Independent Submission
Request for Comments: 0008
Category: Informational
ISSN: 2070-1721

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March 2026

# Authoring an RFC with the RFC.EE Editor

## Abstract

This document describes the authoring workflow in RFC.EE: signing in, creating an article, adding and reordering blocks, previewing the rendered document, and publishing it to the public index. It is a how-to, not a specification.

## Status of This Memo

This document is not an Internet Standards Track specification; it is published for informational purposes.

This document is a product of an independent submission. It has been approved for publication by the RFC Editor, but is not a candidate for any level of Internet Standard; see Section 2 of RFC 7841.

Information about the current status of this document, any errata, and how to provide feedback on it may be obtained at https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc0008.

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## 1. Introduction

The RFC.EE Editor is a split-pane block editor. On the left is a list of the blocks that make up the current document; on the right is a live preview of the rendered output. Authors spend most of their time in this view.

## 2. Signing In

Open /login and provide a username and password. On a fresh installation, the default administrator is "admin" with password "admin123". Change this at once by creating a new admin user and deleting or re-keying the default.

WARNING: The default credentials are seeded for convenience on first install. They MUST be changed before the site is made publicly accessible.

## 3. Creating an Article

From the admin dashboard, click "New Article". Provide at minimum the RFC number, the title, the short title (shown in the running page header), the author name and organization, the category, the stream, and the month/year of publication. The ISSN defaults to 2070-1721; set it to empty if your deployment is not associated with the RFC Editor.

The new article is created unpublished. It will not appear on the public index until you toggle the Published flag.

## 4. Adding Blocks

Click "+ Add Block" to insert a block. A drop-down lets you pick the block type. Each type has its own form: a heading block prompts for level, number, and text; a paragraph block prompts for text; a reference block prompts for a tag, authors, title, series, and date.

Blocks can be reordered by drag-and-drop. They can be duplicated with the "Duplicate" button -- useful for lists of similar items such as definition entries or consecutive paragraphs with the same structure.

## 5. Previewing

The right pane shows a live preview of the rendered HTML. The preview updates after every block edit. To see the document as plain text, append &format=txt to the preview URL; for PDF, append &format=pdf.

## 6. Publishing

From the admin dashboard, toggle the Published flag on the article row. Published articles appear on the public index, in the Recently Published card grid on the homepage, and in the full Index table. Unpublished articles remain visible only to signed-in editors.

## 7. Security Considerations

The editor enforces CSRF tokens on POST forms and refuses requests that lack a valid token. Authors SHOULD sign out when they are done editing, because a forgotten session cookie is a vector for hijacking.

## 8. References

[RFC0006] M. Developer, "Block Types in the RFC.EE Editor", RFC 0006, March 2026

## 9. Author's Address

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