

# AsciiSpec Setup

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# Table of Contents

1. Installation .....	1
2. Converting Documents .....	2
2.1. Docbook / XML .....	2
2.2. PDF .....	2
2.3. Configuration File .....	2

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# Chapter 1. Installation

Add AsciiSpec to your shell profile with the path to the `asciispec/bin` directory on your system:

```
export PATH=$PATH:~/path/to/asciispec/bin/
```

If the AsciiSpec tool is found by your system, running AsciiSpec with the `-h` flag will print a help page:

```
asciispec -h
```

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# Chapter 2. Converting Documents

To convert this document with AsciiSpec, `cd` to the docs directory and run:

```
asciispec userguide.adoc
```

This will use the default HTML and create a file called `userguide.html`.

To convert to HTML using a different CSS stylesheet, `document attributes` are passed using the `-a` flag:

```
asciispec -a stylesheet=mystyle.css userguide.adoc
```



Passing a document attribute via the command line will override that value if it has already been set in the source document.

## 2.1. Docbook / XML

To convert to docbook ( `.xml` ), use the `-b docbook` flag:

```
asciispec -b docbook userguide.adoc
```

Most built-in CLI parameters are described in the help page by running `asciispec -h` and in further detail in the [CLI Options](#) section of the AsciiDoctor user manual.

## 2.2. PDF

Apache FOP (Formatting Objects Processor) is required for higher quality **PDF** generation. A fork with custom PDF styling and syntax highlighting can be found at the following location:

<https://github.com/NumberFour/asciidoctor-fopub>

1. Clone the AsciiDoctor Fopub repository

```
git clone https://github.com/NumberFour/asciidoctor-fopub.git
```

2. Add the `asciidoctor-fopub/` directory to your shell profile:

```
export PATH=$PATH:~/path/to/asciidoctor-fopub/
```

3. Confirm successful install using the `which fopub` command.

```
$ which fopub
~/path/to/fopub
```

4. Convert XML to PDF using the following:

```
fopub myfile.xml
```

An example command to convert from asciidoc to PDF would then look something like the following:

```
asciispec -b docbook myfile.adoc && fopub myfile.xml
```

## 2.3. Configuration File

AsciiSpec processors with configurable target URLs have to be set up by means of a configuration file. For this case, `config.adoc` can be copied to the location of the source document and used as a template. The following line of code must be included at the top of your source document:

```
include::config.adoc[]
```



To configure a specific processor, see [AsciiSpec Processors](#).