

Beginner's Guide to Pelican

Oftentimes, even the ReadMe of a repository can be a little daunting to explore especially if you are new to programming. The main point of this document is to give a brief overview of Pelican and its use cases in a simplified fashion to allow you to make the decision on whether this repository is right for you.

First and foremost, Pelican is a **static** site generator built in Python with an emphasis on the static. This means that it is best used for building a simple website that doesn't have any dynamic moments or need a backend. You would need a backend if for example you wanted to build an e-commerce site that you needed to store not just inventory but also customer's information etc. Where Pelican shines is if you want to use it for websites such a blog, news website, to do list etc. Basically any website that displays information to the user or has basic CRUD(Create, Read, Update and Delete Functionality).

The most important thing is to think of the core concept of your project and look forward to see if you actually need things like a backend,database, dynamic features or if your project goals can be completed with a static site generator. If so, Pelican can be an excellent solution. As the repo not only allows you to easily create a static site but given the community support there are many different templates to give you a starting point.

Of course there are more complex use cases of Pelican that allows you to go beyond just a simple blog such as being able to use pre-rendered themes, importing from external websites or even using the rich store of Pelican plugins here: <https://github.com/pelican-plugins>. These are excellent options if you want to take your sites to the next level but it is just important to keep in mind the base objective to determine if this repository is right for you before investing the time to

understand the nuances of the code. Now after hearing all that, you decide that you do indeed want to test this project to see if it is right for you. Please check out this link: <https://docs.getpelican.com/en/latest/contribute.html>. It will provide extensive instructions for how to set up the environment along with any common troubleshoot issues.