Active Forums 4.0 – Custom Templates & Themes Guide

In order to fully customize your forums, you will need a working understanding of HTML and CSS. Using DotNetNuke Tokens will make the process easier, but you will still need to be able to determine where to place them.

Viewing and editing templates can be achieved simply by clicking the Templates button in the Active Forums Control Panel. This interface allows you to see the mark-up, edit, then save your changes. Templates are similar to Web User Controls (ASCX), but they make it easier for users to customize without programming by using replacement tokens ([TOKEN]). Each view has its own set of tokens that can be used within the template. A template can contain tokens, text, html, and ASP.NET web controls. Before you edit anything, it is highly recommended that you make a backup copy of your custom templates so that you can revert to the default template if an issue should arise.

Editing a theme requires you to navigate to the folder where DotNetNuke is installed on your server. Open the DesktopModules/ActiveForums/themes folder. Here you will find the skins that come with Active Forums 4.0. Each folder contains a different module.css file and the associated images. Modifying these files or placing your own files here will change the available themes on your portal. To view the list of currently installed themes, open the Control Panel and click Settings.

After editing a template, you must ensure that it is selected under the group/forum options in the Control Panel. The theme can be chosen under the settings menu.

Below are diagrams showing how common tokens and CSS classes are implemented.

Token Name	Forum	Topics	Topic	Description
[ACTIONS:ANSWER]			☑	This displays a button that users press to answer the topic's question.
[ACTIONS:ALERT]			☑	Displays a button users press to report a post.
[ACTIONS:DELETE]		☑	☑	Displays the button used to delete a post.
[ACTIONS:EDIT]		☑	☑	Displays the button used to edit a post.
[ACTIONS:LOCK]		☑	☑	Displays the button used to lock a post.
[ACTIONS:MOVE]		☑	☑	Displays the button used to move a post
[ACTIONS:PIN]		☑	☑	Displays the button used to pin a post to the top of the topics list.
[ACTIONS:QUOTE]			☑	Displays the button used to quote a post.
[ACTIONS:REPLY]			☑	Displays a button used to add a reply.
[ADDREPLY]			☑	The main button used to add a reply.
[ADDTOPIC]		☑		The button used to adding a new topic.
[AF:CONTROL:ADDFAVORITE]	☑			Adds a button that will add the page to the browser favorites menu.
[AF:CONTROL:ADDTHIS]			☑	Adds a button used for social bookmarking.
[AF:CONTROL:EMAIL]		☑	☑	A small envelope icon used for emailing posts.
[AF:CONTROL:PRINTER]		☑	☑	A small printer icon that links to a printer friendly display.
[AF:CONTROL:TAGS]			☑	The beginning of the tag display section.
[/AF:CONTROL:TAGS]			☑	The end of the tag display section.
[AF:CONTROL:TOGGLESUBSCRIBE]	☑			The button used to change subscription status.
[AF:ICONLINK:LASTREAD]		☑		Small arrow used to go to the last read post.
[AF:ICONLINK:LASTREPLY]		☑		Small arrow used to go to the last reply in the topic.
[AF:PROFILE:PMLINK]			☑	Links to the private messaging module specified in the settings.
[AF:PROFILE:PMURL]			☑	Broad URL to the private messaging module.
[AF:UI:MINIPAGER]		☑		The small display of page numbers by a topic.
[AF:URL:LASTREAD]		☑		The link to the last post the user read.
[AF:URL:LASTREPLY]		☑		The link to the last reply in the topic.
[ANNOUNCEMENTS]		☑		This indicates the beginning of the announcements section.
[/ANNOUNCEMENTS]		☑		This indicates the ending of the announcements section.
[ATTACHMENTS]			☑	Displays the attachments included with a post.
[BANNER]			☑	Inserts a banner add.

