

What Is YAML?

Rhymes with
“camel”

YAML was born in 2001
quirkily named as “Yet
Another Markup
Language”.

Today it has morphed
rebelliously into “YAML
Ain’t Markup Language”.

A YAML file’s basic
structure is a map or you
could call it a dictionary or
object. Your choice.

```
version 3.1
command: ["sh", "-c", "command1", "command2"]
docker:
  - image: alpine
  - image: mongo:2.8
    command: [mongod, --smallfile]
  - image: postgres:14.2
```

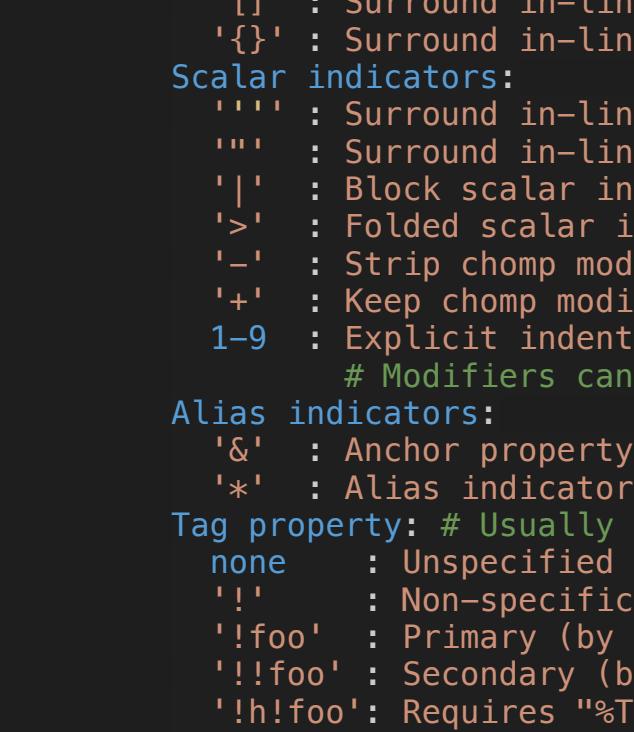
You can use all kinds of
types for values: numbers,
booleans and the ever
popular strings.

Key

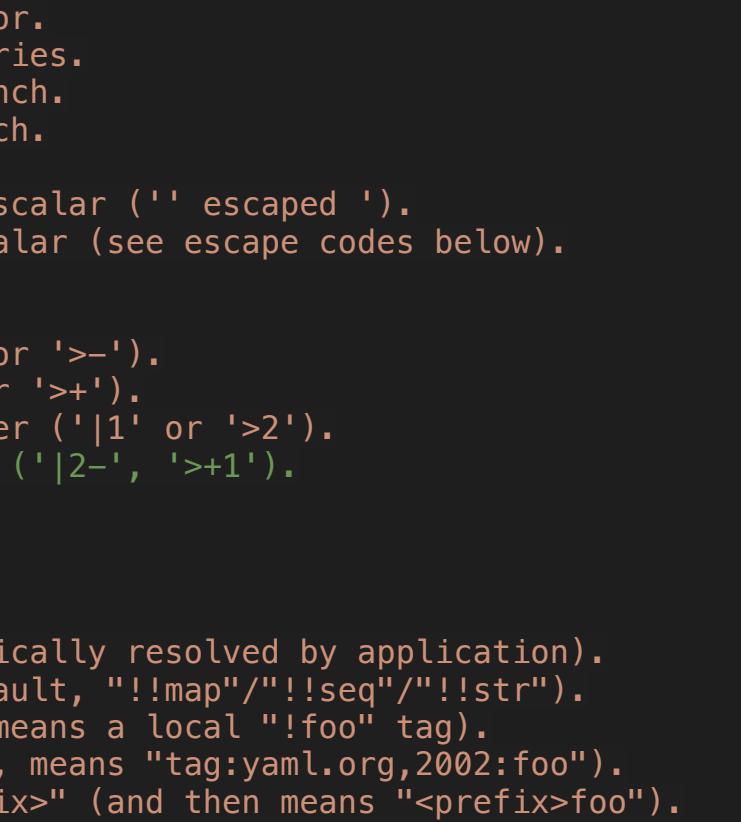
Value

Python-style indentation indicates nesting and
[...] for lists and {...} for maps. JSON is valid
YAML. Are we having fun yet?

