



Style Sheet

No Starch Press uses *The Chicago Manual of Style*, 17th Ed. and *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, 11th Ed. Refer to those sources or the book's specific style sheet for all matters not covered here.

Treatment and Styling of Paragraphs

Body paragraphs The first paragraph of a chapter is set in larger text once the chapter is laid out (ChapterIntro). Other main paragraphs are set regularly (Body).

Bulleted lists For a simple collection of items (ListBullet). No bulleted sub-lists except under numbered lists (generally applies only to Kids series).

Code See "Code Listings" on page 7.

Definition lists For terms that require more text (ListHead and ListBody). For terms with shorter descriptions, see plain lists.

Figure captions "Figure 10-4: The menu listing shows a variety of options." End with a period only if the caption is a full sentence (CaptionBody). Should use articles (a, an, the). If avoidable, should not begin with lowercase/literal terms.

Figure numbering Consecutive within chapters (Figure 1-1, Figure 1-2, and so on). Figures in the introduction are numbered simply Figure 1, Figure 2, and so on. Figures in the appendixes use the appendix letter (Figure A-1, Figure A-2, and Figure B-1, Figure B-2, and so on).

Figure references Reference by number in text before the figure appears.

Headings Up to three levels (HeadA, HeadB, HeadC), title case (except for literal terms), no character styles.

Notes For brief asides or warnings (Note or Warning).

Numbered lists For a set of consecutive steps (ListNumber).

Plain lists Non-bulleted, non-numbered, for terms with short descriptions/definitions or lists of URLs. Use RunInHead and RunInPara if plain list entries need Bold lead-in terms set on two lines—the first styled as RunInHead and the second styled as RunInPara. (In production an em space will be added after the bold term automatically). For terms with longer descriptions, see Definition lists.

Table column headings Sentence case (TableHeader).

Table numbering Consecutive within chapters (Table 1-1, Table 1-2, and so on).

Table references Reference by number in text before the table appears.

Table titles "Table 14-1: How Fields of Indexed Maps Correspond to Database Parameters"; title case; no full sentences (TableTitle).

* **NOTE:** Do not stack headings, figures, tables, notes, or text boxes.

Treatment and Styling of Text

For more on styling programming elements, see “Code Listings” on page 7. For more on text styles, see Table 1-1 on page 4.

Abbreviations No periods in abbreviations: PhD, US. No apostrophe for plural abbreviations: BBS; BBSs (pl); BBS’s (poss.). See word list for common abbreviations.

Acronyms Spell out upon first mention, with acronym in parentheses. If italicizing as a vocabulary term, italicize the parentheses and acronym: *internet service provider (ISP)*. Don’t introduce acronyms in headings. The article used with an acronym should be based on the preferred pronunciation.

Button names Title case, except generic references (the play button); roman for hypothetical, **Bold** for user input.

- ▶ The Continue button allows you to continue.
- ▶ Click the **Continue** button to continue.

Code Literal for code quoted in text. **LiteralBold** for typed user input and *LiteralItalic* for placeholders.

Company names Match official usage; pronoun should be *it*. Names beginning with lowercase letters can stand at the beginnings of sentences.

Cross-references For chapters: see Chapter 9; for sections: see “Using Paragraph Styles” on page XX.

Email addresses Use *LinkEmail*.

Figure labels Sentence case unless proper names.

File extensions Use *Italic*; the word *dot* is pronounced.

Filenames and file/directory paths Use *Italic* even when asking reader to type out.

File types Roman; see word list for common file types.

Gender neutrality When referring to the reader or a hypothetical person, use gender-neutral language. It is acceptable to use *they* as a singular pronoun.

Icon selections Match interface for case; roman even if it’s user input.

- ▶ To open a new document, click the New Blank Document icon.
- ▶ To open iTunes, click the iTunes icon.

Initials Close up: H.L. Mencken.

Keyboard keys Use KEYCAP for named keys, no initial capitalization: ENTER, CTRL-C, ALT, DEL, ESC, SHIFT, TAB. Roman for “spacebar.” Roman for function and alphanumeric keys: F3, F11, C, S, 5. “Press ENTER”; *not* “Press the ENTER key.”

Latin abbreviations Use English equivalents (“for example,” “that is,” and “and so on”) of Latin abbreviations (“e.g.,” “i.e.,” and “etc.”).

Menus File ▶ Save (the arrow is numeral 4 in MenuArrow character style; no space on either side of the arrow).

Menu selections Title case; roman for hypothetical, **Bold** for user input. Do not include ellipses.

- ▶ If you select File ▶ Save As, the Save As dialog will appear.
- ▶ To save your file, select **File ▶ Save**.

Onscreen display Use **Literal** for quotations from code output display.

Prepositions In title case, initial cap prepositions of five letters or more: Let's Work Through the Night. Also initial cap prepositions when used adverbially or adjectivally: Look Up.

Radio button and checkbox selections Title case; roman for hypothetical, **Bold** for user input.

- ▶ If you check the Enable Other Users box, you can enable other users.
- ▶ Select the **Enable Other Users** radio button to enable other users.

Software names Roman; match manufacturer's usage (for example, Microsoft Word).

Symbols When first introduced, include both symbol and spelled-out word: at sign (@).

Tools Roman; initial cap: Use the Ellipse tool.

