

# TODO

## Overview

The todo program is a command line application created to manage a personal todo list from a shell terminal:

```
$ todo -h
usage: todo <command> [<options>] [<arguments>]
```

With <command> in:

```
* new      : Create a new task
* list     : Print the list of tasks
* status   : Change the status of tasks
* board    : Append/Remove tasks on/from the board
* note     : Edit/View the note associated to a task
* child    : Make tasks be children of a parent task
* delete   : Delete tasks (definitely or in archive)
* archive  : Archive/Restore tasks
* config   : Manage de configuration
```

For a description of possible options, try: `todo <command> --help`

## Creating tasks - new

For creating a new task:

```
$ todo new -t "Write the documentation of todogo"
1 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the documentation of todogo
```

The todo task is created with usage index 1. You may complete your todo list:

```
$ todo new -t "Write the unit tests of todogo"
2 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the unit tests of todogo
```

```
$ todo new -t "Create a beautiful web site for todogo"
```

```
3 [2019-Sep-07] : Create a beautiful web site for todogo
```

Each task is assigned a usage index (1,2,3) to refer to them with the command line (no mouse to click)

## Listing the tasks - list

Then you can have a look on the whole todo list:

```
$ todo list
```

```
1 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the documentation of todogo
2 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the unit tests of todogo
3 [2019-Sep-07] : Create a beautiful web site for todogo
```

Legend:    todo    doing    done

The listing display for each task:

- The usage index (1,2,3, ...)
- The date of creation
- The status [todo, doing, done] (see the legend)
- The description text

## Task on board - board

*“This week you plan to work on the documentation (task 1) and the web site (task 3)”*, then you can star these tasks by putting them on the board:

```
$ todo board -a 1,3
```

```
Task of index 1 has been added on board
```

```
Task of index 3 has been added on board
```

And list the tasks on board to focus on the actuality:

```
$ todo board
```

```
1 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the documentation of todogo
3 [2019-Sep-07] : Create a beautiful web site for todogo
```

Legend:    todo    doing    done

## Task life cycle - status

“You start by writing some documentation and want to point that the task is in progress”, then you specify that you jump to the next status of this task 1 (the status *doing*):

```
$ todo status -n 1
1 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the documentation of todogo
```

Then the board indicates:

```
$ todo board

1 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the documentation of todogo
3 [2019-Sep-07] : Create a beautiful web site for todogo
```

Legend:    todo    doing    done

Note that todogo defines three possible status:

todo: the task is registered and is waiting to be done

doing: the task is started and is in progress

done: the task is achieved

## Task life cycle - status

You achieved the task 1:

```
$ todo status -n 1
1 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the documentation of todogo
```

You can now get rid of this task from the board:

```
$ todo board -r 1
Task of index 1 has been removed from board
```

The task is always in the todo list (with status done), but no longer on the board:

```
$ todo list

1 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the documentation of todogo
2 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the unit tests of todogo
3 [2019-Sep-07] : Create a beautiful web site for todogo
```

Legend:    todo    doing    done

```
$ todo board
```

```
3 [2019-Sep-07] : Create a beautiful web site for todogo
```

Legend:    todo    doing    done

## Archiving tasks - archive

If you register and then finish a lot of tasks, they could accumulate in your todo list, with increasing indeces. A good practice is then to archive the done tasks:

```
$ todo archive -a 1
```

Task 1 moved to the archive with a new usage index: 201909074112222239

Then the todo list is now:

```
$ todo list
```

```
2 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the unit tests of todogo
```

```
3 [2019-Sep-07] : Create a beautiful web site for todogo
```

Legend:    todo    doing    done

And the archive contains:

```
$ todo archive
```

```
201909074112222239 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the documentation of todogo
```

Legend:    todo    doing    done

Note that when a task is moved to the archive, then its usage index is modified and set to its global index (see next page).

