

# Using Excerpts

Jay Gatsby

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`gatsby-transformer-remark` allows you to get an excerpt from a markdown post. By default, it will prune the first 140 characters, but you can optionally specify a `pruneLength` in the graphql query.

```
{
  allMarkdownRemark {
    edges {
      node {
        excerpt(pruneLength: 280)
      }
    }
  }
}
```

You can also manually mark in your markdown where to stop excerpting—similar to Jekyll. `gatsby-transformer-remark` uses gray-matter to parse markdown frontmatter, so you can specify an `excerpt_separator`, as well as any of the other options mentioned here, in the `gatsby-config.js` file.

```
{
  "resolve": `gatsby-transformer-remark`,
  "options": {
    "excerpt_separator": `<!-- end -->`
  }
}
```

Any file that does not have the given `excerpt_separator` will fall back to the default pruning method.

You can see the results [here](#)