Trademark symbols Used only in title pages, copyright pages, and back cover copy. Company policy is to list ® front, back, and spine one time only for each trademark. We generally use trademark symbols only with LEGO and LEGO products. We have a notice in the front of every book that talks about our use of trademarks, so the symbols are unnecessary in most other cases.

Twitter handles Roman: @nostarch.

URLs Use *LinkURL*; always include *http://* (or *https://*) and *www.* if appropriate. URLs should end with a slash, unless they end in a file extension (such as *.html* or *.aspx*) or the URL breaks when the slash is added. Try to use top-level domains and suggest search terms instead of using granular URLs that will likely change over time. Run URLs into body text rather than pulling them out as footnotes (unless the footnote is a complete bibliographic reference).

User input Use **Bold** when the reader is directed to select or input something. Use **LiteralBold** for typed input in code. Roman for hypotheticals.

Usernames and group names Use *Italic*.

Variables (mathematical) Use *Italic* for mathematical variables, as well as *x* in software version numbers. Do not confuse with programming variables.

Vocabulary terms Use *Italic* where term is defined.

Website names Roman; match official usage (for example, Google). Blogs should be *Italic* (for example, *Laughing Squid*).

Window and dialog names Roman, title case: Save As dialog.

Words as words Use *Italic*: "If the word *remove* appears to the right of the driver, you know it has been installed correctly."

* **NOTE:** Any element that is not listed in Table 1-1 should most likely be styled roman, but please ask your production editor for clarification if you encounter anything questionable.

Table 1-1: Text Styles

Text element	Template style	Appearance	Examples
Filenames, file extensions, and directory paths	Italic	Italic	<i>figure01_01.png</i> <i>.odt</i> <i>usr/local/etc</i>
URLs, URIs, mailing lists, newsgroups.	LinkURL	LinkURL	<i>http://www.nostarch.com/info@nostarch.com.com</i>
Email addresses	LinkEmail		
Twitter handles	LinkTwitter		
Emphasized words	Italic	Italic	You should <i>always</i> do . . .
Username, group names	Italic	Italic	The user <i>mw/lucas</i> . . .
First instance of a technical term where defined	Italic	Italic	The <i>kernel</i> is the . . .
Registry keys	Literal	Monospaced	
Programming and script elements: attributes class names commands events functions keywords methods modules namespaces objects parameters properties types values variables XML and HTML tags	Literal	Monospaced	The <code>print()</code> function. . .
Placeholder items in code syntax	LiteralItalic	Monospaced italic	<code>hostname="host.example.com"</code>
Placeholders in italic text	(Enclose in angle brackets)		<i>http://www.<example>.com/</i>
Keyboard accelerators	Keycap (all caps)	All caps	CTRL, ALT, SHIFT

Text element	Template style	Appearance	Examples
Buttons, when reader is directed to click	Bold	Boldface	Click OK .
Menus, when reader is directed to select	Bold and MenuArrow	Boldface with hierarchy arrow	Choose File ▶ Save .
User input, code	LiteralBold	Monospaced boldface	Enter ls at the command line.

Punctuation

Per our publisher's preference, please work to reduce or eliminate em dashes and ellipses in body text.

Amperands (&) Use in proper names only.

Apostrophes and quotation marks Curled (smart) in regular text; straight in code text.

Colons Lowercase the first word of a full sentence when it follows a colon.

Commas Use series comma: we bought eggs, milk, and cheese.

Ellipses Use spaces, as in . . . (do not use the symbol ...). Do not include ellipses in menu options (use Save As, not Save As...).

Em dashes Use a true em dash, with no spaces: word—word.

En dashes Use for ranges in parentheticals and tables only; use with open compounds such as pseudo–assembly code and DOCSIS 1.1–certified.

Titles of Works

Blogs Use *Italic* for blog names: *Laughing Squid*. Use quotation marks for blog post titles: "Cat Freaks Out When His Human Puts on Cat Ears."

Book titles Use *Italic*: *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. Edition numbers should be numerals, roman, and lowercase: *Python Crash Course*, 2nd edition.

LEGO models Use *Italic* for works of art: *Owlet in Flight*. Roman for official LEGO sets.

Magazines Use *Italic* for magazine names: *Wired*. Use quotation marks for magazine articles: "It's Time for IoT Security's Next Big Step."

Movie titles Use *Italic*: *The LEGO Movie*.

Newspapers Use *Italic* for newspaper names: the *New York Times*. Use quotation marks for newspaper articles: "UN Warning."

TV shows Use *Italic* for show/series name: *Game of Thrones*; quotation marks for episode titles: "The Rains of Castamere."

* **NOTE:** For more on treatment of work titles, see "Citation Guidelines" on page 9.

Numbers, Dates, Math, and Measurements

Numbers

Spell out numbers one through nine. Use numerals for 10 and greater. The four exceptions are:

- ▶ For measurements other than units of time, always use numerals.
- ▶ Where numbers one through nine and 10 and greater appear in close proximity and in the same context, use numerals for all.
- ▶ For ranges, in running text: one to four, 3 to 12, 15 to 20; in parentheticals and tables: 1–4, 3–12, 15–20.
- ▶ If a sentence begins with 10 or greater, spell out or edit to avoid.

Include commas in four-digit or greater numbers.

Phone Numbers

Use periods in phone numbers: 1.800.555.1212.

