

Markdown style guide

This guide for Markdown style helps keep contributions consistent across all documentation created for Grafana products. Refer to the guide and update its sections as needed when a Subject Matter Expert answers a question on Markdown style, or a decision is made about how to apply Markdown.

Headers

In Markdown, the number of "#" symbols creates different heading levels, similar to HTML heading levels:

Example

- # is <h1>.
- ## is <h2>.
- ### is <h3>.

Start your document with a single # for the title of the page. Add the sub-headings with two ##.

Bold and emphasis

- Make text **bold** using two asterisks.

Example: It is **important** to use GitHub-flavored Markdown emoji consistently.

- Make text emphasized using single underscores. Do not use the single asterisk, it can be easily confused with bold.

Example: GitHub-flavored markdown emoji should *only* appear in specific cases.

Links and references

Create links to other website by wrapping the display text in square brackets, and the web URL in curved brackets.

[text to display](www.website.com)

Example: For more information on including emoji in GitHub-flavored markdown, refer to the [webfx page on emoji](#) for a list of emoji.

Block quotes

Include block quotes inside text using right-facing arrows:

Example

Any important information about emoji can be separated into a blockquote.

Code blocks

Code blocks written with markdown can show off syntax highlighting specific to different languages. Use three back ticks to create a code block:

```
function testNum(a) {  
  if (a > 0) {  
    return "positive";  
  }  
}
```

```
} else {  
    return "NOT positive";  
}  
}
```

Write the name of the language after the first set of back ticks, no spaces, to show specific syntax highlighting. For example; ````javascript" produces the following:

```
function testNum(a) {  
    if (a > 0) {  
        return 'positive';  
    } else {  
        return 'NOT positive';  
    }  
}
```

Tables

Construct a table by typing the table headings, and separating them with a "|" character. Then, add a second line of dashes ("-") separated by another "|" character. When constructing the table cells, separate each cell data with another "|".

Example

Heading one | Heading two

-----|-----

Cell one data| Cell two data

Will publish as:

Heading one	Heading two
Cell one data	Cell two data

Lists

Numbered lists

To avoid inconsistent list numbering, use repetitive list numbering:

\1. First

\1. Second

\1. Third

The list above will always display as:

1. First
2. Second
3. Third

Unordered lists

Build a list of points - an unordered or unnumbered list - by using "-" (hyphen) characters.

Example

- First
- Another item
- The last list item

Images

Do not use image shortcodes at this time.

Include images in a document using the following syntax:

```
![Alt text](link to image, starting with /static/img/docs/ if it is to an internal image "Title of image in sentence case")
```

Note: *Alt text does not appear when the user hovers the mouse over the image, but title text does.*

Examples:

- `![Grafana logo](/link/to/grafanalogo/logo.png "Grafana logo")`
- `![Example](/static/img/docs/folder_name/alert_test_rule.png "Example title")`

This follows the format of "!", alt text wrapped in "[]" and the link URL wrapped in "()".

You can also use HTML such as the following:

```

```

In most cases, use the markdown syntax rather than the HTML syntax. Only use the HTML if you need to change the image in ways unsupported by Markdown.

Comments

You can include comments that will not appear in published markdown using the following syntax:

`[comment]: <> (Comment text to display)`

The word "comment" wrapped in "[]" followed by a ":", a space, "<>", and then the comment itself wrapped in "()".