| Token Name | Forum | Topics | Topic | Description |

[BODYTITLE]		☑		Displays the body of a post without HTML to be used within HTML for title attributes.
[BREADCRUMB]	☑			The breadcrumb style forum navigation bar.
[DATECREATED]		☑	☑	The date the post was created.
[DISPLAYNAME]	☑			The display name of the users.
[FORUMDESCRIPTION]	☑			The description of each forum.
[FORUMGROUPLINK]		☑	☑	The link to the forum group.
[FORUMICON]	☑			The icon next to the forum name.
[FORUMICONSM]	☑			A smaller forum icon.
[FORUMLINK]		☑	☑	The link to the forum.
[FORUMMAINLINK]		☑	☑	The link to the main forum view.
[FORUMNAME]	☑	☑	☑	The name of the forum.
[FORUMS]	☑			This indicates the beginning of the forums section.
[/FORUMS]	☑			This indicates the ending of the forums section.
[FORUMSUBSCRIBE]		☑		The button used to subscribe to a forum.
[GROUP]	☑			This indicates the beginning of the group display section.
[/GROUP]	☑			This indicates the ending of the group display section.
[GROUPCOLLAPSE]	☑			The small arrows used to collapse the view of a forum group.
[GROUPNAME]	☑	☑	☑	The name of a forum group.
[GROUPSECTION]	☑			This indicates the beginning of a forum group section.
[/GROUPSECTION]	☑			This indicates the ending of a forum group section.
[INTERESTS]			☑	The user's interests.
[JUMPTO]	☑	☑	☑	A small drop down list of the forums, allowing fast navigation.
[LASTPOST]		☑		This indicates the start of the last post section.
[/LASTPOST]		☑		This indicates the ending of the last post section.
[LASTPOSTDATE]	☑	☑		The date of the latest post.
[LASTPOSTDISPLAYNAME]		☑		The user who made the last post.
[LASTPOSTSUBJECT:XX]	☑			The title of the latest topic. Replace XX with the number of characters you want to display.
[LOCATION]			☑	The user's location.

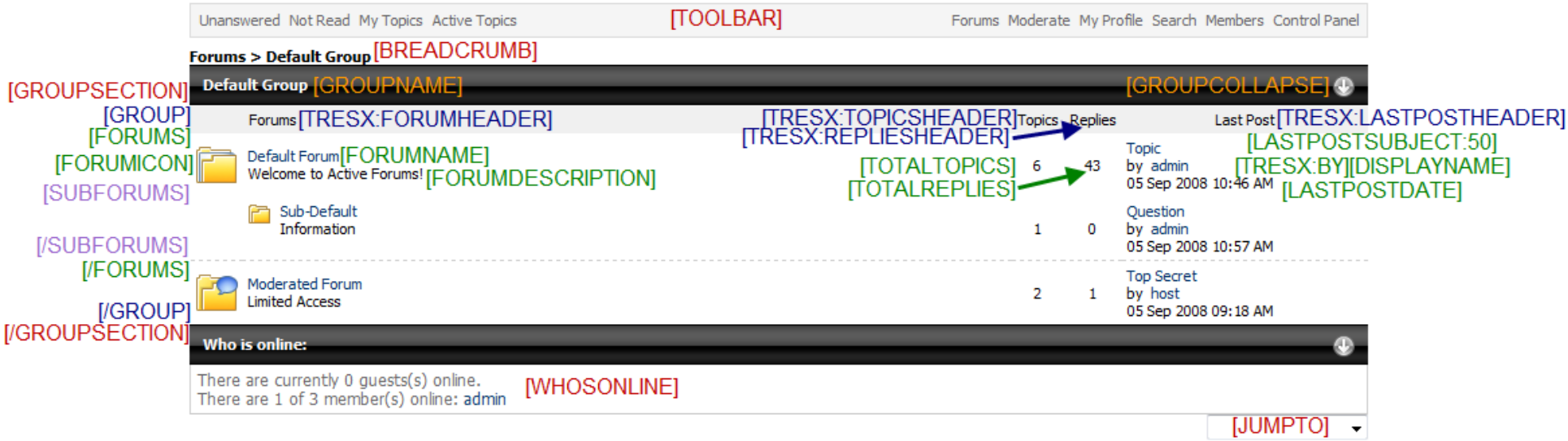
Token Name	**Forum**	**Topics**	**Topic**	**Description**
[MEMBERSINCE]			☑	The date when the user registered their account.

[MINISEARCH]		☑		The small search box.
[MODIPADDRESS]			☑	The IP address of the user. Only visible by moderators.
[MODULEID]	☑			The id of the module.
[NOPAGING]			☑	This token removes the pager. Useful for blog type posts.
[OCCUPATION]			☑	The user's occupation.
[PAGER1]		☑	☑	The menu of page numbers.
[PAGER2]		☑	☑	Another menu of page numbers.
[POLLRESULTS]			☑	This is the graph of results from a poll.
[PORTALID]	☑			The id of the current portal.
[POSTDATE]			☑	The date of the post.
[POSTICON]		☑		The icon a user chooses for their topic.
[POSTID]			☑	The id of the individual post.
[POSTINFO]			☑	Displays the postinfo template.
[POSTINFOCSS]			☑	Renders the appropriate CSS class for the post info template.
[POSTRATINGBUTTON]			☑	The 5 star system used to rate a topic.
[POSTREPLYCSS]			☑	Displays the appropriate CSS for replies.
[POSTS]			☑	The number of posts a topic has had.
[QUICKREPLY]			☑	The quick reply form.
[RANKDISPLAY]			☑	Displays the picture representing a user's rank.
[RANKNAME]			☑	The name of a users rank.
[REPLIES]		☑		The number of replies a topic has had.
[REPLY]			☑	This indicates the beginning of the replies section.
[/REPLY]			☑	This indicates the ending of the replies section.
[REPLYCOUNT]			☑	The number of replies a topic has had.
[ROLES:ROLE1;ROLE2]			☑	Displays the role to which the author may belong. For example, [ROLES:Administrators;Registered Users]
[ROWCSS]		☑		Displays the appropriate CSS for alternating rows.