Dates and Time

Dates *Month Year* with no comma (March 1982) or *Month Day, Year* (September 5, 1974)

Decades '90s or 1990s

Centuries 21st century

Eras KEYCAP style, no periods: 201 BC, 2 AD

AM and PM KEYCAP style, no periods: 10 AM, 3:15 PM

Mathematical Equations

Add a single space before and after operands: $2 + 2 = 4$. Use a true multiplication sign (×) rather than an x.

Mathematical Variables

Variables in standard mathematical formulas should be italicized: $x + y = z$.

Fractions

- ▶ Spell out in running text: two-thirds.
- ▶ If the fraction is presented with a whole number, it should appear as numerals with baseline fractions: $8 \frac{1}{2}$.
- ▶ Decimal notation should be used in scientific or technical text. Add a zero before the decimal: 0.75.

Measurements

Abbreviate all units of measurement (except English) when given as a quantity. Use spaces between values and units of measurement:

- ▶ 3 mm, 3 inches, 3 miles, 3 MHz, 3 feet, 3 V
- ▶ Bit and byte sizes and speeds should not have a space: 6KB, 6Kbps.
- ▶ When bits and bytes are on their own, they should be spelled out: 6-bit cable, 6 bytes.
- ▶ LEGO and pixel dimensions should use a true multiplication sign (×) and be closed up: 2×2 studs, 200×300 pixels.

Code Listings

Code labels Instead of putting filenames in parentheses in listing captions, style them as `CodeLabel` so they appear in the margin beside the listing.

Code lines Use `Code`. Use `CodeWide` for listings with long lines.

Line length Standard code line length is 78 characters. Wide code line length is 95 characters.

Listing captions (optional) "Listing 4-3: List users with the `pm list` command." End with a period only if the caption is a full sentence (Listing). Should use articles (a, an, the). If avoidable, should not begin with lowercase/literal terms.

Listing numbering (optional) Consecutive within chapters (Listing 1-1, Listing 1-2, and so on). If appropriate (for example, when the running text will reference them), number listings as you would number figures.

Listing references (optional) If using numbered listings, refer to them by number in text before the listing appears (for example, "see Listing 4-3").

Placeholders Use *LiteralItalic* for placeholders.

Snipped code Use `--snip--` for code or output that has been cut.

Tabs Use four spaces rather than a true tab.

User input Use **LiteralBold** for typed user input.

Code annotation Use `CodeAnnotated` only for individual lines that begin with a number ball. This rule includes spaces, so if a line starts with spaces (indents) and then has a number ball, use `Code` instead of `CodeAnnotated`.

Styling Code

Use **1 2 3 4** . . . (character style: `CodeAnnotated`) to call out specific elements in a line of code that you will refer to and/or describe within the text (code annotations should not be used as line numbers). In Word, the style will default to courier with a black background. Use only numbers 1 to 10 in any one code listing, and order them based on their placement in the listing (not the order in which they are discussed in the text).

1	1	6	6
2	2	7	7
3	3	8	8
4	4	9	9
5	5	0	10

When referring to part of a line of code, put the CodeAnnotation character in front of the element to which you will refer, with no space before or after it. For example, to point out the tags that open and close a link in HTML, you would format the code like this:

❶Google❷

If you are starting a full line of code with a CodeAnnotation, apply the CodeAnnotated paragraph style to the line and place the code annotation at the beginning of the line, with a space between the annotation and the line of code:

❶ Person.prototype.sayHi = function() {
 console.log("Hi");

Note that you style the paragraph as CodeAnnotated only if the CodeAnnotation will be the very first character in the line. Spaces count as characters, so the google.com example above, which is indented four spaces, would be styled as Code rather than CodeAnnotated.

When referring to a full line of code that is set CodeWide, place the code annotation at the end of the line, preceded by a space.

\$csvUsers = Get-AcmeEmployeeFromCSV -SyncFieldMap \$SyncFieldMap -FieldMatchIds \$FieldMatchIds ❶

Use **LiteralBold** to highlight changes in code or large parts of code that you will call out in the text. For example, to point out that you had changed the link from No Starch Press to Google, format the code as follows:

```
<a href="www.nostarch.com">No Starch Press</a>  
<a href="www.google.com">Google</a>
```

Use *LiteralItalic* for placeholders in code. For example, if the reader is to use their TFTP IP address and config name, you would italicize those elements as shown here:

```
tftp -i TFTP_IP GET CONFIG_NAME
```

Use **Literal** when referring to machine output, commands, functions, or objects in running text. Here are some examples:

- ▶ Use the GET command to access the file.
- ▶ Within a few seconds, the phrase **Press any key to stop auto-boot** will appear.
- ▶ You must use an SNMP agent to access the object **cmHybridMode**.

Use **LiteralBold** for typed user input. Here are some examples:

- ▶ Type **run: program Windows** into the Terminal.
- ▶ Enter the password **dlink**:

password: **dlink**

Citation Guidelines

For recommended reading or other simple references that don't require a true citation, just give as much information as the reader would need to find the piece (that is, title, author, and publisher). For example, "A great resource on this topic is Randall Hyde's *The Art of Assembly Language*, 2nd edition (No Starch Press, 2010)." Long URLs for online pieces may be footnoted for easier reading, but in most cases No Starch prefers to avoid footnotes.

As a general rule, follow *The Chicago Manual of Style* for citation formats. Unless you have a large number of citations, or your topic requires more precise scientific citation, you can use the following method.