## Task identifiers

### Usage index versus global index

When created, a task is characterized by:

- a **usage index** (UID), the index seen by the user to manipulate the tasks
- a **global index** (GID), the index used by the program to manage the tasks

```
$ todo status -i 2
```

```
Task : Write the unit tests of todogo
```

```
Usage Index (UID) : 2
Global Index (GID) : 201909070743126602
Creation Date      : Saturday 2019-September-07 at 16:04:08
Status             : todo
Is on board        : false
Note filepath      :
Parent UID         : 0
```

Index life cycle:

- The global index (GID) is unique and invariant ever
- The usage index (UID) is unique and invariant as long as the task is in the journal
- Once a task is move from the journal to the archive, its usage index is released and can be reused for a new task.

## Task identifiers

### Usage index recycling

We create a new task:

```
$ todo new -t "Make it possible to have children tasks associated to a task"
1 [2019-Sep-07] : Make it possible to have children tasks associated to a task
```

Note that the usage index 1, previously attributed to the documentation task (moved to the archive) has been recycled and attributed to this newly created task:

```
$ todo list

2 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the unit tests of todogo
3 [2019-Sep-07] : Create a beautiful web site for todogo
1 [2019-Sep-07] : Make it possible to have children tasks associated to a task
```

Legend:    todo    doing    done

**Note:** The reason of this index recycling is to avoid increasing indeces, at least in the journal listing, so that you can refer to reasonably short indeces when typing your command line. Even if there is no maximum limit for indeces, the normal usage (i.e. if you achieve your tasks and archive them when finished) is to play whith indeces between 1 (the starting index value) to 20 or 30.

## Restoring a task

*“We forgot a part of the documentation, but the task is declared as done and archived”.* Indeed:

```
$ todo archive
```

```
201909074112222239 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the documentation of todogo
```

```
Legend:  todo    doing    done
```

The task can be restored to the journal:

```
$ todo archive -r 201909074112222239
```

```
Task 201909074112222239 restored from archive with a new usage index: 4
```

The task has been restored from the archive (where its index was 201909074112222239, i.e. the global index) to the journal with a new usage index 4 (of course the original index 1 has been reassigned to another task and the first free usage index in the journal is 4):

```
$ todo list
```

```
1 [2019-Sep-07] : Make it possible to have children tasks associated to a task
2 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the unit tests of todogo
3 [2019-Sep-07] : Create a beautiful web site for todogo
4 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the documentation of todogo
```

```
Legend:  todo    doing    done
```

The restored task is on status done, and it could be relevant to move its status to the previous one in the life cycle (the status “doing”):

```
$ todo status -p 4
```

```
4 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the documentation of todogo
```

## Organizing the tasks - board

As with all todo list, the tasks accumulate in the journal as they came out of your brain:

```
$ todo list
```

```
1 [2019-Sep-07] : Make it possible to have children tasks associated to a task
2 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the unit tests of todogo
3 [2019-Sep-07] : Create a beautiful web site for todogo
4 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the documentation of todogo
5 [2019-Sep-07] : Push a clone of the repository on github
```

```

6 [2019-Sep-07] : Create a dockerfile of the todogo application
7 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the conceptual design of the dingo application
8 [2019-Sep-07] : Setup the technical environment for the dingo application
9 [2019-Sep-07] : Phone IT center to get a new PC
10 [2019-Sep-07] : Book an hotel for the workshop in Melun
11 [2019-Sep-07] : Write a prototype of dingo to validate the design
12 [2019-Sep-07] : Write a project proposition to get a budget for dingo

```

Legend: todo doing done

The board is a good practice to focus on some tasks:

```
$ todo board
```

```

2 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the unit tests of todogo
3 [2019-Sep-07] : Create a beautiful web site for todogo
10 [2019-Sep-07] : Book an hotel for the workshop in Melun

```

Legend: todo doing done

## Organizing the tasks - child

### Grouping tasks with a parent task

All the tasks are in the same bag, but:

- The tasks 1,2,3,4,5,6 concern the todogo project,
- While 7,8,11,12 concern another project dingo,
- And 9,10 are administrative tasks.

