
IndentByFold Documentation

Release 0.7.3

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CHAPTER 1

Introduction

IndentByFold is a plug-in for [Notepad++](#). It uses fold points to indent the code. So if the fold level increases or decreases, so should the indentation.

1.1 Installation Note

For the plug-in to work properly it is important to disable Notepad++'s built-in Auto Indent. Go to `Settings - Preferences - MISC` and untick `Auto Indent`.

1.2 History

In May 2011 Ben Bluemel released the first version of the IndentByFold plug-in. He released three version, up till 0.7. But since then he switched away from Notepad++ and stopped developing his plug-ins. In April 2013 Frank Fesevur took over the maintenance of the plug-in.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: The plug-in works beautifully for HTML, but I couldn't get it to work for Python. I open a new file, set the language to Python, start typing - no indenting. I use the "Reindent File" command - no indenting. What can I do to make it work?

A: Python has a bit of a conflict here, Python's fold points are generated dependent on indentation, and this plug-in is dependent on fold points to know how to do the indentation. Not really much I can do about this I'm afraid. That's why "Reindent File" is disabled for Python.

Q: In CSS, "{" brackets don't indent left like they do in the C-based languages. Between `<style>` tags in HTML, indentation doesn't happen at all.

A: This is an issue with the CSS lexer in Scintilla, rather than in IndentByFold. It's inconsistent in that it sets the next line's fold level to be the same as the current.

Building IndentByFold

To compile IndentByFold you can use [Visual Studio](#). Project files for VS2017 are provided and actively used. The free version of Visual Studio Express gets the job done. Obviously the paid versions work as well. To compile with newer versions of Visual Studio you can convert an existing project file.

There is also a [MinGW-w64](#) makefile, using both their 32-bit and 64-bit compilers. It can be used from [Cygwin](#), [MSYS2](#) and on Linux (including WSL).

Know that the MinGW version of the DLL can't be loaded in Notepad++. For some reason Notepad++ says the DLL is not compatible. Still building with MinGW is done by Travis CI to make sure the code compiles without errors.

3.1 Building the documentation

The documentation of IndentByFold is written in [reStructuredText](#) and hosted on [Read The Docs](#).

To build on Windows you need [Python Sphinx](#). When using Cygwin you can install the `python-sphinx` and `make` packages.

Use `make html` in the `docs` directory to generate the documentation. Other forms of output are not used, but might work.

If you want the local docs to look like Read The Docs: - Clone the [Sphinx RTD Theme](#). - Create a directory named `_themes` in the `docs` directory. - There you need to create a symlink to the `sphinx_rtd_theme` subdirectory

in the cloned repo.

CHAPTER 4

Wish list

- Reindent a selection.
- Integrate Python Ident plugin
- Check if the `Auto Indent` checkbox in the Notepad++ settings has been unchecked. Use `TinyXml2` to parse the `config.xml` file and check `<GUIConfig name="MaitainIndent">`.
- Maybe add a menu item to see if the plug-in is active. Depends on checking the `Auto Indent` checkbox.
- Sometimes the plug-in changes a file after opening it. Not sure when that happens exactly.

CHAPTER 5

Contact

The plug-in's web page can be found at <https://github.com/ffes/indentbyfold/>. The downloads and issue tracker can be found there as well.

If you have problems with, questions about or suggestions for IndentByFold and you want to contact me directly, you can send me an email at fesevur@gmail.com

CHAPTER 6

License

This plug-in is published under the GPL-2 license. See *GNU General Public License* for the full license agreement. You can find the sources of the latest version or the latest developments at [GitHub](#).

7.1 Version 0.7.3 (2019-11-10)

- Fix how version numbers were retrieved. In the v0.7.2 DLLs it still said v0.7.1. Now the version numbers are completely based upon the git repository. The version in the documentation still need to be updated manually, but that is probably not possible due to the automatic processing by Read The Docs.

7.2 Version 0.7.2 (2019-11-07)

- Provide a 64-bit version of the plug-in.
- Converted the documentation from DocBook to reStructuredText. The documentation is now hosted at [Read The Docs](#).

7.3 Version 0.7.1 (2013-04-17)

- Frank Fesevur has taken over the maintenance of this plug-in.
- Fixed: Reindent file is now one undo action.
- Fixed: Disabled “Reindent File” for Python, see *the FAQ* for more details.
- Restructured the source files to personal preference.
- Solution files for VS2005 are provided as well.
- Started to write documentation using DocBook. This is the first result. The current FAQ is based upon issues posted on [Ben’s BitBucket](#) page. The revision history until version 0.7 are taken from the [forum post](#) about this plug-in.

7.4 Version 0.7 (2011-09-18)

- This release fixes issues with certain lexers that notify on the following line (Ruby, HTML, Lisp, Lua, Pascal, XML). For these lexers you need to have a line following the one you are typing on.

- The following screencast shows it in use and how it works: <http://screencast.com/t/tUD2nfeLX>

7.5 Version 0.6 (2011-06-19)

- This changes IndentByFold to more heavily rely on the SC_MOD_CHANGEFOLD notification from Scintilla.

This means that when you end a fold (e.g. with a `}`) it will unindent to the same level as the start of the fold.

- One Bonus feature of this handles `} else {`, in that it will unindent at the `}`, and when you have `else {`, it will know that the fold has increased again, so will on the next line increase the indent.

NOTE: This can only do it in one go (i.e. you can't go onto a line with `}`, and type in `else {`, and expect it to be indented on the next line, as it won't have known that it unindented for the `}`. I may be able to work around this at some point, so we shall see, but hopefully not too much of an issue.

- Same goes for the Reindent file, because it doesn't actually have a logged decrement of the fold at `} else {`, it looks to the reindent code that it's remained at the same level (so won't decrement the indentation for `} else {`)

7.6 Version 0.5 (2011-05-21)

- Idea behind this plug-in is rather simple, if the fold level increases or decreases, so should the indentation.
- Using C-like languages as an example:

Typing in `{` and pressing enter, will mean the line you are now on, has 1 more level of indent than the `{`.

Typing in `}` and pressing enter, will match the indentation of `{` line, so the `}` is now lined up properly.

- There is also an option in the plug-in menu to reindent the file based on the fold levels.

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- `modindex`
- `search`