*** NOTE: If you don't feel that this method will fit your content, discuss alternatives with your editor(s).**

Bibliography and Footnotes

If you want to include a bibliography at the back of the book, the entries should appear as follows, alphabetized by author's last name:

Surname, Given Name. *Title of Work: Subtitle of Work*. Location: Publisher, YYYY.

And then you can put a footnote in the text where the reference appears:

1. Surname, *Short Title*, pp.

Or if you don't want to have a bibliography, use a more complete footnote:

1. Given Name Surname, *Title of Work* (Location: Publisher, YYYY), pp.

Elements to Include

Whichever citation style you use, these pieces of information should always be included:

- ▶ Author (and/or editor, translator, and so on)
- ▶ Title (and usually subtitle)
- ▶ Publication date

Also include:

- ▶ For books: location and publisher
- ▶ For articles: journal name, volume, year, page numbers, and issue
- ▶ For online pieces: indicate that the piece was published online; list URL (and access date if appropriate)

Long, complete works should be set in italics (for example, books, journals and magazines, online magazines, musical albums, feature-length films, TV series, newspapers, and so on).

Shorter or partial works should be set roman, in quotation marks (for example, chapters, articles, online articles, songs, TV series episodes, poems, and so on).

Word List

For acronyms, the article is specified based on preferred pronunciation.

Symbols, Keys, and Numbers

2D
3D
10-baseT
ALT key
ALT-N
< > (angle brackets; not just *brackets*, unless the term has been introduced and it's clear)
@ (at sign)
\ (backslash)
BACKSPACE key
` (backtick; not *backstroke*,)
{ } (braces or curly brackets; not *curly braces*; not just *brackets*, unless the term has been introduced and it's clear)
CAPS LOCK key
^ (caret)
⌘ (COMMAND key; lowercase z in Wingdings font; Mac)
CONTROL key (Mac)
<CR><LF> (carriage return, line feed)
CTRL-ALT-DELETE
CTRL key (Windows)
CTRL-N
CTRL-X
{ } (curly brackets or braces; not *curly braces*; not just *brackets*, unless the term has been introduced and it's clear)
DELETE key
\$ (dollar sign)
dot (.) (not *period* unless referring to grammar)
" (double quotes)
down arrow
ENTER key
= (equal sign)

ESC key (ESCAPE key)
! (exclamation mark)
/ (forward slash)
> (greater-than sign)
(hash mark; not *pound sign*)
< (less-than sign)
OPTION key (Mac)
parenthesis; parentheses (pl)
percent (spell out; use % only in tables or code)
quotation marks (spell out the first time it appears; can be *quotes* thereafter)
RETURN key (Mac)
; (semicolon)
SHIFT key
' (single quote)
spacebar
[] (square brackets; not just *brackets*, unless the term has been introduced and it's clear)
TAB key
_ (underscore)
up arrow
| (vertical pipe; on first use, can be pipe thereafter)

A

acknowledgments
ACK packet
ActionScript
ActiveX control
add-on (a)
ADO.NET
aka (also known as)
ALT key
ALT-N
AM
AND operator
angle brackets (not just *brackets*, unless the term has been introduced and it's clear; < >)

anonymous FTP
ANSI (American National Standards Institute); *an ANSI*
ANSI color
anti-aliasing
antivirus
appendixes
AppleScript
applet (or Java applet)
ARPAnet; *an ARPAnet*
ASCII (American Standard Code for Information Interchange);
an ASCII
at sign (@)
autogenerate
autorun
awk (programming language)

B

backdoor
backend
background processes
backup (n); back-up (a); back up (v)
backslash (\)
BACKSPACE key
backtick (not *backstroke*, `)
backward (not *backwards*)
backward compatible (a)
bandwidth
bash (Bourne-again shell; a bash)
Bayesian
Bayes' theorem (or Bayes' law)
BeOS
Berkeley Unix
Bézier curve
big-endian (a)
bioinformatics
BIOS (basic input/output system);
a BIOS
bitmap
bitmask
Bitnet
bit plane
bitwise operators
blacklist
Bluetooth

bookmark (n, v)
Boolean (unless referring to a data type in code, in which case s/b lowercase)
boot (n, v)
bootloader
Bourne-again shell (bash; a bash)
Bourne shell
braces or curly brackets; not *curly braces*; not just *brackets*, unless the term has been introduced and it's clear; { }
breakpoint
browsable
brute-force (v, a)
BSD (Berkeley Software Distribution);
a BSD
built-in (a)
buses (pl)

C

.c (C/C++ source code file)
café
canceled
CAPS LOCK key
caret (^)
carriage return, line feed (<CR><LF>)
CAT-5 (a CAT-5)
cd ("change directory" command)
CD (compact disc; preferred to CD-ROM. Example: use *CD drive* instead of *CD-ROM drive*); a CD
CD-R (compact disc recordable);
CD-Rs (pl); a CD-R
C: drive
CD-RW (compact disc rewritable);
CD-RWs (pl); a CD-RW
.cfg (configuration file)
chatroom
checkbox
check mark
chipset (n, a)
CIDR (Classless Inter-Domain Routing)
C language (n); C-language (a)
classpath

