the site management screens of the CMS. This function obeys the live and publish date settings as set in the site management screens.</p> <p>The unordered list that is generated is based around the GRC CSS nav structure so can either be styled as a normal list or, with some understanding of the GRC techniques, can be made into a multi-tear dropdown or flyout-nav which requires no Javascript</p>
<code>subnavAsList(\$pageid)</code>	This function takes the given <code>\$pageid</code> parameter and generates a single level sub nav for that page id in the form of a HTML unordered list.

	For use in templates you can use the global system variable <code>\$currentpageid</code> which will always return the id of the current page (assuming it is part of the system managed navigation). Thus the call: <code>subnavAsList(\$currentpageid)</code> should return the sub navigation for the current page.
<code>siblingnavAsList(\$pageid)</code>	This function works as the above <code>subnavAsList</code> except that it produces a HTML unordered list of all the sibling pages to the page id given. This effectively allows you to show a sub navigation of all the pages in the same section as the page you are currently viewing.
<code>breadcrumbAsList(\$pageid)</code>	This function allows you to show a breadcrumb navigation ending with the page given as <code>\$pageid</code> . The breadcrumb is generated as an un-styled HTML unordered list.
<code>subnavAsLandingPage(\$pageid, \$template, \$limit, [\$order], [\$datefrom], [\$dateto])</code>	This is a landing page function. The functional allows you to combine a template together with the sub navigation of the current page to produce a landing page. This is useful for news landing pages or other situations where you want to flag content from sub pages into a parent page. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <code>\$template</code> specifies a template snippet file. The template file works as a snippet and has placeholders which can be filled with page title, page link, page description, etc. See 'fragments and snippets' for more details. • <code>\$order</code> can be "asc" or "desc" (asc is default). • <code>\$limit</code> can be 0 (which is no limit) or any positive number • <code>\$datefrom</code> indicates the earliest publish date of content to be shown • <code>\$dateto</code> indicates the latest publish date of content to be shown.

Using the API

Using the navigation API is very simple, to use an API call simple create a PHP code block and call the API function you want to use. The only unusual thing you need to do is wrap the PHP block in a CDATA block as we do when we are adding any PHP or Javascript code block into a template. The following is an example of calling the main site navigation:

```
<!-- <![CDATA[ -->  
<?php getNavForDisplay(); ?>  
<!-- ]]> -->
```

Another example is the following call to generate a sub nav using a template, newsfrag is the name of the template snippet being used and the number '25' is the maximum number of nav items to generate:

```
<!-- <![CDATA[ -->  
<?php subnavAsLandingPage($currentpageid, "newsfrag.tmp", 25); ?>  
<!-- ]]> -->
```