

Looking Forward: Portability and Mobile

A presentation by TwoTailedFox
Vanguard

What is *mobile*?

- Mobile refers to non-desktop platforms, typically smartphones and devices with screens smaller than 7 inches (17.78 cm).
- Mobile uses its own skin, called Mercury.
- Mercury was built with touch screens in mind.
- Other devices may also use the Mercury skin by choice.

Mercury was designed to promote infoboxes as the main content element.



What is *portability*?

Portability is the separation of content from presentation; it is as much a **philosophy** as it is a technical implementation.

 **fandom**

POWERED BY **wikia**



in: *Memory Alpha* →

USS Reliant

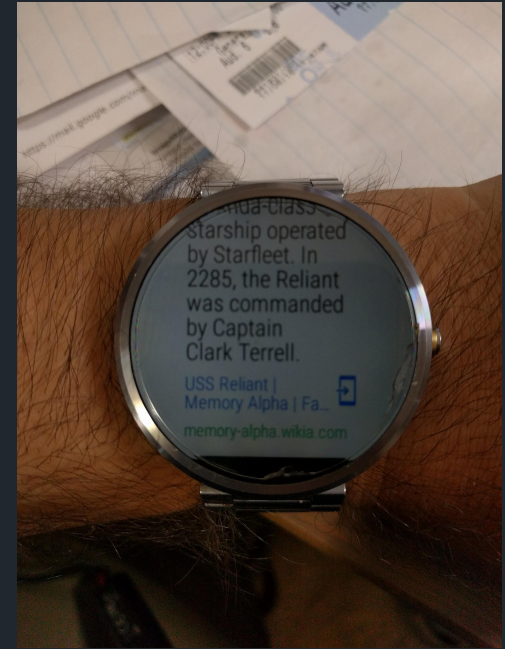
Class:	<i>Miranda-class</i>
Registry:	NCC-1864
Owner:	United Federation of Planets
Operator:	Starfleet, then Augments
Status:	Destroyed (2285)

USS Reliant



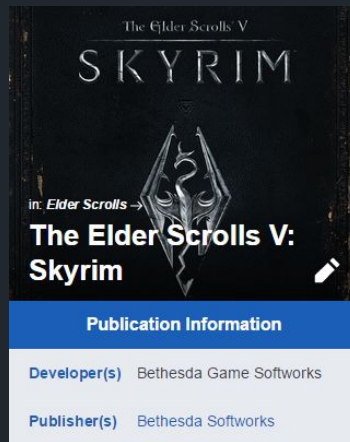
Class:	<i>Miranda-class</i>
Registry:	NCC-1864
Owner:	United Federation of Planets
Operator:	Starfleet, then Augments
Status:	Destroyed (2285)

But portability applies to more than just mobile...



Why do we often mention *mobile* and *portability* together?

- At the core, they are still *separate* concepts:
 - **Mobile** → Platform that users view your content on
 - **Portability** → Adjust the presentation based on what device is being used to access that data
- Mobile users represent a **significant portion** of viewing traffic.
- Because of the way that Mercury displays content, it often sees the biggest improvement when content is made more portable. Portable content also improves the desktop experience by providing consistency and simplicity to editors and template designers.



Writing with portability in mind

Contributors can (and should!) format their content for *all* devices, rather than one or more *specific* devices.

So, editors making content and templates should aim for portability instead of crafting for mobile or desktop.

Why should my community's content be portable?

- Mobile devices become ever-present fixtures in our lifestyle.
- In 2004, websites were overwhelmingly configured for desktop users.
- The launch of the iPhone 3G and similar smartphones in 2008 saw mobile browsing, for the first time, become a *viable* method of data access for the general public.
- Portability means that, to your users, the way they see and share your wiki's content is protected.
- Portability ensures that, as technology evolves, and as the ways we edit, view and share content expand, Fandom will be able to ensure that the content can be displayed and viewed on any device going forward.

To make your community's content portable is to *future-proof* your community's content in the years to come.

Portability Checklist: What do we look for first?

When assessing the potential for a community to become portable, Vanguard look at several areas of the wiki.

1. First off *Special:Insights* is checked.
 - Template Classification
2. Drafts are then created for new infoboxes.
3. CSS, if needed, is created for the portable infoboxes so that the new infoboxes are as close as possible in appearance and functionality to their desktop predecessors.
4. Approval by the local administration.



Who are Vanguard?

Vanguard is Fandom's rapid-response unit, dedicated to helping to make content portable (as well as introducing other emerging technologies and products) across Fandom's communities.

Vanguard language teams exist for the following languages:

- English
- German
- Spanish
- French

We also have members within these teams that are fluent in other languages, such as Portuguese and Russian, who may apply their linguistic talents to tasks that may involve communities in languages other than the ones listed above.



VANGUARD TEAM



Live Example

Side by side with the Blisk browser



Questions?

Use the Q & A button to the right to
"raise your hand"