Tab characters are not valid in YAML so you
need to have your editor substitute spaces to
indent. Use an online YAML validator to check
for syntax errors:
www.yamllint.com/



Philip Mercier
The Shutz Family and their Friends on a
Terrace (1725)



Amanda Dabjörn - Unsplash

YAML Cheat Sheet

```
%YAML 1.1 # Reference card
---
Collection indicators:
  '?' : Key indicator.
  ':' : Value indicator.
  '-' : Nested series entry indicator.
  ',' : Separate in-line branch entries.
  '[]' : Surround in-line series branch.
  '{}' : Surround in-line keyed branch.
Scalar indicators:
  '''' : Surround in-line unescaped scalar ('' escaped '').
  ''' : Surround in-line escaped scalar (see escape codes below).
  '|': Block scalar indicator.
  '>' : Folded scalar indicator.
  '-' : Strip chomp modifier ('|-' or '>-').
  '+' : Keep chomp modifier ('|+' or '>+').
  '1-9' : Explicit indentation modifier ('|1' or '>2').
  # Modifiers can be combined ('|2-', '>+1').
Alias indicators:
  '&' : Anchor property.
  '*' : Alias indicator.
Tag property: # Usually unspecified.
  'none' : Unspecified tag (automatically resolved by application).
  '!' : Non-specific tag (by default, "%!map"/"%!seq"/"%!str").
  '!foo' : Primary (by convention, means a local "%foo" tag).
  '!foo' : Secondary (by convention, means "tag:yaml.org,2002:foo").
  '!h!foo' : Requires "%TAG !h! <prefix>" (and then means "<prefix>foo").
  '!<foo>' : Verbatim tag (always means "foo").
Document indicators:
  '%' : Directive indicator.
  '---' : Document header.
  '...' : Document terminator.
Misc indicators:
  '#' : Throwaway comment indicator.
  '@' : Both reserved for future use.
Special keys:
  '=' : Default "value" mapping key.
  '<<' : Merge keys from another mapping.
Core types: # Default automatic tags.
  '%!map' : { Hash table, dictionary, mapping }
  '%!seq' : { List, array, tuple, vector, sequence }
  '%!str' : Unicode string
More types:
  '%!set' : { cherries, plums, apples }
  '%!omap' : [ one: 1, two: 2 ]
Language Independent Scalar types:
  { ~, null } : Null (no value).
  [ 1234, 0x4D2, 02333 ] : [ Decimal int, Hexadecimal int, Octal int ]
  [ 1_230.15, 12.3015e+02 ] : [ Fixed float, Exponential float ]
  [ .inf, -.inf, .NAN ] : [ Infinity (float), Negative, Not a number ]
  { Y, true, Yes, ON } : Boolean true
  { n, FALSE, No, off } : Boolean false
  ? !!binary >
    R0lG...BADS
  : >-
    Base 64 binary value.
Escape codes:
  Numeric : { "\x12": 8-bit, "\u1234": 16-bit, "\u000102030": 32-bit }
  Protective: { "\\"": '\', "\\"": '\'', "\\\": '\\', "\\\TAB": TAB }
  C : { "\0": NUL, "\a": BEL, "\b": BS, "\f": FF, "\n": LF, "\r": CR,
        "\t": TAB, "\v": VTAB }
  Additional: { "\e": ESC, "\_": NBSF, "\N": NEL, "\L": LS, "\P": PS }
  ...
```

