

# markdown-mode for Emacs

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edition 2.3.a  
for markdown-mode version 2.3

markdown-mode by Jason R. Blevins, et al.  
manual by Daniel Birket

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This manual is `markdown-mode` for *Emacs*, edition 2.3.a, by Daniel Birket, updated 1 January 2019, which describes how to install and use the Emacs package `markdown-mode`, version 2.3, released Aug 31, 2017, which was written by and Copyright © 2007-2017 Jason R. Blevins, et al. See <http://jblevins.org/projects/markdown-mode/>.

This typeset document was composed using *Emacs* v26.1<sup>1</sup> and compiled from `.texi` source using *GNU Texinfo* v6.5<sup>2</sup> and typeset using T<sub>E</sub>X<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Emacs was created by Richard M. Stallman, et al. See <https://www.gnu.org/software/emacs/>.

<sup>2</sup> Texinfo was created by Richard M. Stallman, et al. See <https://www.gnu.org/software/texinfo/>.

<sup>3</sup> T<sub>E</sub>X was created by Donald Knuth, et al. See <https://www.gnu.org/software/texinfo/>.

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This manual was not created by the author of `markdown-mode` but is based upon the comments and doc strings in the `markdown-mode.el` source code, which begins with:

```
;;; markdown-mode.el --- Major mode for Markdown-formatted text -*- lexical-binding: t

;; Copyright (C) 2007-2017 Jason R. Blevins and markdown-mode
;; contributors (see the commit log for details).

;; Author: Jason R. Blevins <jblevins@xbeta.org>
;; Maintainer: Jason R. Blevins <jblevins@xbeta.org>
;; Created: May 24, 2007
;; Version: 2.4-dev
;; Package-Requires: ((emacs "24.4") (cl-lib "0.5"))
;; Keywords: Markdown, GitHub Flavored Markdown, itex
;; URL: https://jblevins.org/projects/markdown-mode/

;; This file is not part of GNU Emacs.

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;; (at your option) any later version.

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;; GNU General Public License for more details.
```

# 1 Introduction

This manual describes how to install and use `markdown-mode`, an Emacs<sup>1</sup> package for working with markdown-formatted text. The features of this package assist the user to insert and manipulate markup syntax compatible with the external `markdown` command. The separate program `markdown` (or a similar program) is required to convert the markdown-formatted text into HTML-formatted text.

The package implements two Emacs *major modes*:

- `markdown-mode`, for editing standard markdown text.  
See Chapter 3 [Using `markdown-mode`], page 7.
- `gfm-mode`, for editing GitHub-flavored markdown<sup>2</sup> text.  
See Chapter 4 [Using `gfm-mode`], page 19.

The popular Unix filter command `markdown`<sup>3</sup> provides an easy way to produce formatted and styled HTML from simply-formatted text files. This approach uses the edit-compile workflow familiar to a programmer and is compatible with source-code management tools. This separates composition from formatting, allowing the writer to focus on writing without the distractions of WYSIWYG editors.

`markdown` has been re-implemented by others with various additional features and syntax. These include `multimarkdown`<sup>4</sup>, `pandoc`<sup>5</sup> and others.

---

<sup>1</sup> Emacs was created by Richard Stallman in 1976. *GNU Emacs* is documented at <https://www.gnu.org/software/emacs/>. *XEmacs* is documented at <http://www.xemacs.org>.

<sup>2</sup> GitHub Flavored Markdown is the dialect of markdown used by GitHub. See <http://github.github.com/github-flavored-markdown/>.

<sup>3</sup> Markdown was created by John Gruber in collaboration with Aaron Swartz in 2004. See <http://daringfireball.net/projects/markdown/>.

<sup>4</sup> Multimarkdown was created by Fletcher T. Penny. See <https://fletcherpenney.net>.

<sup>5</sup> Pandoc was created by John MacFarlane. See <https://pandoc.org>.

## 2 Installing

This chapter describes how to install `markdown-mode` for everyday use. To install the development version for testing, see Section A.3 [Development Version], page 28.

*Note:* `markdown-mode` is an extension of Emacs<sup>1</sup>. Install Emacs first. You must also install an external markdown command such as `markdown`<sup>2</sup>, `multimarkdown`<sup>3</sup>, or `pandoc`<sup>4</sup> to render markdown text as HTML for preview or export. An external command is not required for editing. See Section 5.1 [Customizing External Commands], page 21,

### 2.1 Recommended Installation

The recommended way to install the package `markdown-mode` is to use `package.el`, which has been integrated with Emacs since version 24. (It is included in version 23, but must be initialized.)

To install `markdown-mode`, first add the MELPA Stable archive<sup>5</sup> to the list of archives used by `package.el` by adding the following lines to your `.emacs`, `init.el`, or other Emacs startup file and restarting Emacs (or just evaluate the statements):

```
(require 'package)
(add-to-list 'package-archives
  '("melpa-stable" . "https://stable.melpa.org/packages/"))

(package-initialize)
```

Then, after restarting Emacs (or otherwise evaluating the above statements), type the following command:

```
M-x package-install RET markdown-mode RET.
```

When installed using the package manager this way, the major modes `markdown-mode` and `gfm-mode` will be auto-loaded, and `markdown-mode` will be used automatically for file names ending in either `.md` or `.markdown`.

### 2.2 Manual Installation

You can manually download and install `markdown-mode`.

First, download `markdown-mode` from one of:

- <http://jblevins.org/projects/markdown-mode/markdown-mode.el>
- <http://stable.melpa.org/>

and save the file where Emacs can find it in a directory listed in your `load-path` like `/usr/local/share/emacs/site-lisp`.

<sup>1</sup> See <https://www.gnu.org/software/emacs/>.

<sup>2</sup> See <http://daringfireball.net/projects/markdown/>.

<sup>3</sup> See <https://fletcherpenney.net>.

<sup>4</sup> See <https://pandoc.org>.

<sup>5</sup> You may browse the 1500+ other Emacs packages in the MELPA-Stable archive at <http://stable.melpa.org/> or by typing `M-x list-packages RET` after adding it to your `package-archives` list.