cleartext
 click (not *click on*)
 client/server
 client side (n); client-side (a)
.cnf (Telnet configuration file)
 co-author (n, v)
 co-class
 code set
 co-founder
 colorcell
 colormap
COMMAND key (⌘; lowercase z in
 Wingdings font; Mac)
 command line (n, a)
 compile time (n); compile-time (a)
 CompuServe
.conf (Unix configuration file)
 config file (configuration file); *.config*
CONTROL key (Mac)
 Control Panel
 copyleft
 copyright
 CORBA (Common Object Request
 Broker Architecture); a CORBA
 co-worker
.cpp (C++ source code file)
 CPU (central processing unit); a CPU
 criterion; criteria (pl)
 <CR><LF> (carriage return, line feed)
 crosshair
 crosshair cursor
 cross-reference
 cross section (n); cross-sectional (a)
 crosstalk (n)
CTRL-ALT-DELETE
CTRL key (Windows)
CTRL-N
CTRL-X
 curly brackets or braces (not *curly*
 braces; not just *brackets*,
 unless the term has been
 introduced and it's clear; { })

D

database; *.db*
 data block

datafile
 data is (treat as singular noun)
 dataset
 data type
 DDos (a); distributed denial-of-service
 Debian GNU/Linux
 Defcon (conference)
DELETE key
 denial-of-service (a); DoS
 DES (Data Encryption Standard); a DES
 design time (n); design-time (a)
 DHCP (Dynamic Host Configuration
 Protocol)
 dial-in (a)
 dialog (not *dialog box*)
 dial-up (a)
 disc (for CDs, DVDs, and other optical
 media)
 disk (for hard drives and other magnetic
 media)
 distributed denial-of-service (a); DDoS
 DLL (dynamic link library); a DLL; *.dll*
 DMA (direct memory access)
 DNS (Domain Name System); a DNS
 DocBook
 dollar sign (\$)

 DOM (Document Object Model);
 a DOM
 DoS (denial-of-service) attack; a DoS
 dot (.) (not *period* unless referring to
 grammar)
 double-click (n, v)
 double-precision (a)
 double quotes ("")
 down arrow
 downlevel (a)
 download
 dpi (dots per inch)
 drag-and-drop (n, a); drag and drop (v)
 drop-down menu
 DSL (digital subscriber line); DSLs (pl);
 a DSL
 dual-boot

E

ebook

ELF (Executable and Linking Format)
Emacs
email (n, a, v)
emails (pl) only if preceded by a
 quantity (e.g., five emails, a
 few emails)
empty-element tag
endianness
end-of-file (EOF); *an* EOF
end-tag
end user
ENTER key
equal sign (=)
ESC key (ESCAPE key)
Ethernet
exclamation mark (!)
.exe (executable file)
Exim

F

facade
failback (n)
failover (n)
FAQ (frequently asked questions);
 a FAQ
fax
FDL (Free Documentation License);
 an FDL
FIFO (first in, first out)
file manager
filename
filepath
file server
file sharing
filesystem
file type
firewall
FireWire
floppy disk
foreground
for loop
FORTRAN (The IBM Mathematical
 Formula Translating System)
Fortran 90
forward (not *forwards*)
forward slash (/)

frame type
FreeBSD
frontend
FSF (Free Software Foundation)
FTP (File Transfer Protocol); *an* FTP
FTP site

G

gateway
Gb (gigabit)
GB (gigabyte)
GBps (gigabytes per second)
GHz (gigahertz)
gid (group ID); a gid
GIMP (GNU Image Manipulation
 Program); a GIMP
GNOME (GNU Network Object Model
 Environment); a GNOME
GNU (GNU's Not Unix); a GNU
GNU Emacs
GNU Project
GNUstep
Google (proper noun); google (v)
GPL (GNU General Public License);
 a GPL
gray (for general use)
grayscale
greater-than sign (>)
grey (for LEGO pieces)
GTK (GIMP toolkit)
GUI (graphical user interface); GUIs (pl);
 a GUI

H

haha
handcode
handheld (a)
hardcoded
hardcopy
hardcore
hard disk
hard link
hash mark (not *pound sign*; #)
hash values
hee hee
"Hello, world!"

high-level (a)
high tech (n); high-tech (a)
hi-res (high resolution)
home page
host ID
hostmask
hostname
hotkey
hotspot
how-to; how-tos (n)
HOWTO file
HTML (HyperText Markup Language);
 an HTML; .htm, .html
HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol);
 an HTTP
hypertext

I

ID (identifier; identification); IDs; *an ID*
IDA Pro
IDE (integrated development
 environment); *an IDE*
if statement
inbox
indexes (pl, for books)
indices (pl, for mathematics and
 computing)
.ini (initialization file)
inline
inode
interclint
internet
internetwork
Intrinsics
I/O (input/output); *an I/O*
IP (internet protocol); *an IP*
IPsec; *an IPsec*
IRC (Internet Relay Chat); *an IRC*
IRQ (interrupt request); *an IRQ*
ISA (Industry Standard Architecture);
 an ISA
ISO; *an ISO; .iso*
ISP (internet service provider); *an ISP*

J

Jabber

JAR (Java Archive) file; *a JAR; .jar*
Java; *.java*
JavaScript; JavaScripts (pl); *.js*

K

Kb (kilobit)
KB (kilobyte)
Kbps (kilobits per second)
KDE (K Desktop Environment); *a KDE*
keepalive (n, a)
Kerberos
.key (security key file)
keyclick
keycode
keyframe
keylogger
keylogging
keymaps
keypad
keystroke
keywords
kHz (kilohertz)