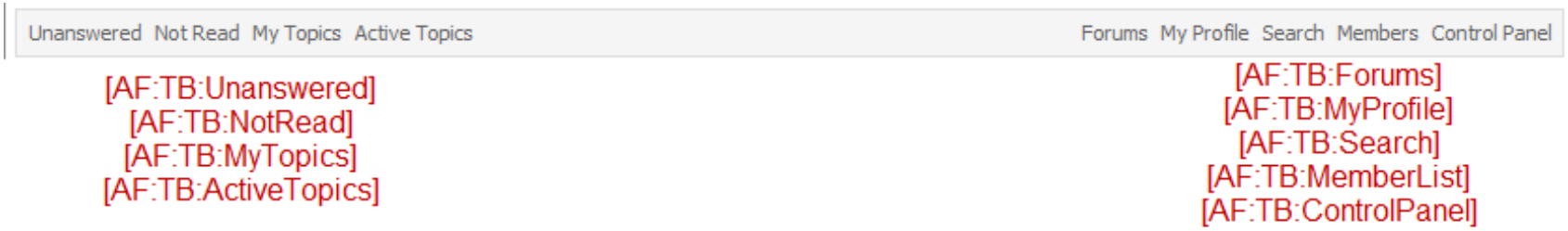
Token Name	**Forum**	**Topics**	**Topic**	**Description**
[SIGNATURE]			☑	The user's signature.
[SORTDROPDOWN]			☑	The drop down box used to sort the display order of posts.

[SPACER:HH:WW]	☑	☑	☑	This will insert a transparent .gif to use as spacer to assist with layout and formatting.
[STARTEDBY]		☑		The user who started the post.
[STATISTICS]	☑			Forum statistics.
[STATUS]		☑		The status of a topic.
[SUBFORUMS]	☑	☑		This indicates the beginning of the sub forums section.
[/SUBFORUMS]	☑	☑		This indicates the ending of the sub forums section.
[SUBJECT]		☑	☑	The subject of the topic.
[TABID]	☑			The id of the current tab.
[TEMPLATE:TOOLBAR]	☑			The template used for the toolbar.
[TOOLBAR]	☑	☑	☑	The toolbar that has links to profiles, the control panel, etc.
[TOPIC]			☑	This indicates the start of the topic display section.
[/TOPIC]			☑	This indicates the end of the topic display section.
[TOPICS]		☑		The beginning of the topics display section.
[/TOPICS]		☑		The end of the topics display section.
[TOPICSUBSCRIBE]			☑	The button used to subscribe to a topic.
[TOPICURL]		☑		The direct link to a topic.
[TOTALREPLIES]	☑			The total number of replies in a forum.
[TOTALTOPICS]	☑			The total number of topics in a forum.
[USERCAPTION]			☑	The caption for a user.
[USERID]	☑		☑	The user's id number.
[USERNAME]			☑	The username.
[USERSTATUS]			☑	Shows if a user is online or offline.
[VIEWCOUNT]			☑	The number of view a topic has had.
[VIEWS]		☑		The number of views a topic has had.
[WEBSITE]			☑	The user's website.
[WHOSONLINE]	☑			A list of the currently online users.