Then configure `markdown-mode` and `gfm-mode` to load automatically by adding the following to your init file:

```
(autoload 'markdown-mode
  "markdown-mode"
  "Major mode for editing Markdown files" t)
(add-to-list 'auto-mode-alist '("\\.markdown\\'" . markdown-mode))
(add-to-list 'auto-mode-alist '("\\.md\\'" . markdown-mode))

(autoload 'gfm-mode
  "markdown-mode"
  "Major mode for editing GitHub Flavored Markdown files" t)
(add-to-list 'auto-mode-alist '("README\\.md\\'" . gfm-mode))
```

This package, `markdown-mode.el`, depends on the package `cl-lib`, which has been bundled with GNU Emacs since version 24.3. If you use GNU Emacs version 24.1 or 24.2 and lack `cl-lib`, you should install `cl-lib` using `package.el`. To install `cl-lib` type:

```
M-x package-install RET cl-lib RET
```

## 2.3 Managed Loading

If you manage loading packages with `use-package`<sup>6</sup> then you can automatically install and configure `markdown-mode` by adding a declaration such as this one to your init file (This is an example. Please adjust these settings as desired):

```
(use-package markdown-mode
  :ensure t
  :commands (markdown-mode gfm-mode)
  :mode (("README\\.md\\'" . gfm-mode)
        ("\\.md\\'" . markdown-mode)
        ("\\.markdown\\'" . markdown-mode))
  :init (setq markdown-command "multimarkdown"))
```

## 2.4 Package Managers

You may install `markdown-mode` using the package managers of various operating systems instead of the Emacs package manager. This method is *not* recommended. Many packages do not contain the latest stable version. (Please notify the package maintainer if you download one that does not.) OS-level package managers generally do NOT byte-compile or configure `markdown-mode` to load automatically. Please see the instructions under Section 2.2 [Manual Installation], page 3, if `markdown-mode` does not load automatically.

Debian Linux

<https://packages.debian.org/sid/lisp/elpa-markdown-mode>

Ubuntu Linux

At the terminal prompt, type:

---

<sup>6</sup> `use-package` by John Wiegley is documented at <https://github.com/jwiegley/use-package>.



```

$ sudo apt update

$ apt show elpa-markdown-mode

Package: elpa-markdown-mode
...
Source: markdown-mode
Version: 2.1-1
...
Description-en: mode for editing Markdown-formatted text
files in GNU Emacs. The mode provides syntax highlighted,
and keyboard shortcuts for editing, compiling and previewing
Markdown.
...
Homepage: http://jblevins.org/projects/markdown-mode/
...

$ sudo apt install elpa-markdown-mode

```

#### RedHat and Fedora Linux

<https://apps.fedoraproject.org/packages/emacs-goodies>

Note: *emacs-goodies* is a collection of Emacs programs. The version of *markdown-mode* that it includes is unknown.

This package is maintained by [sagarun@fedoraproject.org](mailto:sagarun@fedoraproject.org)

#### NetBSD <http://pkgsrc.se/textproc/markdown-mode>

Note: As of Dec-2018, this package installs and byte-compiles an *obsolete* version 2.1 (May-2017) of *markdown-mode*. You must manually edit your startup file as described above under Section 2.2 [Manual Installation], page 3.

The package is maintained by [minskim@NetBSD.org](mailto:minskim@NetBSD.org).

#### FreeBSD <http://svnweb.freebsd.org/ports/head/textproc/markdown-mode.el>

Note: As of Dec-2018, this package downloads (but does not byte-compile or configure) *markdown-mode* version 2.3 to `/usr/local/share/emacs/site-lisp`. You must manually edit your startup file as described above under Section 2.2 [Manual Installation], page 3.

The package is maintained by [olgeni@FreeBSD.org](mailto:olgeni@FreeBSD.org)

#### Macintosh MacPorts

<https://trac.macports.org/browser/trunk/dports/editors/markdown-mode.el/Portfile>

Note: As of Dec-2018, this package downloads (but does not byte-compile or configure) an *obsolete* version 2.0 (Sep-2014) of *markdown-mode* from [git://jblevins.org/git/markdown-mode.git](https://jblevins.org/git/markdown-mode.git) to `/usr/local/share/emacs/site-lisp`. You must manually edit your startup file as described above under Section 2.2 [Manual Installation], page 3.

#### Macintosh HomeBrew

At the terminal prompt type

```
$ brew update
...
$ brew info homebrew/emacs/markdown-mode
...
$ brew install homebrew/emacs/markdown-mode
...
```

### 3 Using markdown-mode

This chapter describes how to use `markdown-mode`.

`C-c` is the `mode-specific-command-prefix` and most of `markdown-mode`'s keybindings begin with it. Under it, many keybindings are grouped based on their function:

`C-c C-a`

Prefix keys for insert link commands.  
(Remember as HTML '`<a>`' link tag.)  
Use `C-c C-a C-h` to list all commands in this group.  
See Section 3.4 [Links], page 12,

`C-c C-c`

Prefix keys that use external [c]ommands.  
Use `C-c C-c C-h` to list all commands in this group.  
See Section 3.7 [External Commands], page 15,

`C-c C-s`

Prefix keys to insert [s]tyle commands.  
Use `C-c C-s C-h` to list all commands in this group.  
See Section 3.3 [Styles], page 11,

`C-c C-t`

Prefix keys for insert [t]itle/header commands.  
Use `C-c C-t C-h` to list all commands in this group.  
See Section 3.1 [Headers], page 8,

`C-c C-x`

Prefix keys for manipulating lists and settings.  
Use `C-c C-x C-h` to list all commands in this group.  
See Section 3.2 [Lists], page 11,

Navigation and movement commands are usually associated with pairs of keybindings. Outline navigation keybindings are the same as in `org-mode`<sup>1</sup>.

`M-{|M-}` or `C-UP|C-DOWN`

See Section 3.8.1 [Navigation Differences], page 16,

`C-c C-f|C-c C-b` and `C-c C-n|C-c C-p`

See Section 3.1.4 [Navigating Headers], page 10,

`M-n|M-p` See Section 3.4.2 [Navigating Links], page 13,

`C-c C--|C-c C-=` or `M-LEFT|M-RIGHT`

See Section 3.6.1 [Promote/Demote Items], page 14,

`C-c <|C-c >`

See Section 3.6.2 [Indenting the Region], page 15,

`C-M-{|C-M-}`

You can obtain a list of most `markdown-mode` keybindings by pressing `C-c C-h` or `C-h m`.

---

<sup>1</sup> Created by Carsten Dominik in 2003. See <https://orgmode.org>

## 3.1 Headers

This section describes how to work with headers and horizontal rules.

Note: John Gruber designed `markdown` to handle two pre-existing types of titles and headers: the underlined titles supported by `setext` by Ian Feldman and the headers marked with hash marks supported by `atx` by Aaron Swartz. `markdown-mode` refers to these header styles as `setext` and `atx` headers.

### 3.1.1 Inserting Headers

This subsection describes how to insert headers.

All header insertion commands use the text in the active region, if any, as the header text. Otherwise, if the current line is not blank, they use the text on the current line. The `setext-style` (underlined) header insert commands will prompt for header text if there is no active region and the current line is blank.

The prefix for this group of header insert commands is `C-c C-t`.

`C-c C-t h` or `M-x markdown-insert-header-dwim RET`

This will insert or replace 'appropriate' header markup.

