

Writing Documentation Easier Getting Started with ASCIIDoctor

GeekMustHave

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ASCIIDoctor is a markdown languages. It has a very extenisve syntax allowing for better technical writing. This file is an example of some of that syntax. There are links at the end of the document for more detailed references to this markdown.

History

This is the history of revisions to this document

Document History

[cols="2,1,1,5" options="header"]

Date	Version	Author	Description
08/14/2017	2.1e	JHRS	Added GMH details at end, changed name of file to more WGET friendly
08/13/2017	2.1d	JHRS	Updated for advanced users wanted a fuller ADOC test file
07/25/2017	2.1c	JHRS	Changed for tutorial testing
07/21/2017	2.1b	JHRS	Initial version of document

Overview

Technical writing with markdown requires the mastery of a **Text-Editor**, not a word processor. You must surrender from the the WYSIWYG and move on to writing content and leeting ther format just happen.

Toolchain

A toolchain is a set of utilities that perform a process. The ASCIIDoctor toolchain is very simple to start Edit-Generate-View-Repeat.

Some toolchains are more complex with File Transfers of HTML files to web sites and version control using GIT an GitHub.

Component Dowload links

[Ruby Installer](#)

[This ADOC file](#)

[GIT Windows](#)

[Microsoft Code Editor](#)

[Chrome ASCIIDoctor Live preview](#)

[ASCIIDocFX Editor](#)

[Writing Books with ASCCDoc FX - YouTube video](#)

Some of the utilities (Components) are shown below

Minimum Components

- Ruby
- GEM
- ASCIIDoctor
- ASCIIDoctor-PDF (Pre-production)

Option components

- Chrome - ASCIIDoctor.js Preview add-on
- Firefox - ASCIIDoctor.JS live preview add-on
- Editor - My Choice VS Code
- VS Code plugins
- VS Code Highlighting control for ASCIIDoctor
- VS Live Preview
- VS Spellchecker

Version control

- GIT version control
- GIT in VS Code
- Powershell
- PS scripts for Document management
- PS within VSCode

GEM Installation of the basic ASCIIDocotr

After Ruby and GEM are installed you can install the basic ASCIIDoctor by running

```
gem install ASCIIDoctor
```

To get the PDF component (Pre-Production) you will need to run

```
gem install asciidoctor-pdf --pre
```



The --pre is necessary or the GEM install will fail

Microsoft Powershell

This is the replacement for the old command line **CMD**. Powershell supports many of the old **CMD** commands but, its power comes from the new commands it has.

Microsoft Code Editor

This is an excellent editor to use for Technical writing. There are extensions to help do syntax highlighting and live HTML viewing. Code also has an integrated Powershell window allowing you to run your Writing toolchain.

ASCIIDoctor syntax references.

1. [ASCIIDoc cheatsheet, By Powerman](#)
2. [ASCIIDoc Syntax Quick Reference](#)
3. [Awsome ASCIIDoctor Notebook, by \(mrhaki\)](#)
4. [ASCIIDoctors Writer Guide](#)
5. [ASCIIDoc Home page \(Pre-ASCIIDoctor\)](#)

GeekMustHave

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