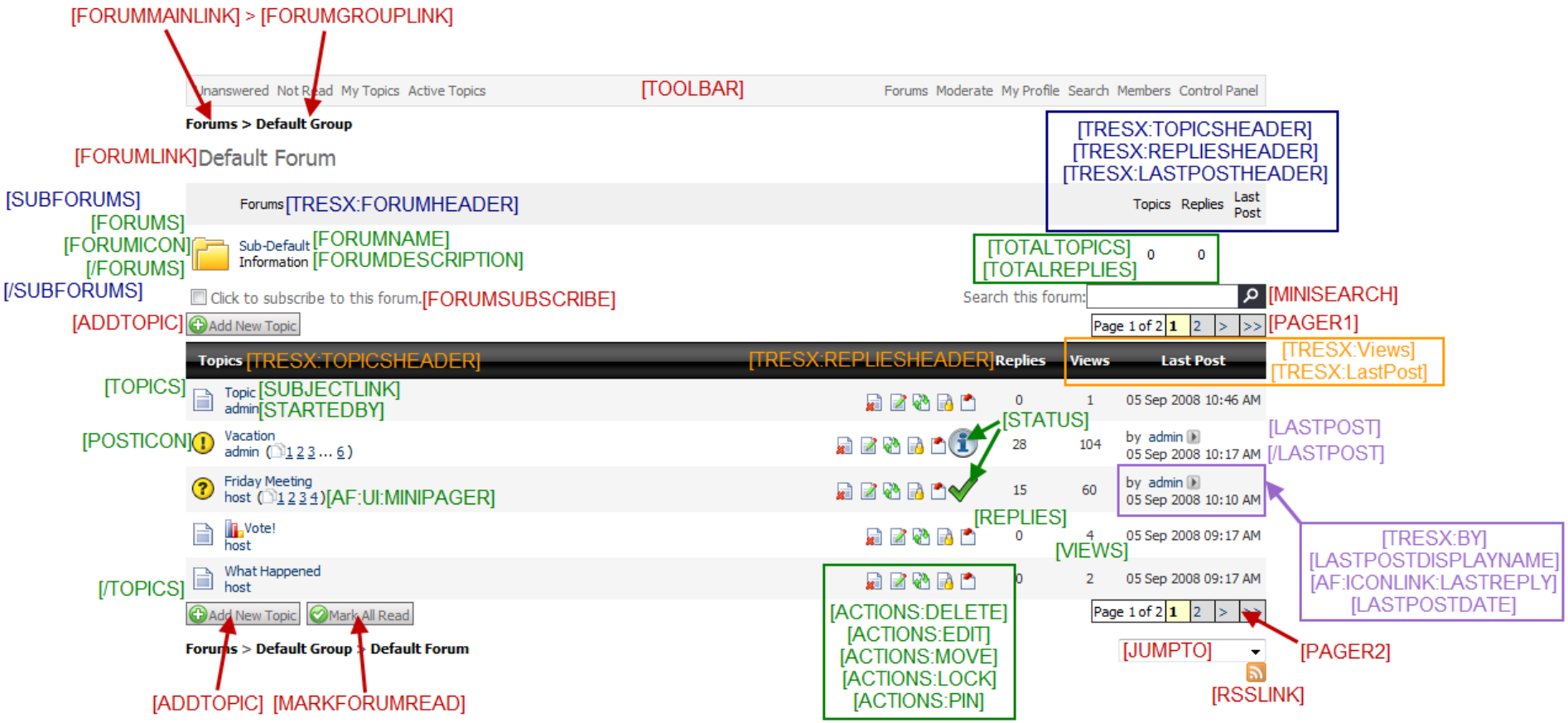
Template Tokens: Forum View



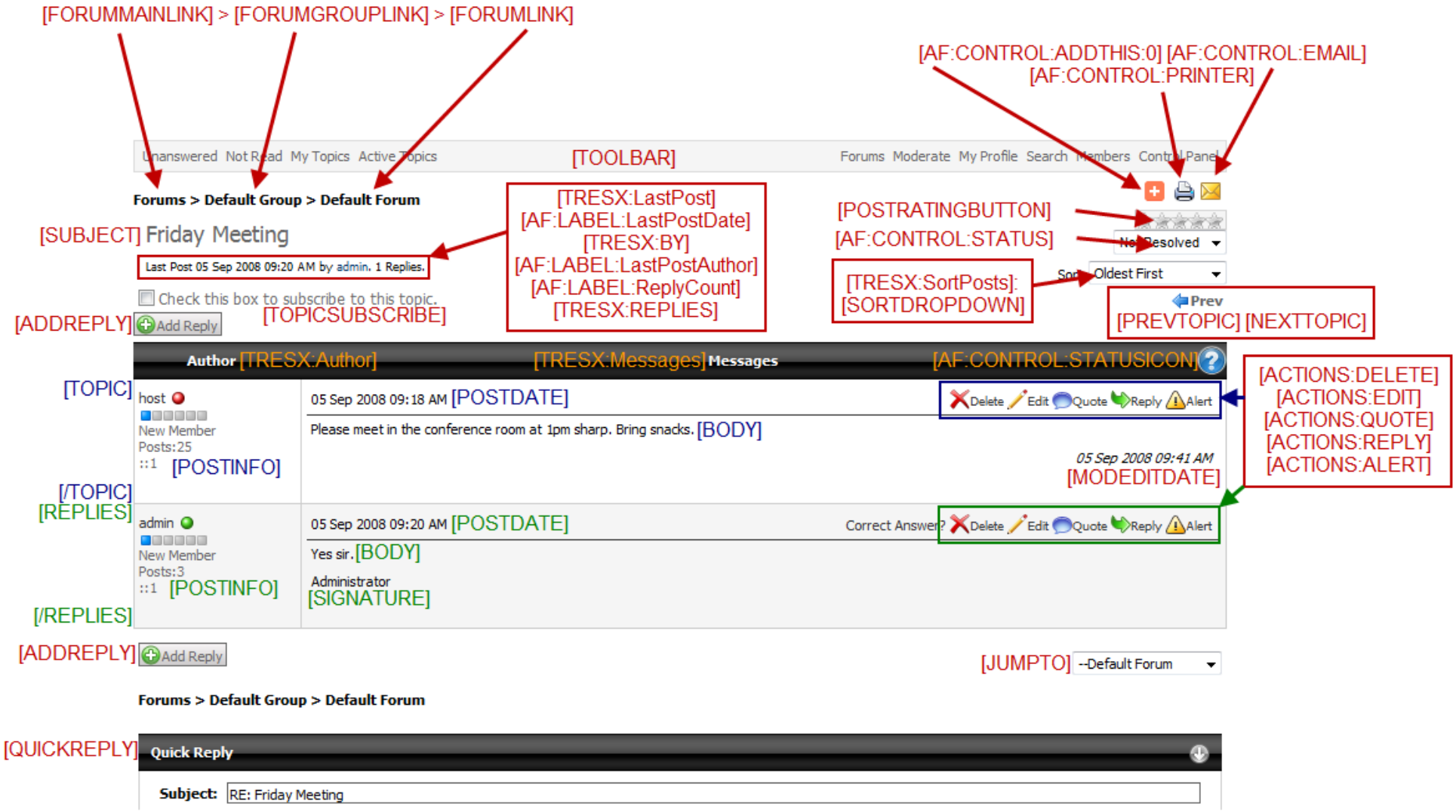
Template Tokens: Toolbar



Template Tokens: Topics View



Template Tokens: Topic View



Template Tokens: Post Info