The level and type of the header will match the type and level of the previous header, unless a prefix argument is used.

`C-1 C-c C-t h` through `C-6 C-c C-t h`

With a numeric prefix `C-1` to `C-6`, this inserts a header of the given level, with the type being determined automatically (Note that only level 1 or 2 `setext` headers are possible).

`C-u C-c C-t h` and `C-u C-u C-c C-t h`

With a `C-u` prefix, this promotes the header by one level. With a `C-u C-u` prefix, this demotes the header by one level.

When there is an active region, this will use it for the header text. When the point is at an existing header, it will change the type and level according to the rules above. Otherwise, if the line is not empty, it will create a header using the text on the current line as the header text. Finally, if the point is on a blank line, it will insert empty header markup (`atx`) or prompt for text (`setext`).

`C-c C-t H` or `M-x markdown-insert-header-setext-dwim RET`

This will insert `setext-style` (underlined) headers when possible. (Note that only level 1 or 2 `setext` headers are possible).

`C-1 C-c C-t H` inserts level-one `setext-style` headers.

`C-2 C-c C-t H` inserts level-two `setext-style` headers.

`C-u C-c C-t H` and `C-u C-u C-c C-t H` insert higher or lower level `setext-style` headers, if possible.

To insert a specific style and level of header use one of the commands below. If the point is at a header, these commands will replace the existing markup in order to update the level and/or type of the header.

**`atx-style (#)` Headers**

*C-c C-t 1* or *M-x markdown-insert-header-atx-1 RET*

This inserts a first-level atx-style (#) header, using the text in the active region or the text on the current line, if any.

*C-c C-t 2* or *M-x markdown-insert-header-atx-2 RET*

This inserts a second-level atx-style (##) header, using the text in the active region or the text on the current line, if any.

*C-c C-t 3* or *M-x markdown-insert-header-atx-3 RET*

This inserts a third-level atx-style (###) header, using the text in the active region or the text on the current line, if any.

*C-c C-t 4* or *M-x markdown-insert-header-atx-4 RET*

This inserts a fourth-level atx-style (####) header, using the text in the active region or the text on the current line, if any.

*C-c C-t 5* or *M-x markdown-insert-header-atx-5 RET*

This inserts a fifth-level atx-style (#####) header, using the text in the active region or the text on the current line, if any.

*C-c C-t 6* or *M-x markdown-insert-header-atx-6 RET*

This inserts a sixth-level atx-style (#####) header, using the text in the active region or the text on the current line, if any.

### setext-style (underlined) Headers

*C-c C-t !* or *C-c C-t t* or *M-x markdown-insert-header-setext-1 RET*

This inserts a first-level setext-style (underlined) header, using the text in the active region or the text on the current line, if any. The *C-c C-t t* keybinding is depreciated.

*C-c C-t @* or *C-c C-t s* or *M-x markdown-insert-header-setext-2 RET*

This inserts a second-level setext-style (underlined) header, using the text in the active region or the text on the current line, if any. The *C-c C-t s* keybinding is depreciated.

The prefix for this group of header insert commands is *C-c C-c*.

*C-c C-]* or *M-x markdown-complete RET*

This completes the markup at the point, if it is determined to be incomplete.

For example, it ensures that the underline portion of a setext header is the same length as the heading text, or that the number of leading and trailing hash marks of an atx header are equal and that there is no extra white space in the header text.

*C-c C-c ]* or *M-x markdown-complete-buffer RET*

This completes all headers and normalizes all horizontal rules in the buffer.

## 3.1.2 Moving Headers

To promote or demote both list items and headers, See Section 3.6.1 [Promote/Demote Items], page 14.

### 3.1.3 Moving Subtrees

Entire subtrees of atx headings can be promoted and demoted with *M-S-LEFT* and *M-S-RIGHT*, which mirror the bindings for promotion and demotion of list items. Similarly, subtrees can be moved up and down with *M-S-UP* and *M-S-DOWN*.

Please note the following "boundary" behavior for promotion and demotion. Any level-six headings will not be demoted further (i.e., they remain at level six, since Markdown and HTML define only six levels) and any level-one headings will be promoted away entirely (i.e., heading markup will be removed, since a level-zero heading is not defined).

*M-S-UP* or *M-x markdown-move-subtree-up RET*

This will move the heading at point and the associated sub-tree of sub-headings and text up above the previous heading of the same level.

*M-S-DOWN* or *M-x markdown-move-subtree-down RET*

This will move the heading at point and the associated sub-tree of sub-headings and text down below the next heading of the same level.

*M-S-LEFT* or *M-x markdown-promote-subtree RET*

This command will promote the heading at point and the associated sub-tree of sub-headings and text to the lower (more inclusive) level to the left.

*M-S-RIGHT* or *M-x markdown-demote-subtree RET*

This command will promote the heading at point and the associated sub-tree of sub-headings and text to the higher (less inclusive) level to the right.

### 3.1.4 Navigating Headers

This subsection describes how to navigate among headers and collapse and expand header sections. These commands are similar to the navigation commands in `outline-mode`.

*C-c C-n* or *M-x markdown-next-visible-heading RET*

This will move point to the next visible heading line (of any level).

*C-c C-p* or *M-x markdown-previous-visible-heading RET*

This will move point to the previous visible heading line (of any level).

*C-c C-f* or *M-x markdown-forward-same-level RET*

This will move point to the next visible heading line at the same level as the heading currently at point.

*C-c C-b* or *M-x markdown-backward-same-level RET*

This will move point to the previous visible heading line at the same level as the heading currently at point.

*C-c C-u* or *M-x markdown-up-heading RET*

This will move point up to a lower-level (more inclusive) visible heading than the heading currently at point.

### 3.1.5 Inserting Horizontal Rules

This subsection describes how to insert horizontal rules.

*C-c -* or *M-x markdown-insert-hr RET*

This will insert (or replace) a horizontal rule.

Without a prefix argument, it will use the first horizontal rule in the `markdown-hr-strings` list.

`C-u C-c` - will use the last (sixth) horizontal rule in the list.

`C-1 C-c` - through `C-6 C-c` - will use the horizontal rule string selected by the number.

## 3.2 Lists

This section describes how to insert and renumber list items and move them up and down.

### 3.2.1 Inserting List Items

`M-RET`, `C-c C-x m`, `C-c C-j` or `M-x markdown-insert-list-item RET`

This inserts an appropriate new list item. It determines the appropriate marker (one of the possible unordered list markers or the next number in sequence for an ordered list) and indentation level by examining nearby list items. If there is no list before or after the point, it starts a new list.

Prefix this command with `C-u` to decrease the indentation by one level. Prefix this command with `C-u C-u` to increase the indentation by one level.

