

2pdf

Converts Markdown and HTML files to PDFs with token replacement, styling, and content processing features.

What it does

- Converts Markdown and HTML to PDF using Chrome/Puppeteer
- Replaces tokens like `{{DATE}}` and `{{DEVELOPER_NAME}}`
- Applies Inter font styling and consistent layout
- Handles PDF-only content sections
- Supports page breaks and special formatting
- Works on macOS, Linux, and Windows

Quick start

```
# Install dependencies
npm install

# Convert files
node bin/2pdf.js README.md           # converts README.md to README.pdf
node bin/2pdf.js document.md         # converts any markdown file
node bin/2pdf.js webpage.html        # converts HTML files too
node bin/2pdf.js file.md -o out.pdf  # custom output name
```

File types supported

Markdown files (.md)

- Always uses 2pdf's Inter font styling and layout
- Supports all markdown features (headers, lists, code blocks, etc.)
- Token replacement and special content features

HTML files (.html, .htm)

- **With existing CSS:** Preserves your styles (internal, external, inline)
- **Without CSS:** Falls back to 2pdf's default styling
- Token replacement works the same way
- Color theming injects CSS custom properties

Core features

Token replacement

Insert dynamic content using `{{TOKEN_NAME}}` placeholders:

```
# {{PROJECT_NAME}} Documentation
**Version:** {{PROJECT_VERSION}}
**Generated:** {{DATE}} by {{DEVELOPER_NAME}}
```

Automatic tokens (always available):

- `{{DATE}}` - Current date (2024-01-15)
- `{{DATE_LONG}}` - Current date (January 15, 2024)
- `{{TIME_NOW}}` - Current time (14:30)
- `{{YEAR}}`, `{{MONTH}}`, `{{DAY}}` - Date components
- `{{USERNAME}}`, `{{HOSTNAME}}` - System info
- `{{PROJECT_NAME}}` - Auto-generated from directory name

Custom tokens from config file:

Create `2pdf.config` with your own tokens:

```
DEVELOPER_NAME=John Doe
PROJECT_VERSION=2.1.0
COMPANY_NAME=Acme Corp
```

Special content features

PDF-only content

Content that only appears in the PDF:

```
<!-- PDF ONLY This text only appears in the PDF version -->
```

Page breaks

Force a new page:

```
Content here...  
<!-- PAGE-BREAK -->  
Content on next page...
```

Live site shields

Style a paragraph as a badge:

```
<!-- live-site-shield -->  
Live Site: https://example.com
```

Advanced options

Color theming

Customize header and accent colors with the `--color` flag:

```
# Predefined colors (from config file)
node bin/2pdf.js doc.md --color blue
node bin/2pdf.js doc.md --color corporate

# Custom hex colors
node bin/2pdf.js doc.md --color 1434cb
node bin/2pdf.js doc.md --color "#ff6b35"
```

Add predefined colors to your `2pdf.config`:

```
COLOR_BLUE=#1434cb
COLOR_RED=#e74c3c
COLOR_GREEN=#27ae60
COLOR_CORPORATE=#2c3e50
COLOR_ORANGE=#ff6b35
```

Other options

```
node bin/2pdf.js file.md -s custom.css # custom CSS file
node bin/2pdf.js file.md --debug       # keep temp files
node bin/2pdf.js file.md --verbose    # detailed output
```

Configuration

Config file format

Create `2pdf.config` with key=value pairs:

```
# Project info
PROJECT_VERSION=2.1.0
DEVELOPER_NAME=Jane Smith
COMPANY_NAME=Acme Corp

# Color themes
COLOR_BRAND=#1434cb
COLOR_ACCENT=#ff6b35

# Custom content
FOOTER_TEXT=Generated on {{DATE}} by {{DEVELOPER_NAME}}
```

Config file locations

2pdf searches for `2pdf.config` in this order:

1. Same directory as the input file
2. Current working directory
3. 2pdf installation directory
4. `config/` subdirectory in any of the above

Token processing details

- **Multiple passes:** Tokens can reference other tokens
- **Case sensitive:** `{{NAME}}` \neq `{{name}}`
- **No whitespace:** Use `{{TOKEN}}`, not `{{ TOKEN }}`
- **Nested replacement:** `GREETING=Hello {{USERNAME}}` works
- **Missing tokens:** Left unchanged for debugging

Example workflow

```
# 1. Create config file
echo "PROJECT_VERSION=2.1.0" > 2pdf.config
echo "DEVELOPER_NAME=Jane Smith" >> 2pdf.config

# 2. Use in markdown
echo "# Project v{{PROJECT_VERSION}} by {{DEVELOPER_NAME}}" > doc.md

# 3. Convert
node bin/2pdf.js doc.md

# Result: "Project v2.1.0 by Jane Smith" in the PDF
```

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