Author [POSTINFO]

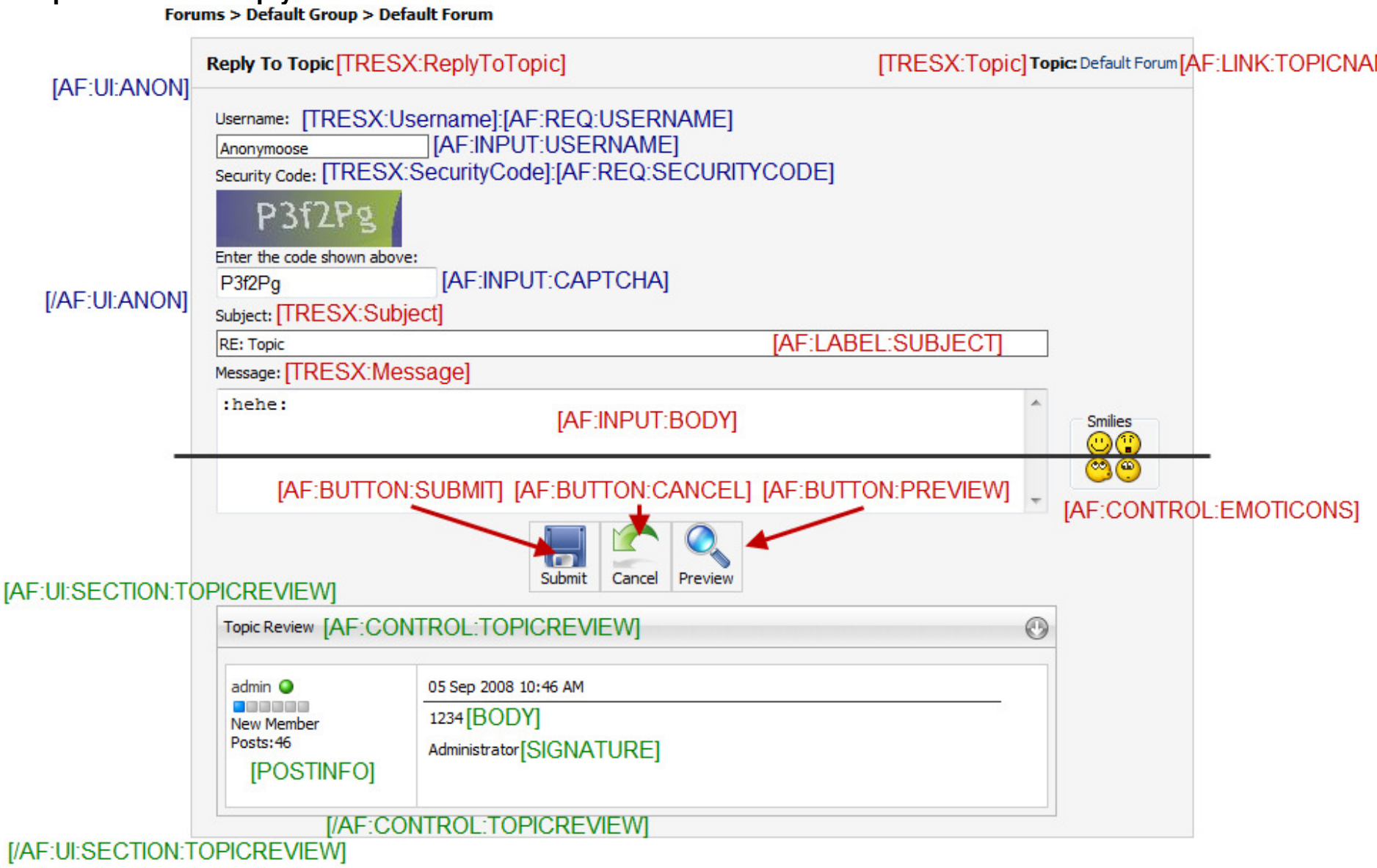
[AF:PROFILE:DISPLAYNAME]
host [AF:PROFILE:USERSTATUS]
SuperUser [AF:PROFILE:USERCAPTION]
[AF:PROFILE:RANKDISPLAY]
New Member [AF:PROFILE:RANKNAME]
Posts:25 Posts:[AF:PROFILE:POSTCOUNT]