`C-c C-c n` or `M-x markdown-cleanup-list-numbers RET`

This rennumbers any ordered lists in the buffer that are out of sequence.

### 3.2.2 Promote/Demote List Items

To promote or demote both list items and headers: See Section 3.6.1 [Promote/Demote Items], page 14.

### 3.2.3 Move List Items

`M-UP` or `C-c C-x u` or `M-x markdown-move-up RET`

This command will move a list item up. It does not move headers.

`M-DOWN` or `C-c C-x d` or `M-x markdown-move-down RET`

This command will move a list item down. It does not move headers.

## 3.3 Styles

This section describes how to insert style markup.

The prefix for this group of commands is `C-c C-s`.

`C-c C-s e` or `M-x markdown-insert-italic RET`

This inserts markup to *emphasize* a region or word with *italic* face, or removes the existing italic emphasis.

If there is an active region, it makes the region italic. If the point is at a non-italic word, it makes the word italic. If the point is at an italic word or phrase, it removes the italic markup. Otherwise, it simply inserts italic delimiters and place the cursor between them.

`C-c C-s s` or `M-x markdown-insert-bold RET`

This inserts markup for **strong** emphasis of a region or word with **bold** face, or removes the existing bold strong emphasis.

If there is an active region, it makes the region bold. If the point is at a non-italic word, it makes the word bold. If the point is at an bold word or phrase, it removes the bold markup. Otherwise, it simply inserts bold delimiters and place the cursor between them.

*C-c C-s c* or *M-x markdown-insert-code RET*

Insert markup to make a region or word an inline code fragment.

If there is an active region, make the region an inline code fragment. If the point is at a word, make the word an inline code fragment. Otherwise, simply insert code delimiters and place the cursor between them.

*C-c C-s k* or *M-x markdown-insert-kbd RET*

Insert markup to wrap a region or word in `<kbd>` tags.

If there is an active region, use the region. If the point is at a word, use the word. Otherwise, simply insert `'<kbd>'` tags and place the cursor between them.

*C-c C-s b* or *M-x markdown-insert-blockquote RET*

This inserts block quote markup around the active region, if any, or inserts empty block quote markup.

*C-c C-s C-b* or *M-x markdown-blockquote-region RET*

This variation of the insert-blockquote function (above) always operates on the region, regardless of whether it is active or not.

The appropriate amount of indentation, if any, is calculated automatically given the surrounding context, but may be adjusted later using the region indentation commands.

*C-c C-s p* or *M-x markdown-insert-pre RET*

This inserts preformatted code block markup around the active region, if any, or inserts empty preformatted code block markup.

*C-c C-s C-p* or *M-x markdown-pre-region RET*

This variation of the insert-pre function (above) always operates on the region, regardless of whether it is active or not.

## 3.4 Links

This section describes how to insert and work with links.

### 3.4.1 Inserting Links

The prefix for this group of commands is *C-c C-a*.

*C-c C-l* or *M-x markdown-insert-link RET*

This is a multi-purpose command for inserting new link markup or editing existing link markup.<sup>2</sup> This command can be used to insert links of any form: either inline links, reference links, or plain URLs in angle brackets. The URL or `[reference]` label, link text, and optional title are entered through a series of interactive prompts.

---

<sup>2</sup> Editing existing links is especially useful when markup or URL hiding is enabled because URLs can't then be easily edited directly.



The type of link is determined by which values are provided:

- If both a URL and link text are given, insert an inline link: `[text] (url)`.
- If both a `[reference]` label and link text are given, insert a reference link: `[text] [reference]`.
- If only link text is given, insert an implicit reference link: `[text] []`.
- If only a URL is given, insert a plain URL link: `<url>`.

`C-c C-a l`, `C-c C-a L` and `C-c C-a r` are all bound to `markdown-insert-link` for backward compatibility with older versions of `markdown-mode`.

`C-c C-a u` or `M-x markdown-insert-uri RET`

This inserts a bare URI (URL), delimited by angle brackets. The region (if active) or the URI at point (if any) will be used for the link text. Otherwise, it will insert `<>` and position the point in between the brackets for inserting the URI.

`C-c C-a f` or `M-x markdown-insert-footnote RET`

This inserts a footnote marker at the point, inserts a footnote definition below, and positions the point for inserting the footnote text. Note that footnotes are an extension to Markdown and are not supported by all processors.

`C-c C-a w` or `M-x markdown-insert-wiki-link RET`

This is like the inline link insertion command but inserts a wiki link of the form `'[[WikiLink]]'`. The region (if active) or the word at point (if any) will be used for the link text. If neither is available, it will simply insert `'[[ ]]'` and position the point between the brackets for inserting the link. Note that wiki links are an extension to Markdown and are not supported by all processors.

### 3.4.2 Navigating Links

This subsection describes commands that navigate links.

`M-p` or `M-x markdown-previous-link RET`

This will move to the previous inline, reference or wiki link, if any.

`M-n` or `M-x markdown-next-link RET`

This will move to the next inline, reference or wiki link, if any.

`C-c C-o` or `M-x markdown-follow-thing-at-point RET`

Press `C-c C-o` when the point is on an inline or reference link to open the URL in a browser. When the point is at a wiki link, open it in another buffer (in the current window, or in the other window with the `C-u` prefix).

`C-c C-d` or `M-x markdown-do RET`

Use this command to “do” something with the object at point, including:

- Reference Links and Reference Definitions : Jump between them.
- Footnotes Markers and Footnote Text : Jump between them.
- GFM task list items (check-boxes) : Toggle the check-box.
- Tables : Realign table columns.

`C-c C-x C-l` or `M-x markdown-toggle-url-hiding RET`

This will toggle the display or hiding of URLs.

### 3.4.3 Checking References

This section describes how to check references.

`C-c C-c c` or `M-x markdown-check-refs RET`

This will check for undefined references. If there are any, a small buffer will open with a list of undefined references and the line numbers on which they appear. In Emacs 22 and greater, selecting a reference from this list and pressing `RET` will insert an empty reference definition at the end of the buffer. Similarly, selecting the line number will jump to the corresponding line.

## 3.5 Images

This section describes how to insert and work with images.

`C-c C-i` or `M-x markdown-insert-image RET`

This inserts or updates markup for an inline or reference image depending on whether a URL or reference is given at the prompts. If the active region is a URL, it is used, otherwise the region is used for Alt-Text.

`C-c C-x C-i` or `M-x markdown-toggle-inline-images RET`

This will toggle display of local inline images. Use it again to remove local inline image display.

## 3.6 Other Commands

This section describes commands common to both headers and lists, plus miscellaneous commands.

### 3.6.1 Promote/Demote Items

Headings, horizontal rules, and list items can be promoted and demoted, as well as bold and italic text.