L

LAN (local area network); *a LAN*
LaTeX; *.tex*
left-hand (a)
leftmost
LEGO (a)
LEGO bricks or pieces (never LEGOs)
LEGO Group, the
less-than sign (<)
leveled (not *levelled*)
LILO (Linux Loader); *a LILO*
line feed (n); line-feed (a)
Linux
Linuxconf
LinuxPPC
listbox
little-endian (a)
logfile; *.log*
login, logout, or logon (n, a)
log in, log out, or log on (v)
lookup (n, a); look up (v)
lower- and uppercase
lowercase

lower-level (a)
lower-right (a)
LPI (Linux Professional Institute); *an* LPI
ls (“list” command)

M

macOS
macroscale
mail-handling (a)
mail server
make (when referring to the command)
makefile; *Makefile* (when referring to the filename)
makeup (n); make up (v)
man-in-the-middle (MITM) attack;
 prefer man-in-the-middle to MITM
man pages (manual pages)
markup (n, a); mark up (v)
matrix; matrices (pl)
Mb (megabit)
MB (megabyte)
MBps (megabytes per second)
McGraw-Hill
menu bar
metacharacter
Metasploit (the Metasploit Framework)
MHz (megahertz)
microscale
MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface); *a* MIDI; *.mid*, *.midi*
MINDSTORMS
minifig (minifigure)
mIRC; *an* mIRC
MITM (man-in-the-middle) attack;
 prefer man-in-the-middle to MITM
mixin
MO (magneto-optical); *an* MO
moiré
monospaced font
mouse; mice (pl)
MP3 (MPEG Audio Layer 3); MP3s (pl);
 an MP3; *.mp3*
MS-DOS (Microsoft Disk Operating System); *an* MS-DOS

multiline
multimedia
multitasking
multithreaded
multitier
multiuser
MySQL

N

naive
name server
name service
namespace
NAT (Network Address Translation)
.NET; *a* .NET
NetBIOS (Network Basic Input/Output System)
NetBSD
netgroup
NetInfo
netmask
networkwide
never-ending
newline
newsgroup
newsreader
news server
NeXTSTEP (operating system)
NIC (network interface card)
Nmap
nonlocal
no-nonsense (a)
nonzero
NOP sled
NTP (network time protocol); *an* NTP

O

object-oriented (a)
offline
offload
offsite
off-topic
Ogg Vorbis; *.ogg*
Ohm’s law
okay (unless referring to a button, then OK)

OLE (object linking and embedding);
 an OLE
onboard (a)
ongoing
online
onscreen
onsite
OOP (object-oriented programming);
 an OOP
OpenBSD
open source (n, a)
OPTION key (Mac)
ORB (object request broker); *an ORB*
OR operator
OS/2 (Operating System/2); *an OS/2*
OSS (open source software); *an OSS*
outbox

P

P2P (peer-to-peer); *a P2P*
packet switch networks
page down
pagefile
page up
Paint Shop Pro
pair-to-pair (a)
palmtop
parallel port
parenthesis; parentheses (pl)
part-time (a)
Pascal
passphrase
password-protected (a); password
 protect (v)
patchlevel
pathname
pattern-matching (a)
pcap (packet capture); *.pcap*
PC-compatible
PDF (Portable Document Format);
 a PDF; .pdf
percent (spell out; use % only in tables
 or code)
Perl; *.pl*
PIO (programmed input/output); *a PIO*
pipeline

plaintext (n, a)
plug and play (n); plug-and-play (a)
plug-in (n, a)
PM
PNG (Portable Network Graphics);
 a PNG; .png
POP (point of presence); *a POP*
pop-up (n, a); pop up (v)
POSIX (Portable Operating System
 Interface); *a POSIX*
PostScript; *.ps*
PPP (point-to-point protocol); *a PPP*
progress bar
pseudoattribute
pseudocode
pseudorandom
pseudoterminal
pseudo-tty
public key (n); public-key (a)
pull-down (a)

Q

Q&A, Q&As; *a Q&A*
Qt
QuickTime
quotation marks (spell out the first
 time it appears; can be *quotes*
 thereafter)

R

RAM (random-access memory); *a RAM*
random-access (a)
README file
read only (n); read-only (a)
read/write
real time (n); real-time (a)
record keeping (n); record-keeping (a)
re-create
redirection
re-enter
reference page (or *man page*)
remote-access server
removable media (a)
rename
resell
RETURN key (Mac)

reverse engineer (v)
reverse engineering (n, a)
rich text
right-click (n, v)
right-hand (a)
rm ("remove" command)
rollback (n); roll back (v)
rootkit
RTF (Rich Text Format); *an* RTF; *.rtf*
rulebase
ruleset
runlevel
runtime (n, a)

