

Help Level 1

Help Level 1 contains links to carefully chosen and curated excerpts of Manning books (preferably) and other online resources (if necessary) to help readers with specific workflow steps in the project and milestone they are currently in.

Create your Help Level 1 content

Think of it as opening a book for your user and pointing to a section, saying, “If you read these two sections, you'll learn how to [do something specific] that you need in step 3 of this workflow.”

1. Search for specific sections of Manning books that teach concepts needed for a specific workflow step or steps.
2. Provide the book title, chapter, and section
3. Provide a clear, specific description of what the user should be looking for in this material and which parts of the workflow it will help them with.

Here are two examples of how you could introduce a resource

Note that they point to specific sections and tell the user what they are trying to find there. They could even tell the user where in the project they'll use it.

- Sections 4. 1 and 4.2 of [book title] will help you understand how to handle asynchronous events in JavaScript. You'll need to do this when you are working on steps 4 and 5 in the project workflow.
- Sections 6.1-6.5 of [book title] will teach you how to work with callbacks in JavaScript.

Here's how we describe Level 1 Help to your project's users

The first level of help provides topic-specific, narrow-focus reading material that you can access with live links right from the project. This option gives you a little bit of help and the greatest opportunity to work and learn. You'll still need to come up with the answer on your own, we're just serving up some information that might help.

Help Level 2

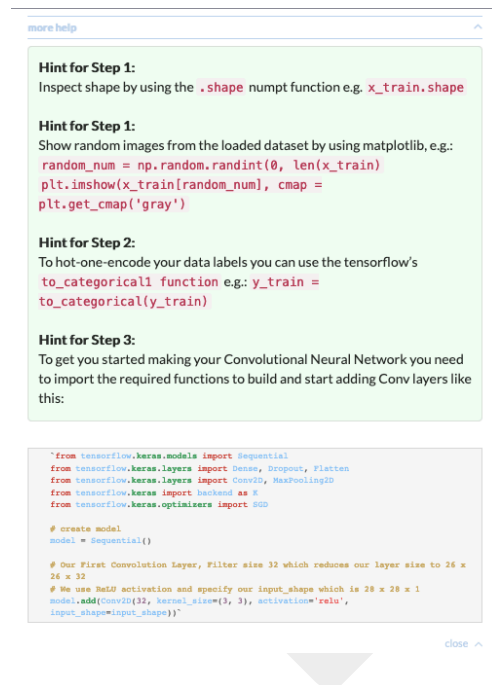
Help Level 2 contains very specific hints and tips for how to solve a specific step or steps in the current workflow. You might include code snippets, a hint, or keyword - whatever you think might help your user go from "puzzled" to "aha!"

The liveProject platform lets us include formatted code. Do keep it brief and targeted to specific steps.

Create your Help Level 2 content

1. Write a hint for a specific step or steps in the current workflow.
2. Indicate the step(s) and provide the formatted hint.
3. Start your hint with "Hint for Step n:" "Hint for Steps n-p:" "Hint for Workflow:"
4. Add at least one sentence of introductory text before any code to tell the user what it's helping them with
5. Not every step will have a hint. Some hints might go with more than one step. Try not to provide a hint that goes with more than a step or two, but if you need to do that, you can.

Here is an example of Help Level 2 content



Here's how we describe Level 2 Help to your project's users

If you click “more help,” we’ll provide workflow-specific clues that will include keywords, sample code snippets, similar tasks solved, and other very helpful clues. As often as possible, the author will associate these clues to specific workflow steps so that you know which clues help you with what you are working on at the moment.

You won’t find answers here, but you’ll be getting some very helpful hints to keep you moving.

Help Level 3

Help Level 3 is a partial solution to a workflow in a milestone. If there is a deliverable, there should be a partial solution for that deliverable.

This level is for users that need a lot of help, but they aren't ready to give up yet and move to level 4 (the full solution). Make your partial solution something truly helpful; there's no need to be tricky. You want users to finish the project and feel like they learned something along the way.

Create your Help Level 3 content

Often a *full* solution is a very well commented Python or Jupyter notebook or code listing. In those cases, a *partial* solution could be the full solution *with all the code removed*, but the robust comments left in place.

1. Create your partial solution. Ideally this is a skeleton of your full solution.
2. Read through it, trying to put yourself in the place of a possibly confused and frustrated user. Do you need to add any more comments, code descriptions, instructions, or tips to help them complete the project?
3. Use the same filename convention as you do for your full solution, but add PARTIAL at the beginning of the filename.

Here's how we describe Level 3 Help to your project's users:

The third level of help will provide a partial solution. If you are firmly stuck in the land of “I don’t have a clue” or you want to move quickly to the answer, access the third help level. The author will provide a partial solution to the workflow so that you can keep moving. For many projects, this will be a commented code listing or notebook with the code removed so that you can use the comments and author’s solution structure to guide you through writing the code for the project.

Help Level 4

Help Level 4 is the full solution to your project.

Do not create anything special for this level; we provide the user with your full solution file here.

Here's how we describe Level 4 Help to your project's users

As the fourth level of help, we’ve added access to the full solution in help for each milestone. We hope you don’t need it, but we realize that sometimes you’re just stumped. If you access the full solution, please read it and learn as much as you can from it before you take the certification exam. Please don’t share it.