

BEHIND THE PIXELS

ISSUE 12

HABBO HELPERS ENTERING TEST MODE!



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First off... the 514 project now has an official name! No longer will it go by its numerical mystery code, from now on, you will know it as: **Habbo Talents!** And with that reveal, we'd love to give you some more answers!

What 'Habbo Talents' Are All About

'**Habbo Talents**' is one of the biggest projects to ever be rolled out in Habbo (maybe the biggest)! It's built around the idea that Habbos come to the Hotel for different reasons, because they enjoy doing different things. Some enjoy certain things more than others, and sometimes they enjoy it so much that they excel at it! We're thinking room builders, traders, event hosts, help desk owners etc etc. Different Habbos with different talents!

So this idea developed into a Talent Tree with paths leading in different directions. If you really enjoyed doing something, you could follow a specific path, which eventually would land you some extra "talents" to make what you enjoy doing easier and even more enjoyable. And if you enjoy different things, you can obviously follow more than one path!

Starting Off With One Path

Since the project is so big, we need to start somewhere, with one path, and then we'll go from there!

The reason why there has been a lot of talk about 'Habbo Helpers' (aka HabboCM) lately, is because this is the first Habbo Talent Tree to launch. Simply put, it will give Habbos that enjoy helping others a chance to do it in a more efficient way. The path will lead you through a Talent Tree that covers everything from the basics of Habbo, to guiding new members and helping out. It will eventually make those that keep at it, full-fledged 'Habbo Helpers' with access and ability to really make a difference and to help out fellow Habbos *for real*. Though anyone can enter this path, it will not be easy an easy one to complete. It will take a lot of dedication over time, and skill to become a true Habbo Helper. ***(Please note: there will still be full time moderators present in all Hotels, and Habbo Helpers will not have the ability to ban or unban others.)*** [See images from the Helper flow on the attached PDF.]

Alpha Testing 'Habbo Helpers'

But before we can launch it, we need to test it... **vigorously!** Since this is something we've never done before, and because we truly believe that it could be something amazing, we need to really make sure that it works the way we envision.

That's why we'll be starting out with a small Alpha test phase during the first week of May, testing some of the most crucial 'Habbo Helper' features. Alpha will be launched first in Habbo Finland, which is a smaller Hotel, then we'll expand to Habbo Spain, which is slightly bigger. It will be available to a small group of native speaking Habbos, selected through a poll that's open for all. These Habbos will be given the chance to help out with a limited set of issues, giving us a chance to see how the process would work.

After Alpha Comes.. Beta!

Once we have the information and learning we need from the Alpha phase, we will most likely have some things that need to be improved and perhaps changed, and we have no way of knowing exactly how long this might take, but we're hoping to be able to roll out a bigger Beta test in the same two Hotels come mid-May. The Beta phase would include most of the Habbo Helpers Talent Tree (which could still after this point be developed further), and it would allow for all Habbos in the test countries to join. This round would give us an idea of how the entire process would work, including the new flow for new Habbos.

...And After Beta?

Hopefully, Beta won't take too long, and we can move on to launching the full Habbo Helpers Talent Tree in all Hotels globally within the month of May! Again, we can't make any definite promises here, because our Magic 8-ball refuses to give us a proper answer to how the tests will go, but we're working hard to make it happen as smooth as humanly possible. Let's keep our pixel fingers crossed ;)

So there you have it! Exciting times are ahead, and we're looking forward to sharing even more details with you all going forward!

Have questions about the testing or about the Habbo Talents in general? Don't be shy to ask Heini (https://twitter.com/#!/heini_kaihu) and Inka (https://twitter.com/#!/inka_vikman) on Twitter!

- Linn