A point of view is to consider these tasks as sub-tasks of macro-tasks: todogo, dingo, admin.

todogo defines the concept of **child** task to manage this situation. You create three new tasks:

```
$ todo new -t "TODOGO: project todogo"
13 [2019-Sep-07] : TODOGO: project todogo
```

```
$ todo new -t "DINGO: project dingo"
14 [2019-Sep-07] : DINGO: project dingo
```

```
$ todo new -t "ADMIN: administrative tasks"
15 [2019-Sep-07] : ADMIN: administrative tasks
```

Then, you can declare the previous tasks as child tasks of these newly created tasks:

```
$ todo child -p 13 -c 1,2,3,4,5,6
$ todo child -p 14 -c 7,11,12
$ todo child -p 15 -c 9,10
```

## Organizing the tasks - child

### Listing the tree representation

The child-parent relationship can be used to print a tree representation of the tasks with the option `-t` of the command `list`:

```
$ todo list -t

13 [2019-Sep-07] : TODOGO: project todogo
    1 [2019-Sep-07] : Make it possible to have children tasks associated to a task
    2 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the unit tests of todogo
    3 [2019-Sep-07] : Create a beautiful web site for todogo
    4 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the documentation of todogo
    5 [2019-Sep-07] : Push a clone of the repository on github
    6 [2019-Sep-07] : Create a dockerfile of the todogo application

14 [2019-Sep-07] : DINGO: project dingo
    7 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the conceptual design of the dingo application
    8 [2019-Sep-07] : Setup the technical environment for the dingo application
    11 [2019-Sep-07] : Write a prototype of dingo to validate the design
    12 [2019-Sep-07] : Write a project proposition to get a budget for dingo

15 [2019-Sep-07] : ADMIN: administrative tasks
    9 [2019-Sep-07] : Phone IT center to get a new PC
    10 [2019-Sep-07] : Book an hotel for the workshop in Melun
```

Legend:    `todo`    `doing`    `done`

Note that there is no limit in the depth of the tree relationship but it is a good practice to have 2 or 3 levels maximum (one level only in this example).

## Organizing the tasks - context

### Different workspaces for different contexts

*“I would need to manage a todo list for my sport association, but I don’t want to mix them up with my job todo list”.*



todo.go defines the concept of **context** to manage this situation. A context is a named workspace where the journal of tasks is stored. When you start using todo, a default context is created automatically, but you can create manually as many contexts as you need, and then switch between these contexts.

The contexts are managed using the command `config`:

```
$ todo config
```

```
default : /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todo.go/default
demo    : /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todo.go/demo
```

Legend:    active context

The listing indicates that:

- Two contexts (default and demo) are defined in my configuration
- The paths specify the workspace directories of the contexts
- The context demo is the current active context

## Organizing the tasks - context

### Creating a context

Creating a new context with the name `sport`:

```
$ todo config -n sport
```

WRN: You didn't specify the context path. Default to `sport`

Creating the context `sport` with path `sport`

```
default : /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todo.go/default
demo    : /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todo.go/demo
sport    : /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todo.go/sport
```

Legend:    active context

The context `sport` is automatically set as the active context. The todo list of this new created context is empty and ready to register your sport todo list:

```
$ todo list
```

No tasks. Go have a drink

```
$ todo new -t "Buy a new equipment"
```

```
1 [2019-Sep-07] : Buy a new equipment
```

```
$ todo new -t "Make the medical certificate"
```

```
2 [2019-Sep-07] : Make the medical certificate
```

```
$ todo new -t "Fill in the inscription form"
3 [2019-Sep-07] : Fill in the inscription form
```

```
$ todo list
```

```
1 [2019-Sep-07] : Buy a new equipement
2 [2019-Sep-07] : Make the medical certificate
3 [2019-Sep-07] : Fill in the inscription form
```

Legend:    todo    doing    done

## Organizing the tasks - context

### Selecting an active context

*"Hey! But where is my job todo list?"* The job todo list was created with the demo context, and you currently point to the sport context:

```
$ todo config

default : /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todogo/default
demo    : /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todogo/demo
sport   : /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todogo/sport
```