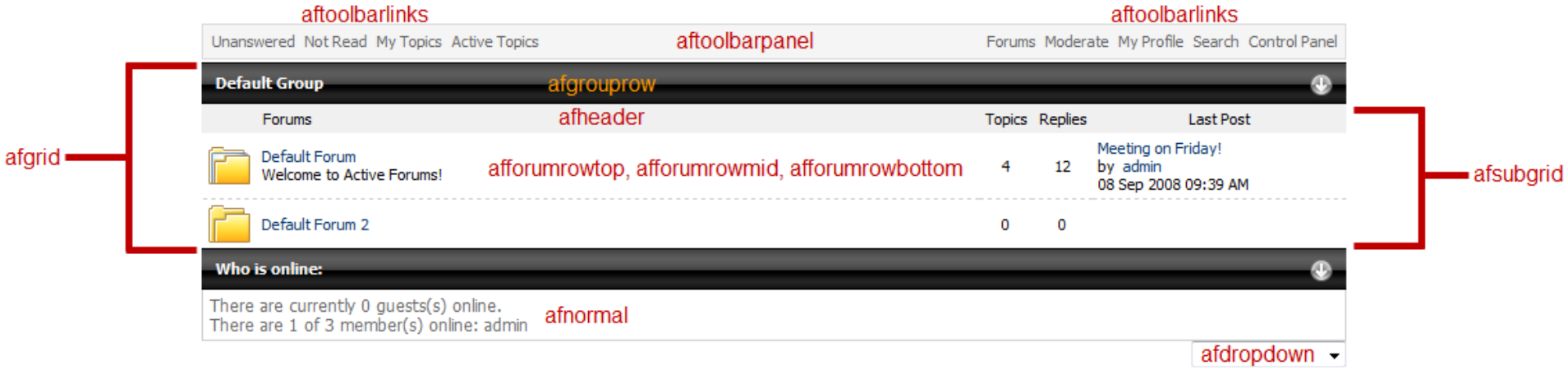
[AF:PROFILE:AVATAR]

::1 [MODIPADDRESS]

