

# How To Create Beautiful and Useful ReadMe Documents For GitHub

## Video

<https://youtu.be/a8CwpGARAsQ?si=62MAFgF34eNOjFkm>

## Notes

- README ≠ Full documentation
- Should explain
  - the project
  - how to install
  - how to use
- Creating a banner for your project can improve the aesthetics, and can be used if a project does not have a logo as an alternative
- ‘Shields’ can be added to a README.md file to give brief information about a wide variety of areas in relation to your project
- “Carbon” can be used to create clear images of source code which is easy for people to read

## GitHub Example Structures

(based on: <https://github.com/alichtman/stronghold#readme>)

1. banner

2. shields (total downloads)
  3. single sentence description (example: `name` is the easiest way to securely configure mac)
  4. image/gif (showing usage, gameplay, etc)
  5. usage information
  6. Installation guide
  7. Configuration options
  8. How to contribute
- 

(based on: <https://github.com/amitmerchant1990/electron-markdownify#readme>)


1. logo/banner
  2. single sentence description
  3. shields
  4. contents
  5. gif
  6. features information
  7. usage information
  8. installation guide
- 

(based on: <https://github.com/anfederico/Clairvoyant#readme>)

1. logo/banner
2. shields
3. basic overview (single sentences)
4. images/gifs
5. installation guide
6. usage information (broken down into separate parts as it is a large/complicated project)
7. How to contribute

---

(based on: <https://github.com/athityakumar/colorls#readme>)

1. Title
2. badges (bulit with ruby) + shields
3. Overview sentences
4. image
5. contents
6. usage information (with lots of images as it is a project that changes colours of  output, which needs to be shown)
7. Installation guide
8. configurations
9. custom configurations
10. how to update
11. how to uninstall
12. How to contribute

---

(based on advice from the video)

1. logo/banner
2. add badges (not too many)
3. description
4. gif demo
5. installation
6. usuage
7. additional info, contribution, license, donate

## **Resources**

- Banner Maker - <https://banner.godori.dev/>
- Shields.io - <https://shields.io/>

- Carbon - <https://carbon.now.sh/>
- Awesome README - <https://github.com/matiassingers/awesome-readme>