For headings, "promotion" means *decreasing* the level (i.e., moving from '`<h2>`' to '`<h1>`') while "demotion" means *increasing* the level.

For horizontal rules, promotion and demotion means moving backward or forward through the list of rule strings in `markdown-hr-strings`. For bold and italic text, promotion and demotion means changing the markup from underscores to asterisks.

To remember these commands, note that `-` is for decreasing the level (promoting), and `=` (on the same key as `+`) is for increasing the level (demoting). Similarly, the `LEFT` and `RIGHT` arrow keys indicate the direction that the atx heading markup is moving in when promoting or demoting.

`M-LEFT`, `C-c C-x l`, `C-c C--` or `M-x markdown-promote RET`

This will promote headers, rules and list items at point, moving them left. See `markdown-promote` below.

`M-RIGHT`, `C-c C-x r`, `C-c C-=` or `M-x markdown-demote RET`

This will demote headers, rules and list items at point, moving them right.

### 3.6.2 Indenting the Region

Text in the region can be indented or exdented as a group using `C-c >` to indent to the next indentation point (calculated in the current context), and `C-c <` to exdent to the previous indentation point. These keybindings are the same as those for similar commands in `python-mode`.

`C-c <` or *M-x markdown-exdent-region RET*

This exdents the region to the previous indentation point.

`C-c >` or *M-x markdown-indent-region RET*

This indents the region to the previous indentation point.

### 3.6.3 Killing Entities

`C-c C-k` or *M-x markdown-kill-thing-at-point RET*

This kills the header, item, links, footnotes or other markdown 'thing' at the point. The interesting text (but not the markup) is added to the kill-ring. You can use `C-y` as usual to yank the text back if desired, without the old markup.

### 3.6.4 Editing Code

`C-c '` or *M-x markdown-edit-code-block RET*

When the `edit-indirect`<sup>3</sup> package is installed, this command will edit a markdown code block in an indirect buffer in the appropriate major mode. Use `C-c C-c` to commit changes to the code block and return, or use `C-c C-k` to cancel.

Use `C-u C-c C-s C` to insert a code block and immediately edit it in an indirect buffer.

markdown code blocks are fenced by triple-backticks `'''` before and after the code.

## 3.7 External Commands

This section describes functions that call external commands.

The prefix for this group of commands is `C-c C-c`.

`C-c C-c m` or *M-x markdown-other-window RET*

This will run `markdown-command` on the current buffer and display the output (XHTML) in the other window with the buffer name `'*markdown-output*`.

`C-c C-c p` or *M-x markdown-preview RET*

This will run `markdown-command` on the current buffer and then preview it by writing it to a temporary file and opening that file in a browser.

`C-c C-c e` or *M-x markdown-export RET*

This will run `markdown-command` on the current buffer and then save the result to the file `basename.html`, where `'basename'` is the name of the markdown file (visited by the source buffer) without its extension.

---

<sup>3</sup> by Fanael Linithien. See <https://github.com/Fanael/edit-indirect/>

*C-c C-c v* or *M-x markdown-export-and-preview RET*

This will run `markdown-command` on the current buffer and then save the result to the file `basename.html`, as with `markdown-export` above, and then preview that file in a browser.

*C-c C-c w* or *M-x markdown-kill-ring-save RET*

This will run `markdown-command` on the current buffer and save the output to the kill ring. You can yank it back where desired with *C-y* as usual.

*C-c C-c l* or *M-x markdown-live-preview-mode RET*

This will toggle markdown live preview mode. When enabled, it will preview the output in the Emacs `eww` browser whenever you save the markdown file. Toggle it off again to stop live preview and close the `eww` browser. You may customize the value of the variable `markdown-live-preview-window-function` with your own function to use a browser other than `eww`. The default value of the variable is the function `markdown-live-preview-window-eww`.

*C-c C-c o* or *M-x markdown-open RET*

This will use `markdown-open-command` to open the source markdown file visited by the buffer directly. See Section 5.1 [Customizing External Commands], page 21.

Summary of compile commands:

- *C-c C-c m* `markdown-command` > `'*markdown-output*' buffer`.
- *C-c C-c p* `markdown-command` > `'tempfile'` > browser.
- *C-c C-c e* `markdown-command` > `basename.html`.
- *C-c C-c v* `markdown-command` > `basename.html` > browser.
- *C-c C-c w* `markdown-command` > kill ring.
- *C-c C-c l* `markdown-command` > `'*eww*' buffer (live)`.
- *C-c C-c o* buffer > file > `markdown-open-command`.

## 3.8 Notes

This section contains notes on various details of `markdown-mode`.

### 3.8.1 Navigation Differences

The definition of a "paragraph" is slightly different in `markdown-mode` than, say, `text-mode`, because `markdown-mode` supports filling for list items and respects hard line breaks, both of which break paragraphs. So, `markdown-mode` overrides the usual paragraph navigation commands *M-{* and *M-}* so that with a *C-u* prefix, these commands jump to the beginning or end of an entire block of text, respectively, where "blocks" are separated by one or more lines.

*M-{* or *M-x markdown-backward-paragraph RET*

This command jumps to the beginning of the block of text at point, or to the previous paragraph. Paragraphs are delimited by one or more blank lines.

*M-}* or *M-x markdown-forward-paragraph RET*

This command jumps to the end of the block of text at point, or to the next paragraph. Paragraphs are delimited by one or more blank lines.

The usual Emacs commands can be used to move by defuns (top-level major definitions). In `markdown-mode`, a defun is a section. As usual, `C-M-a` will move the point to the beginning of the current or preceding defun, `C-M-e` will move to the end of the current or following defun, and `C-M-h` will put the region around the entire defun.

`C-M-a` or *M-x markdown-beginning-of-defun RET*

This command will move to the beginning of a section.

`C-M-e` or *M-x markdown-end-of-defun RET*

This command will move to the end of a section.

`C-M-h` or *M-x mark-defun RET*

This command will put the region around the current section.

### 3.8.2 Mark and Region

As noted, many of the commands above behave differently depending on whether Transient Mark mode is enabled or not. When it makes sense, if Transient Mark mode is on and the region is active, the command applies to the text in the region (e.g., `C-c C-s s` makes the region bold). For users who prefer to work outside of Transient Mark mode, since Emacs 22 it can be enabled temporarily by pressing `C-SPC C-SPC`. When this is not the case, many commands then proceed to work with the word or line at the point.

When applicable, commands that specifically act on the region even outside of Transient Mark mode have the same keybinding as their standard counterpart, but the letter is uppercase. For example, `markdown-insert-blockquote` is bound to `C-c C-s b` and only acts on the region in Transient Mark mode while `markdown-blockquote-region` is bound to `C-c C-s B` and always applies to the region (when nonempty).

