**What Is Markdown Format?**

Markdown is a way to style text on the web. You control the display of the document; formatting words as bold or italic, adding images, and creating lists are just a few of the things we can do with Markdown. Mostly, Markdown is just regular text with a few non-alphabetic characters thrown in, like # or \*. Markdown is a super simple way to add formatting like headers, bold, bulleted lists, and so on to plain text. It was originally designed to be an easy alternative to HTML, and allows people to create web pages with no HTML experience

Markdown a simple way for non-programming types to write in an easy-to-read format that could be converted directly into HTML. Markdown uses a very simple formatting syntax to accomplish the same thing that HTML or Rich Text Formatting does. The difference is that it's simpler than HTML and you don't have to worry about opening and closing tags. It also doesn't have all of the menus associated with most text editing programs. To format text, Markdown uses punctuation and characters you're already familiar with.

For example, to create a **header** you use hashtags. So, '# HEADLINE' is a large header (H1). '## HEADLINE' would be a little smaller (H2), '### HEADLINE' would be smaller still (H3).

If we want to make a **bulleted list** we just need to type in a '-' '+' or '\*”; before any item and the list is created automatically. No need to start it, end it or deal with funky formatting.

To add emphasis, you can either use an asterisk (\*really?\*) for **italics**, or two asterisks for **bold** (\*\*really!\*\*).

We can also use Markdown format in GitHub. And the file will have extension of .md or .markdown.