S

Samba
SAX (Simple API for XML); *a* SAX
screen dump
screensaver
screenshot
scroll bar
SCSI (small computer system interface);
 a SCSI
SDK (software development kit)
secondhand (a)
securelevel (in Linux)
sed scripts
semicolon (;)
semipermanent
Sendmail
server-dependent (a)
server side (n); server-side (a)
servlet
setup (n, a); set up (v)
SGML (Standard Generalized Markup
 Language); *an* SGML; *.sgml*
shell (lowercase even in shell name; for
 example, Bourne shell)
shellcode
SHIFT key
shortcut
shutdown (n); shut down (v)
single-precision (a)
single quote (')
site map
Smalltalk

smartphone
SMP (symmetric multiprocessing);
 an SMP
snail mail
snap to grid
SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol);
 a SOAP
sound card
source code
spacebar
spam
spellcheck; spellchecker
split screen
SQL injection; *a* SQL injection
square brackets (not just *brackets*,
 unless the term has been
 introduced and it's clear; []) *SSH* (Secure Shell); *an* SSH
SSL (Secure Sockets Layer); *an* SSL
stand-alone (a)
startup (n, a)
status bar
stdin (standard input)
stdout (standard output)
step (as in *step 1*, *step 2*, and so on)
style sheet
subdevice
subprocess
sudo (command)
superblock
superuser
SUSE Linux
swapfile
swapspace
sync
SYN packet
.sys (system file)
system administrator (*sysadmin* okay for
 informal usage/books)
system-wide (a)

T

T1; *a* T1
TAB key
takeover (n); take over (v)
tarball

taskbar
 TB (terabyte)
 TCP (Transmission Control Protocol);
 a TCP
 TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol/
 Internet Protocol); a TCP/IP
 Technician
 telnet, telnetting (v)
 TeX; .tex
 text box
 text-input mode
 thread pooling (n)
 time-sharing process
 timestamp
 time zone
 title bar
 title button
 toolbar
 toolbox
 tool tip
 top-level (a)
 touchup (a)
 toward (not *towards*)
 trade-off (n)
 Trojan horse
 trojan (n)
 troubleshooting (n, a, v)
 TSR (terminate and stay resident); a TSR
 turnaround (n, a); turn around (v)
 tweet (n, v)
 .txt (text file)
 type (v; not *type in*)

U

Ubuntu; *an* Ubuntu
 uid (user ID); a uid
 underscore (_)
 Unicode
 United States (n); US (a); a US
 Unix (generic); Unix-based (a);
 Unix-like (a); Unix-type (a)
 UNIX (only when trademarked from
 AT&T); a UNIX
 up arrow
 uppercase
 upper-left corner

UPS (universal power supply); UPSs;
 a UPS
 up-to-date (a)
 URL (uniform resource locator); a URL
 USB (Universal Serial Bus); a USB
 Usenet
 user manual
 username

V

V2; version 2
 VAX/VMS (virtual memory system)
 VB.NET; a VB.NET
 versus (in text); vs. (in headings and
 tables); v. (for legal cases)
 vertical pipe (|) (on first use; can be pipe
 thereafter)
 vi
 vice versa
 video card (preferred to *graphics card*)
 video game
 Vim
 VMware
 voicemail
 VoiceXML
 VPN (virtual private network)
 VRML (Virtual Reality Modeling
 Language); a VRML; .wrl
 VS.NET; a VS.NET

W

W3C (World Wide Web Consortium);
 a W3C
 WAN (wide area network); a WAN
 warez
 washout (n, a); wash out (v)
 web
 web browser
 webcam
 web client
 webmaster
 web page
 web server
 website
 WEP (Wired Equivalent Privacy)
 while loop

whitelist
white pages
whitespace
Wi-Fi
wildcard
wireframe view
worldwide
WORM (write-once read-many);
 a WORM
worst case (n); worst-case (a)
WPA (Wi-Fi Protected Access)
writable
WWW (World Wide Web); a WWW

X

x86; *an x86*
x-axis (roman)
Xcode
x-coordinate (roman)
XFree86; *an XFree86*
XHTML (Extensible HyperText Markup
 Language); *an XHTML; .html*

XLink (XML Linking Language); *an XLink*
XML (Extensible Markup Language);
 an XML; .xml
XSL (Extensible Stylesheet Language);
 an XSL; .xsl
XSLT (Extensible Stylesheet Language
 Transformation); *an XSLT; .xslt*

Y

Yahoo!
y-axis (roman)
y-coordinate (roman)

Z

zeros
zip (v)
ZIP code
zip drive
ZIP file; *.zip*

Hardware Word List

For acronyms, the article is specified based on preferred pronunciation.

For more on SI units and abbreviations, see The Chicago Manual of Style, 17th Ed., 10.51–10.59.

Abbreviations and Symbols

A (amps; amperes)
F (farads)
 μ F (microfarads)
 pF (picofarads)
m (meters)
 cm (centimeters)
 mm (millimeters)
 Ω (ohms; Ω preferred to *ohm*)
 k Ω (kilohms; not *kilohms*)
 M Ω (megohms; not *megaohms*)
torque; use middle dot when using
 kg·cm or N·m notation
V (volts); use space between value and
 unit of measurement; 9 V
W (watts)

A

adapter
amp; ampere (A)
Arduino

B

barrel jack adapter
baseplate
battery-connector wire
batwing switch
breakout board
bus wire

C

cable (not *lead*)
cadmium sulfide (CdS) cell
circuit diagram (not *schematic*)

D

datasheet
de-solder
Diffie–Hellman
Digi-Key

F

Farads (F)
 μ F (microfarads)
 pF (picofarads)
flathead screwdriver

H

H-bridge
hot glue gun

J

jack-power switch
jumper wires (not *jumper cables*)
 male-to-female jumper wire, female-
 to-male jumper wire, and so on

K

kilohm (not *kilohm*; k Ω)

L

LED; *an* LED
leg (not *lead*)
light-dependent resistor
linear-taper pot
LiquidCrystal library

