

# **Effective Programming Practices for Economists**

## **Texts, Typesetting, and Text Data**

### **Writing Readme Files**

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# Readme.md

- Everybody sees this first when they visit your repository
  - Always format nicely using markdown
- In large projects, it could be a short visit
  - DRY. Just point to where the information below can be found
- In small projects, it might be the only place with text (≠code)
  - Provide all relevant information

# Points to address

- Entry point to the project: What is the goal? How is that being achieved?
- How do I get it to run?
  - For experienced users: Make it easy to find the bare minimum (assumptions about sytem, precise commands)
  - For less experienced users: Provide links to background information
- Does it look like you cared?
  - about the project
  - about the reader (don't make it too long!)

**Example: optimagic**