Legend:    active context

Then you just have to switch back to the demo context:

```
$ todo config -s demo

default : /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todogo/default
demo    : /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todogo/demo
sport   : /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todogo/sport
```

Legend:    active context

And retrieve your job todo list:

```
$ todo board

2 [2019-Sep-07] : Write the unit tests of todogo
3 [2019-Sep-07] : Create a beautiful web site for todogo
10 [2019-Sep-07] : Book an hotel for the workshop in Melun
```

Legend:    todo    doing    done

## Annoting a task - note

Sometimes, you need to complete a task description with some additional pieces of information.

todo.go defines the concept of **note** to manage this situation. Technically speaking, a note is a plain text file associated to a task and that you can edit to put information in it. These files are stored in the workspace associated to the context.

Let's go back to the sport context:

```
$ todo list
```

```
1 [2019-Sep-07] : Buy a new equipment
2 [2019-Sep-07] : Make the medical certificate
3 [2019-Sep-07] : Fill in the inscription form
```

Legend:    todo    doing    done

And add some details concerning the inscription form (task 3):

```
$ todo note -e 3
```

The note of the task 3 can be edited in file:

```
/home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todo.go/sport/notes/201909073921949778.rst
```

A text file is created in the sport context workspace with a base name created from the task global id (GID). Todo.go does not provide the function to edit this file, and you may choose your preferred editor to write the content:

```
$ vi /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todo.go/sport/notes/201909073921949778.rst
```

**Note:** this limitation is applied on purpose, due to the requirement to not use any external software program from todo.go. The main reason is that the external software programs could be not installed on your host. Personally I would prefer to choose my preferred editor (**vi** of course), and creating a parameter in the todo.go configuration for that is too much job for very low benefit.

## Annoting a task - note

Once you have written some text into the note file, you can print the content:

```
$ todo note -v 3
```

```
03 - Fill in the inscription form
=====
```

The fee for the inscription form is 230€ (to be payed using the RIB XXX).  
The contact to get detailed information is Mme C. Coule.

The date of the first training session is 15 of september.

If you don't remember the filepath of this note file, just type the edit command (note -e):

```
$ todo note -e 3
```

The note of the task 3 can be edited in file:

```
/home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todogo/sport/notes/201909073921949778.rst
```

Alternatively, you may print the metadata of the task using the status -i command:

```
$ todo status -i 3
```

```
Task           : Fill in the inscription form
Usage Index  (UID) : 3
Global Index (GID) : 201909073921949778
Creation Date   : Saturday 2019-September-07 at 19:11:13
Status         : todo
Is on board    : false
Note filepath   : /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todogo/sport/notes/201909073921949778.rs
Parent UID     : 0
```

## Configuring Todogo - config

A complete information concerning the configuration of the Todogo program can be printed using:

```
$ todo config -i
```

Configuration files:

-----

```
Configuration root directory: /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todogo
Configuration file path      : /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todogo/config.json
```

Configuration parameters:

-----

```
{
  "DefaultCommand": "board",
  "PrettyPrint": true,
  "WithColor": true
}
```

List of contexts:

```

-----

default : /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todogo/default
demo    : /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todogo/demo
* sport  : /home/guillaume/.config/galuma/todogo/sport

```

Legend: \* active context

- The configuration is stored in a directory whose path is hard coded in todogo as: `$HOME/.config/galume/todogo`.
- This directory is created at first todo execution if not exists.
- The configuration file is `config.json` at the root of the configuration directory.

## Configuring Todogo - config

### To keep in mind

- Apart for the management of the contexts (create, remove, select), there is no todo command to edit the configuration. If you need to modify the configuration, you should directly edit the configuration file `config.json` (it is a command line tool, no?)
- The default location path of a context with name `<mycontext>` is `<configdir>/<mycontext>`, i.e. a subdirectory of the configuration folder. But you may choose any path for a context when you create one (see options of the command `todo config -n`).