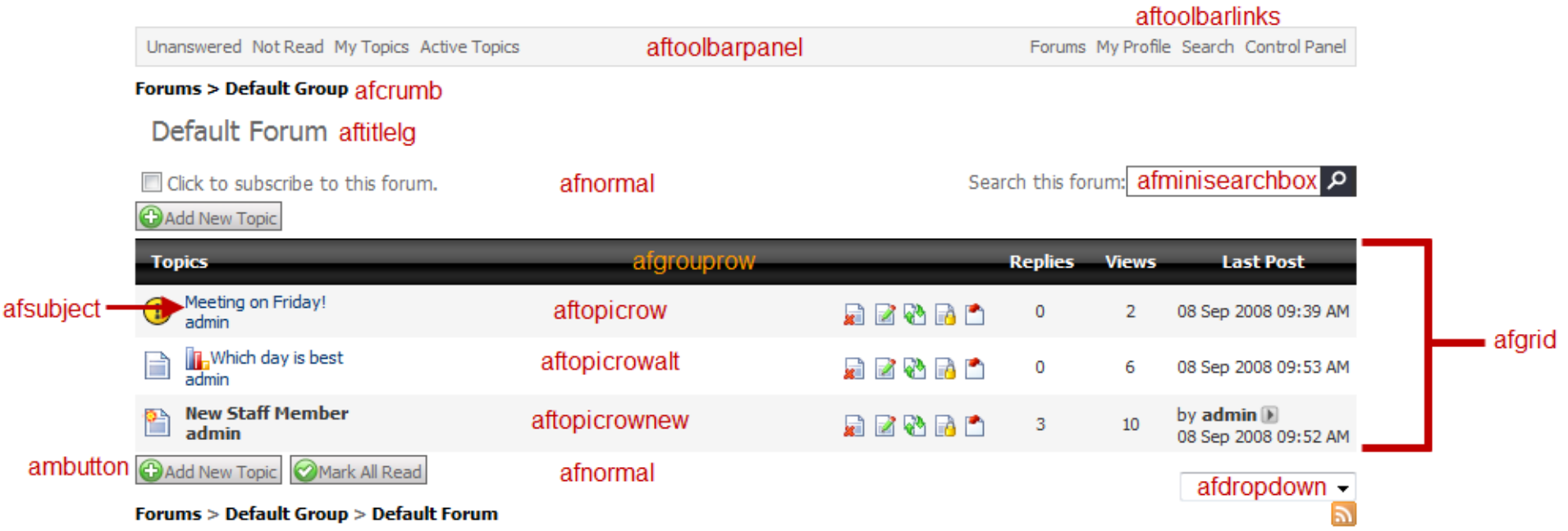
Template Tokens: Reply Editor



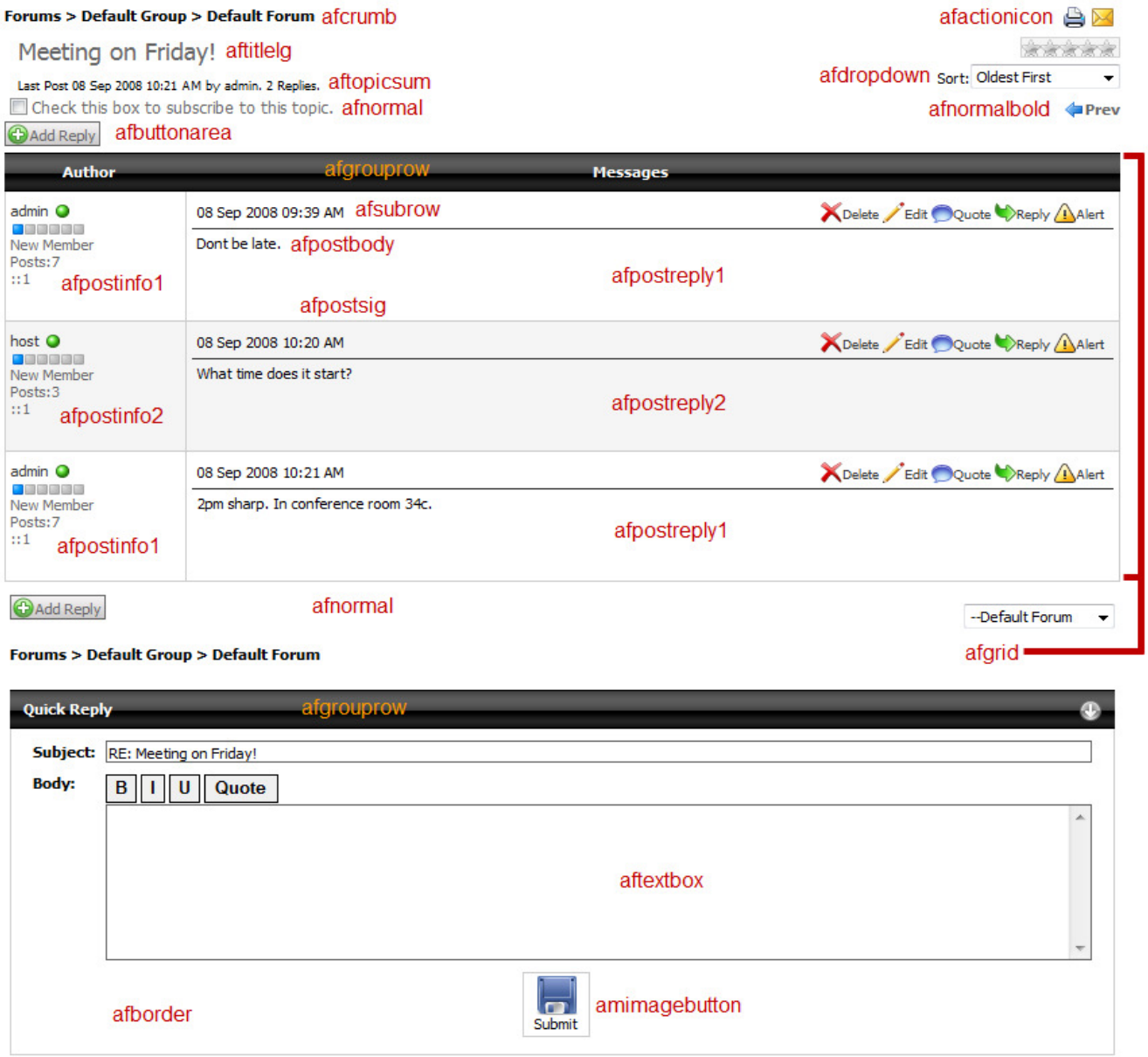
CSS: Forum View



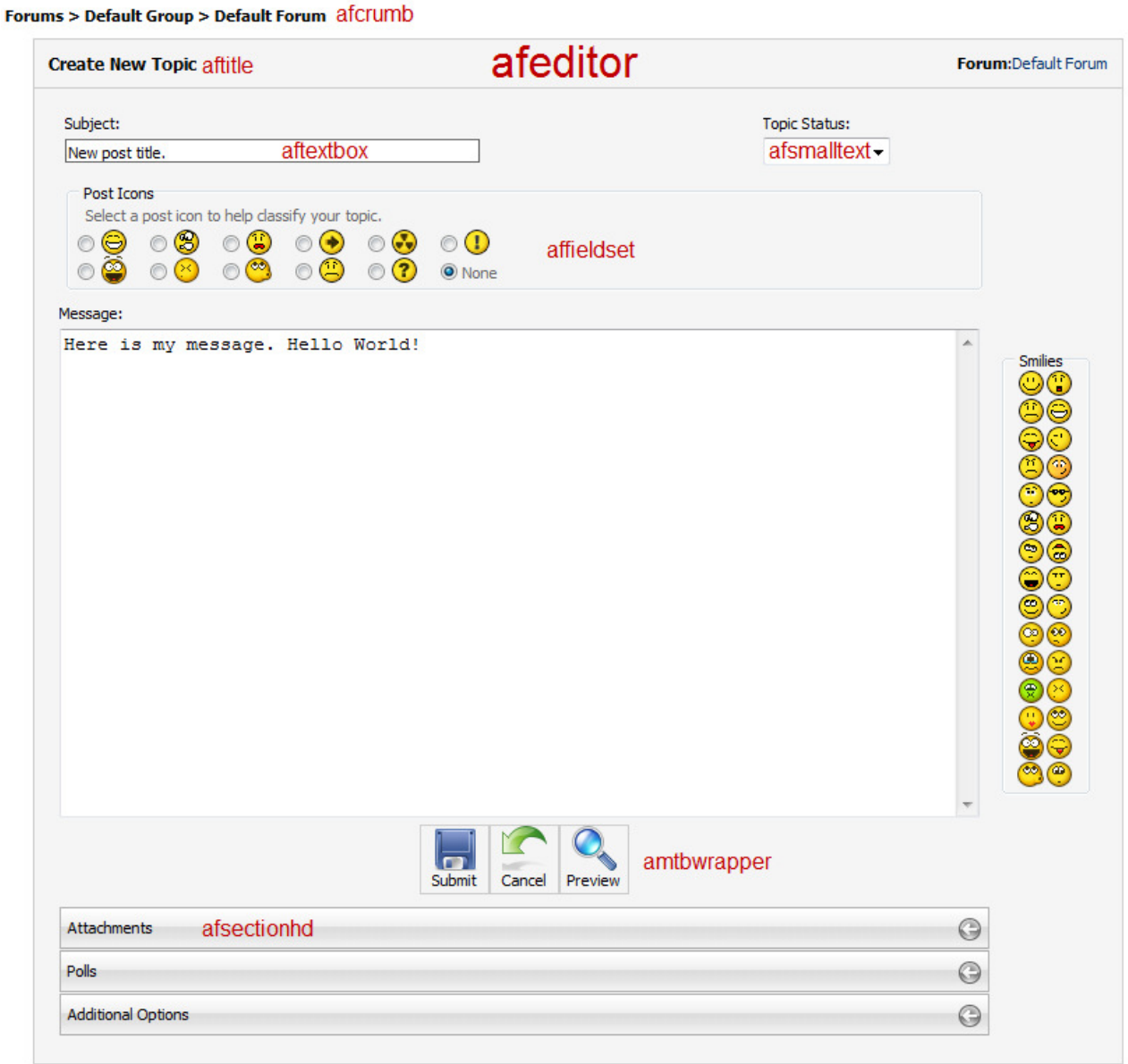
CSS: Topics View



CSS: Topic View



CSS: Reply Editor



Support:

Thank you again for choosing Active Forums for your community needs. Please visit our web site, www.activemodules.com, for all the latest news and updates for our modules. Contact us immediately if you encounter any problems with Active Forums. You may also visit the support forums on our site which we monitor regularly. You may also send an email to support@activemodules.com. We know your site is important and will resolve your problem in a professional and timely manner. In some cases, we may ask to discuss the issue over the phone. In that case we will request a number and best time to call.