M

megohm (not *megaohm*; $M\Omega$)
meters (m)
 cm (centimeters)
 mm (millimeters)
micro:bit
mod-rate knob
multibit
multimeter
multi-oscillator
multi-pliers
multi-pole

N

needle-nose pliers
NeoPixel

O

ohm (Ω); Ω preferred to *ohm*
Ohm's law

P

Phillips-head screw
Phillips-head screwdriver
photoresistor
piezo
prebuilt
precut
prerecorded
pre-solder
pre-step
printed circuit board (PCB)
pseudorandom

R

Raspberry Pi
Raspbian

S

Serial Monitor
Servo library
servomotor
set up (v); setup (n)
short-circuit (v); short circuit (n)
shrink tube
single-strand wire
solder point
solid-core wire
straightedge ruler
superglue
Switchcraft jack
switch jack

T

timer integrated circuit (IC)
toggle hold switch
torque; use middle dot when using
 kg·cm or N·m notation

U

USB cable (not *USB lead*)

V

$V = IR$ (not $V = RI$)
volt (V); use space between value and
 unit of measurement; 9 V

W

watt (W)
wire cutters
Wite-Out

Composition Guidelines

The following is a list of guidelines for composition using No Starch’s standard layout template.

Tables

- ▶ If a table has four or more rows, use alternate row shading.
- ▶ When breaking tables across pages, only the final row of the table should include a stroke on the bottom, not the final row of each page.
- ▶ If a table must break across facing pages, repeat the table’s header row on the recto. Do not repeat the table title.
- ▶ If a table must break across non-facing pages, insert *(continued)* at the bottom of the recto, flush right. On the verso, repeat the table number, followed by *(continued)*. Also repeat the header row.

Table B-2: Stand-Alone Syntax	
Symbol	Explanation
<code>'ident</code>	Named lifetime or loop label
<code>...u8, ...i32, ...f64, ...usize, etc.</code>	Numeric literal of specific type
<code>"..."</code>	String literal
<code>r#"..."#, r##"..."##, etc.</code>	Raw string literal; escape characters not processed
<code>b#"..."</code>	Byte string literal; constructs a <code>[u8]</code> instead of a string
<i>(continued)</i>	

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Table B-2: (continued)	
Symbol	Explanation
<code>b#"...", br#"...", br##"...", etc.</code>	Raw byte string literal; combination of raw and byte string literal
<code>'...'</code>	Character literal
<code>b'...'</code>	ASCII byte literal
<code> ... expr</code>	Closure
<code>!</code>	Always empty bottom type for diverging functions
<code>_</code>	"Ignored" pattern binding; also used to make integer literals readable

Figure 1: Recto (left) and verso (right) of a table broken across non-facing pages.

Images

- ▶ Screenshots must be at least 150 PPI
- ▶ Continuous tone photos must be at least 300 PPI
- ▶ Diagrams must be set at 100% scale. Do not resize.
- ▶ If adding a stroke around an image, set the stroke at 0.5 pt, black, with square corners.
- ▶ If an image is narrow enough, it may make sense to wrap the text around it. In this case, please set the image flush right and leave a space of 1p0 above and below the image, and a space of 2p0 to the left of the image. You can find InDesign’s Text Wrap panel by navigating to **Window ▶ Text Wrap**. Please also wrap the figure caption to the width of the image.

Cross-References

Link all page cross-references using the Cross-References panel in InDesign.

1. Make sure typographer's quotes are turned on in order for the cross-reference quotation marks to be curly.
2. Navigate to **Window ▶ Type & Tables ▶ Cross-References**.
3. Select **Insert Cross-Reference** from the panel menu.
4. Choose the appropriate Head A, B, or C from the appropriate chapter.
5. Under Cross-Reference Format, choose **Full Paragraph & Page Number**. This will insert "[HeadingTitle]" on page [XX].
6. Delete the original plain text cross-reference. The linked cross-reference you have just created should replace the original.

Treatment of Text

Appendixes In books with a single appendix, the appendix shouldn't have a ChapterLabel, only a ChapterTitle. The TOC is the only place where it should be labeled Appendix. Books with multiple appendixes use ChapterLabel A, B, C, and so on, along with the ChapterTitle.

Boxes If a box must split across non-facing pages, insert (*continued*) at the bottom of the recto half of the box, flush right.

Captions Wrap the caption at the edge of the figure.

Chapter titles Chapter titles that are one line long have 8p0 below them. Chapter titles that are two lines long have 6p6 below them. Chapter titles that are three lines long have 5p0 below them.

Literals Avoid breaking literal terms across lines. If it is unavoidable, break without a hyphen.

URLs URLs that must break across lines should break without a hyphen, and they should break BEFORE periods, underscores, equal signs, ampersands, and hyphens but AFTER colons, slashes and hash marks.

Please also link all URLs in InDesign's Hyperlinks panel. You can find this under **Window ▶ Interactive ▶ Hyperlinks**. This ensures that the URL will be correctly linked in the ebook.

- ▶ When a section ends with a list or caption, change the amount of space below the final list element or caption to 0. Preserve the space above the subsequent heading.
- ▶ To adjust a paragraph with bad breaks or bad rags, please adjust the tracking within the range of -10/10 and if necessary, utilize non-breaking spaces. Please do not add soft returns unless absolutely necessary.
- ▶ Please avoid changing the size of the text frame to adjust page flow. Instead, please utilize the Keep Options (CTRL+ALT+K).