Note that these region-specific functions are useful in many cases where it may not be obvious. For example, yanking text from the kill ring sets the mark at the beginning of the yanked text and moves the point to the end. Therefore, the (inactive) region contains the yanked text. So, `C-y` followed by `C-c C-s C-B` will yank text and turn it into a blockquote.

### 3.8.3 Indenting

`markdown-mode` attempts to be flexible in how it handles indentation. When you press `TAB` repeatedly, the point will cycle through several possible indentation levels corresponding to things you might have in mind when you press `RET` at the end of a line or `TAB`. For example, you may want to start a new list item, continue a list item with hanging indentation, indent for a nested pre block, and so on. Exdentation is handled similarly when backspace is pressed at the beginning of the non-whitespace portion of a line.

### 3.8.4 Org and Outline features

`markdown-mode` supports `outline-minor-mode` as well as `org-mode` style visibility cycling for hash-style (atx) headings.

There are two types of visibility cycling:

- *S-TAB*

This cycles globally between the table of contents view (headings only), outline view (top-level headings only), and the full document view.

- **TAB**

Pressing **TAB** while the point is at a heading will cycle through levels of visibility for the subtree: completely folded, visible children, and fully visible.

Note that mixing hash (`atx`) and underline (`setext`) style headings will give undesired results.

## 4 Using gfm-mode

This chapter describes the differences between markdown-mode and the available *GitHub Flavored Markdown Mode*, **gfm-mode**. GitHub Flavored Markdown is described at <http://github.github.com/github-flavored-markdown/>

The GitHub implementation differs slightly from standard Markdown in that it supports things like different behavior for underscores inside of words, automatic linking of URLs, strikethrough text, and fenced code blocks with an optional language keyword.

The GFM-specific features above apply to `README.md` files, wiki pages, and other Markdown-formatted files in repositories on GitHub. GitHub also enables additional features <https://help.github.com/articles/writing-on-github/> for writing on the site (for issues, pull requests, messages, etc.) that are further extensions of GFM. These features include task lists (checkboxes), newlines corresponding to hard line breaks, auto-linked references to issues and commits, wiki links, and so on. To make matters more confusing, although task lists are not part of GFM proper, since 2014 they are rendered (in a read-only fashion) in all Markdown documents in repositories on the site. <https://github.com/blog/1825-task-lists-in-all-markdown-documents> These additional extensions are supported to varying degrees by **markdown-mode** and **gfm-mode** as described below.

### URL autolinking

Both **markdown-mode** and **gfm-mode** support highlighting of URLs without angle brackets.

### Multiple underscores in words

You must enable **gfm-mode** to toggle support for underscores inside of words. In this mode variable names such as `a_test_variable` will not trigger emphasis (italics).

### Fenced code blocks

Code blocks quoted with backticks, with optional programming language keywords, are highlighted in both **markdown-mode** and **gfm-mode**. They can be inserted with `C-c C-s P`. If there is an active region, the text in the region will be placed inside the code block. You will be prompted for the name of the language, but may press enter to continue without naming a language.

### Strikethrough

Strikethrough text is only supported in **gfm-mode** and can be inserted (and toggled) using `C-c C-s d`. Following the mnemonics for the other style keybindings, the letter `d` coincides with the HTML tag `<del>`.

### Task lists

GFM task lists will be rendered as checkboxes (Emacs buttons) in both **markdown-mode** and **gfm-mode** when **markdown-make-gfm-checkboxes-buttons** is set to a non-nil value (and it is set to `t` by default). These checkboxes can be toggled by clicking `mouse-1` or pressing RET over the button.

### Wiki links

Generic wiki links are supported in **markdown-mode**, but in **gfm-mode** specifically they will be treated as they are on GitHub: spaces will be replaced by

hyphens in filenames and the first letter of the filename will be capitalized. For example, `[[wiki link]]` will map to a file named `Wiki-link` with the same extension as the current file.

### Newlines

Neither `markdown-mode` nor `gfm-mode` do anything specifically with respect to newline behavior. If you use `gfm-mode` mostly to write text for comments or issues on the GitHub site (where newlines are significant and correspond to hard line breaks) then you may want to enable `visual-line-mode` for line wrapping in buffers. You can do this with a `gfm-mode-hook` as follows:

```
;; Use visual-line-mode in gfm-mode
(defun my-gfm-mode-hook ()
  (visual-line-mode 1))
(add-hook 'gfm-mode-hook 'my-gfm-mode-hook)
```

### Preview

GFM-specific preview can be powered by setting `markdown-command` to use a GFM preview application like Docter (<https://github.com/alampros/Docter>). This may also be configured to work with *Marked 2* for `markdown-open-command`.



## 5 Customizing

This chapter describes how to customize `markdown-mode`.

You may customize the variables in this section by adding lines to your Emacs startup file or by running *M-x customize-group markdown* and then restarting Emacs.

### 5.1 Customizing External Commands

The variables in this section control how `markdown-mode` calls external commands to convert markdown text to HTML or another format or to preview the markdown text.

`markdown-command`

string, default: `"markdown"`.

This variable specifies the command and options that `markdown-mode` will use to run `markdown` or another output processor in the following functions:

- *C-c C-c m* or *M-x markdown-other-buffer RET*
- *C-c C-c p* or *M-x markdown-preview RET*
- *C-c C-c e* or *M-x markdown-export RET*
- *C-c C-c v* or *M-x markdown-export-and-preview RET*
- *C-c C-c w* or *M-x markdown-kill-ring-save RET*

Examples of `markdown-command` configurations in Emacs startup file:

Default. Assumes `markdown`<sup>1</sup> command in `$PATH`.

```
(setq markdown-command "markdown")
```

`markdown` with specified path

You may need to specify the path to `markdown` if it is not in the `$PATH`, as when Emacs is launched as an app under MacOS.

```
(setq markdown-command "/usr/local/bin/markdown")
```

`markdown` with `smartypants`<sup>2</sup>

You may pipe the output of `markdown` to `smartypants` to add smart quotation marks.

```
(setq markdown-command "markdown | smartypants")
```

`multimarkdown`<sup>3</sup>

`multimarkdown` usually outputs to HTML like `markdown`, but can also output to several other formats with the `--to=FORMAT` option. It includes the functionality of `smartypants`.

```
(setq markdown-command
  "/usr/local/bin/multimarkdown")
```

`pandoc`<sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> See <http://daringfireball.net/projects/markdown/>.

<sup>2</sup> See <https://daringfireball.net/projects/smarty-pants/>.

<sup>3</sup> See <http://fletcherpenney.net/multimarkdown/>.

<sup>4</sup> See <http://pandoc.org>.

