

How to convert markdown file into html and pdf files using github api

On Ubuntu/Debian systems. 3 different ways:

Using only pandoc

Install

pandoc used natively latex to compile. latex is heavy to install.

pandoc installation :

```
sudo apt update
sudo apt install pandoc
```

Usage

```
pandoc some_file.md -s -o some_file.pdf
```

The result is clear but do not have the nice github style. Classic latex style is used.

It's fast and command line only.

See `compile_markdown_pandoc.pdf` file to see the result on this file.

Using grip and Firefox or Chrome

Use grip to convert the markdown file into html render and firefox or chrome to save it as pdf.

Install

`grip` needs to be installed. it's needing an active Internet connexion to use Github API.

```
sudo apt-get update
sudo apt-get install -y grip
```

the html-pdf conversion needs firefox or chrome installed.

Usage

`grip` is used to render the file on a local server (localhost). 1. Start `grip` using the following command :

```
grip some_file.md
```

Once it is running a message will appears :

```
* Serving Flask app 'grip.app'
* Debug mode: off
WARNING: This is a development server. Do not use it in a production deployment. Use a production
* Running on http://localhost:XXXX
```

Where XXXX is a port.

2. Open `http://localhost:XXXX` on Firefox or Chrome. Ctrl+Click to open with default navigator.
3. Ctrl+P (or Parameters>Print...) to save open the print windows. Select Save to pdf as Destination.
4. (Optional) The looks is better with *Print headers and footers* unchecked and *Print backgrounds* checked.
5. Click on Save and chose a file name and path.

This way needs to open firefox or chrome and save to pdf using graphical interface. It is the better looking way.

See `compile_markdown_grip_firefox.pdf` file to see the result on this file with Firefox and `compile_markdown_grip_chrome.pdf` with Chrome.

Using grip and wkhtmltopdf

It is using `grip` to convert the markdown file into a html file. it's needing an active Internet connexion to use Github API. Then `wkhtmltopdf` convert it into a pdf file.

Install

`grip` needs to be installed.

```
sudo apt-get update
sudo apt-get install -y grip
```

`wkhtmltopdf` needs to be installed.

```
sudo apt-get update -y
sudo apt-get install -y wkhtmltopdf
```

Usage

1. `grip` is used to export the markdown file into a html file.

```
grip some_file.md --export some_file.html
```

2. `wkhtmltopdf` is used to convert the html file into a pdf file

```
wkhtmltopdf some_file.html some_file.pdf
```

This way is a command line only process, it's looks great but needs an active Internet connexion (**grip** use github renderer).

See `compile_markdown_grip_wkhtmltopdf.pdf` file to see the result on this file.