`pandoc` will output to HTML, but it can also output to 40 other formats and converts from 5 different markdown dialects, including GitHub-flavored markdown.

```
(setq markdown-command
  (concat
    "/usr/local/bin/pandoc"
    " --from=markdown"
    " --to=html"))
```

`markdown-command-needs-filename`

nil or t, default: nil.

Set `markdown-command-needs-filename` to t if the program specified by `markdown-command` needs a filename, that is, if the program does not accept standard input.

When `markdown-command-needs-filename` is set to nil, the default, `markdown-mode` will pass the markdown content to the program specified by `markdown-command` using standard input.

When `markdown-command-needs-filename` is set to t (or any non-nil), `markdown-mode` will pass the name of the file visited by the current buffer as the final command-line argument to the program specified by `markdown-command`. Note that in this case, you will only be able to run `markdown-command` from buffers that are visiting a file.

`markdown-open-command`

string, default: nil.

This variable specifies the command and options that the function `markdown-open`, bound to `C-c C-c o`, will use to open the markdown file in an external markdown previewer application. The command will be called with a single argument: the name of the file visited by the buffer. (This only works if the buffer is visiting a file.)

One possible previewer application is *Marked 2* by Brett Terpstra, a live-updating Markdown previewer available from the Apple app store.

You can open an OSX app like *Marked 2* by running a script like the one below with the `markdown-open-command`.

Script `/usr/local/bin/markview`

```
#!/bin/bash
# Check that file exists and launch app with or without it.
if [[ -f $1 ]]
then open -a "Marked 2" $1
else open -a "Marked 2"
fi
```

## 5.2 Customizing Markdown Format

The variables in this section control how `markdown-mode` formats Markdown text. These variables may be set in the Emacs startup file or by using *M-x customize-mode*.

`markdown-bold-underscore`

`nil` or `t`, default: `nil`.

Set to a non-`nil` value to use two underscores when inserting bold text instead of two asterisks.

`markdown-italic-underscore`

`nil` or `t`, default: `nil`.

Set to a non-`nil` value to use single underscores when inserting italic text instead of single asterisks.

`markdown-reference-location`

`header`, `end`, or `immediately`, default `header`

This value determines where to insert reference definitions. The possible locations are:

- `header` - before the next header.
- `end` - the end of the document.
- `immediately` - after the current block.

Example:

```
(setq markdown-reference-location 'end)
```

`markdown-footnote-location`

`header`, `end`, or `immediately`, default `end`

This value determines where to insert footnote text. The possible locations are the same as for `markdown-reference-location`, above, but the default is `end`.

`comment-auto-fill-only-comments`

`nil` or `t`, default: `nil`.

This variable is made buffer-local and set to `nil` by default. In programming language modes, when this variable is non-`nil`, only comments will be filled by `auto-fill-mode`. However, comments in Markdown documents are rare and the most users probably intend for the actual content of the document to be filled. Making this variable buffer-local allows `markdown-mode` to override the default behavior induced when the global variable is non-`nil`.

## 5.3 Customizing Markdown Headers

The variables in this section allow you to customize how `markdown-mode` uses headers.

`markdown-asymmetric-header`

`nil` or `t`, default: `nil`.

Determines if header style will be asymmetric.

Set to non-`nil` to only have header characters to the left of the title. The default will ensure header characters are placed to the left and right of the title.

In detail: When non-nil, `markdown-header-face` will inherit from `variable-pitch` and the six scaling values in `markdown-header-scaling-values` will be applied to headers of levels one through six respectively.

A list of 6 scaling values, relative to baseline, for headers of levels one through six. They are used when ‘markdown-header-scaling’ is non-nil.

Set to a non-nil value to use nested imenu header instead of a flat index. A nested index may provide more natural browsing from the menu, but a flat list may allow for faster keyboard navigation via tab completion.

A list of strings to use when inserting horizontal rules. Different strings will not be distinguished when converted to HTML – they will all be converted to ‘`<hr/>`’ – but they may add visual distinction and style to plain text documents. To maintain some notion of promotion and demotion, keep these sorted from largest to smallest.

## 5.4 Customizing Indenting

Determines the function to use for automatic indentation.

**markdown-indent-on-enter**

`nil` or `t`, default: `t`.

Set to a non-`nil` value to automatically indent new lines when the enter key is pressed.

## 5.5 Wiki-Links Syntax Highlighting

Besides supporting the basic Markdown syntax, `markdown-mode` also includes syntax highlighting for `[[Wiki-Links]]`. This support is enabled by setting `markdown-enable-wiki-links` to a non-`nil` value.

Wiki-links may be followed by pressing `C-c C-o` when the point is at a wiki-link. Use `M-p` and `M-n` to quickly jump to the previous and next links (including links of other types).

Aliased (or “piped”) wiki-links of the form ‘`[[linktext|PageName]]`’ are also supported. Since some wikis reverse these components, set `markdown-wiki-link-alias-first` to `nil` to treat them as ‘`[[PageName|linktext]]`’.

If `markdown-wiki-link-fontify-missing` is also non-`nil`, `markdown-mode` will highlight wiki-links with a missing target file in a different color. By default, Markdown Mode only searches for target files in the current directory. Sequential parent directory search (like Ikiwiki) can be enabled by setting `markdown-wiki-link-search-parent-directories` to a non-`nil` value.

The variables below customize how Wiki-Links are handled.

**markdown-enable-wiki-links**

`nil` or `t`, default: `nil`.

This enables syntax highlighting for `[[Wiki-Links]]`.

Set this to a non-`nil` value to turn on `[[Wiki-Links]]` support by default. `[[Wiki-Links]]` support can be toggled later using the function `markdown-toggle-wiki-links`.

**markdown-link-space-sub-char**

character, default: `"_"`

Determines the character to replace spaces when mapping wiki links to file names.

For example, use an underscore for compatibility with the Python Markdown Wiki-Links extension. In `gfm-mode`, this is set to `"-"` to conform with GitHub wiki links.

**markdown-wiki-link-alias-first**

`nil` or `t`, default: `t`.

Set this to a non-`nil` value to treat aliased wiki links as ‘`[[linktext|PageName]]`’.  
When set to `nil`, they will be treated as ‘`[[PageName|linktext]]`’.

**markdown-wiki-link-fontify-missing**

`nil` or `t`, default: `nil`.

When non-`nil`, change the wiki-link face according to the existence of the target files.

This is expensive because it requires checking for the file each time the buffer changes or the user switches windows. It is disabled by default because it may cause lag when typing on slower machines.

`markdown-wiki-link-search-parent-directories`

`nil` or `t`, default: `nil`.

When non-`nil`, search for wiki-link targets in parent directories. (This is the default search behavior of Ikiwiki.)

This only applies when `markdown-wiki-link-fontify-missing`, above, is non-`nil`.

See <https://ikiwiki.info>

## 5.6 Customizing GitHub Flavored Markdown

This section describes variables that customize `gfm-mode`.

`markdown-gfm-additional-languages`

list of strings, default `nil`

Determines any more languages to make available, in addition to the 300+ languages predefined in `markdown-gfm-recognized-languages`, when inserting GFM code blocks. Language strings must be trimmed of white space and not contain any curly braces. They may be of arbitrary capitalization.

`markdown-gfm-use-electric-backquote`

`nil` or `t`, default `t`

Set to non-`nil` to use the function `markdown-electric-backquote` for interactive insertion of GFM code blocks when backquote is pressed three times.

`markdown-make-gfm-checkboxes-buttons`

`nil` or `t`, default `t`

Determines whether GitHub Flavored Markdown style task lists (checkboxes) should be turned into buttons that can be toggled with mouse-1 or RET. If non-`nil`, then buttons are enabled. This works in `markdown-mode` as well as `gfm-mode`.

## 5.7 Customizing HTML Format

This section describes variables that customize HTML formatting.

`markdown-uri-types`

list of strings, default: (`"acap" "cid" "data" "dav" "fax" "file" "ftp" "gopher" "http" "https" "imap" "ldap" "mailto" "mid" "modem" "news" "nfs" "nntp" "pop" "prospero" "rtsp" "service" "sip" "tel" "telnet" "tip" "urn" "vemmi" "wais"`)

Determines the list of protocol schemes (e.g., `"http"`) for URIs that `markdown-mode` should highlight.

`markdown-css-paths`

list of strings, default `nil`

Determines a list of URLs of CSS files to link to in the output XHTML.

**markdown-content-type**

string, default: ""

when set to a nonempty string, an ‘`http-equiv`’ attribute will be included in the XHTML ‘`<head>`’ block. The suggested values are “`application/xhtml+xml`” or “`text/html`”.

This variable must be set to a non-empty string to use `markdown-coding-system`, below.

**markdown-coding-system**

string or `nil`, default: `nil`

This variable is used for specifying the character set identifier in the ‘`http-equiv`’ attribute when included. The variable `markdown-content-type` must be set before this variable has any effect. When `markdown-coding-system` is set to `nil`, `buffer-file-coding-system` will be used to automatically determine the coding system string (falling back to ‘`iso-8859-1`’ when unavailable). Common settings are ‘`utf-8`’ and ‘`iso-latin-1`’.

**markdown-xhtml-header-content**

string, default ""

Determines any additional content to include in the XHTML ‘`<head>`’ block.

**markdown-xhtml-standalone-regexp**

string, default `^\\(<\\?xml\\|<!DOCTYPE\\|<html\\)`

This variable contains a regular expression which `markdown-mode` uses to determine whether the output of `markdown-command` is a standalone XHTML document or an XHTML fragment. If this regular expression is not matched in the first five lines of output, `markdown-mode` assumes the output is a fragment and adds a header and footer.

## 5.8 L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X Math Syntax Highlighting

This section describes the variable that enables L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X Math Syntax highlighting.

**markdown-enable-math**

`nil` or `t`, default: `nil`.

Syntax highlighting for mathematical expressions written in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X can be enabled by default by setting `markdown-enable-math` to a non-`nil` value. You can set it either via `customize` or by placing `(setq markdown-enable-math t)` in `.emacs`, and then restarting Emacs or calling `markdown-reload-extensions`.

Only expressions denoted by ‘`$..$`’, ‘`$$..$$`’, or ‘`\[..\]`’ are highlighted.

Math support can be toggled later using *M-x* `markdown-enable-math`.

## Appendix A Development

This appendix is for contributors to `markdown-mode`, past or future. . . **Thank you.**

### A.1 Acknowledgments

`markdown-mode` has benefited greatly from the efforts of many people. Please see the “;;; Acknowledgments:” section of `markdown-mode.el` and the GitHub contributors graph at <https://github.com/jrblevin/markdown-mode/graphs/contributors>.

### A.2 History of Releases

`markdown-mode` was primarily written and is maintained by Jason Blevins. The first release, 1.1, was on May 24, 2007.

Most of the prior versions may be downloaded:

- 2007-05-24 v1.1
- 2007-05-25 v1.2
- 2007-06-05 v1.3 <http://jblevins.org/projects/markdown-mode/rev-1-3>
- 2007-06-29 v1.4
- 2007-10-11 v1.5 <http://jblevins.org/projects/markdown-mode/rev-1-5>
- 2008-06-04 v1.6 <http://jblevins.org/projects/markdown-mode/rev-1-6>
- 2009-10-01 v1.7 <http://jblevins.org/projects/markdown-mode/rev-1-7>
- 2011-08-12 v1.8 <http://jblevins.org/projects/markdown-mode/rev-1-8>
- 2011-08-15 v1.8.1 <http://jblevins.org/projects/markdown-mode/rev-1-8-1>
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- 2013-03-24 v2.0 <http://jblevins.org/projects/markdown-mode/rev-2-0>
- 2016-01-09 v2.1 <http://jblevins.org/projects/markdown-mode/rev-2-1>
- 2017-05-26 v2.2 <http://jblevins.org/projects/markdown-mode/rev-2-2>
- 2017-08-31 v2.3 <http://jblevins.org/projects/markdown-mode/rev-2-3>

### A.3 Development Version

You may browse the project files of `markdown-mode`, contribute to its development or help to test the current development version.

- To browse the `markdown-mode` project files, visit the project’s page on GitHub at <https://github.com/jrblevin/markdown-mode>.
- To contribute to the development of `markdown-mode`, you should fork the project to your own GitHub account.
- To test the current development version of `markdown-mode`, download `markdown-mode.el` from <https://github.com/jrblevin/markdown-mode> or from MELPA at <https://melpa.org/#/markdown-mode> to the directory `~/my/directory`. Then ensure that Emacs can find it by adding the following line to your Emacs startup file:

```
(add-to-list 'load-path "~/my/directory")
```



Please realize that the development version may be unstable at times. See the next section for how to submit a bug report.

## A.4 Bugs and Errors

### Software Bugs

`markdown-mode` now requires GNU Emacs 24.3 and later. If you have an older version of Emacs, please consider updating your version of Emacs to resolve any problems.

If you have identified a bug with `markdown-mode.el`, please construct a test case or a patch and create an issue on the issue tracker at <https://github.com/jrblevin/markdown-mode/issues>.

### Manual Errors

This manual is maintained on GitHub at <https://github.com/daniel-birket/markdown-mode-texinfo> by Daniel Birket. Please submit document errata to the issue tracker there. Please do not complain to Dr. Blevin about errors in *this* manual. You will find *his* original manual at <https://github.com/jrblevin/markdown-mode>.

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