### Good practice

- It is a good practice to keep the history of your todo lists and the whole configuration directory using a git repository.
- Then we strongly advise to choose the default path when creating a context so that the whole set of data files is stored into the configuration directory.

```

$ cd $HOME/.config/galuma/todogo
$ git init
$ git add *
$ git commit -m "Initial import"
$ git push # if you have defined a remote repository

```

The usage of a remote git repository can be usefull:

- It could be considered as a backup of your data
- You may synchronize your todo lists on all your computers

- You may share the todo lists with other users, even if it is not a feature of `todo`, which is a personal todo list manager.

## Configuring `Todo` - `config`

Let's have a look into the configuration file:

```
{
  "ContextName": "sport",
  "ContextList": [
    {
      "DirPath": "default",
      "Name": "default"
    },
    {
      "DirPath": "demo",
      "Name": "demo"
    },
    {
      "DirPath": "sport",
      "Name": "sport"
    }
  ],
  "Parameters": {
    "DefaultCommand": "board",
    "PrettyPrint": true,
    "WithColor": true
  }
}
```

The parameters that you may change:

- `DefaultCommand`: the default command when you execute `todo` with no arguments
- `PrettyPrint`: if true, use pretty symbols when listing information (tasks, config)
- `WithColor`: if true, colorized the listing (task status in particular).

## Configuring `Todo` - `config`

Rendering parameters

---

## Rendering

---

```
1 [2019-Sep-07] ○ : Buy a new equipment
2 [2019-Sep-07] ○ : Make the medical certificate
3 [2019-Sep-07] ► : Fill in the inscription form
```

Legend: ○ **todo** ► **doing** ● **done**

```
1 [2019-Sep-07] ○ : Buy a new equipment
2 [2019-Sep-07] ○ : Make the medical certificate
3 [2019-Sep-07] ► : Fill in the inscription form
```

Legend: ○ todo ► doing ● done

```
1 [2019-Sep-07] ○ : Buy a new equipment
2 [2019-Sep-07] ○ : Make the medical certificate
3 [2019-Sep-07] > : Fill in the inscription form
```

Legend: ○ **todo** > **doing** x **done**

```
1 [2019-Sep-07] o : Buy a new equipment
2 [2019-Sep-07] o : Make the medical certificate
3 [2019-Sep-07] > : Fill in the inscription form
```

Legend: o todo > doing x done

## Exporting tasks in a pdf file

For printing the todo list on paper, it could be convenient to create a pdf file from the listing. The output of the command `todo list` can be saved either in a text plain file:

```
$ todo list -t -f todo.txt
```

The todo list has been printed in the txt file: `todo.txt`

Or in a pdf file (just by changing the output file extension):

```
$ todo list -t -f todo.pdf
```

The todo list has been printed in the txt file: `todo.txt`

```
INFO: texttopdf (PID 16805) started.
```

```
INFO: texttopdf (PID 16805) exited with no errors.
```

The todo list has been printed in the pdf file: `todo.pdf`

**Note:** this last command is the only exception to the requirement to not use external programs. The pdf output is created here using the `cupsfilter` program, a low level program which is installed on most linux systems.

---

## Download the source and install todogo

The todogo application (`todo` program) is written with the language go (<https://golang.org>). You first need to install go and basic development tools (git, make). You are supposed here to be sudoers or to be able to make this software programs installed on your hosts:

```
$ sudo apt-get install git
```

```
$ sudo apt-get install make
```

```
$ sudo apt-get install golang
```

Then you can clone the source files and build the `todo` executable program:

```
$ git clone https://github.com/gboulant/todogo.git
```

```
$ cd todogo
```

```
$ make
```

```
$ make test
```

```
$ sudo make install
```

This last command install the executable program `todo` in the `$PREFIX/bin` where `PREFIX` default to `/usr/local`.

If you need to install todogo in another folder, replace with:

```
$ PREFIX=/path/to/my/installdir make install
```



If `/usr/local/bin` (more generally `$PREFIX/bin`) is in your `PATH`, then you are ready to start with `todo.go`.

## Docker installation

```
FROM ubuntu
```

```
RUN apt-get update && apt-get upgrade -y && \
    apt-get install -y sudo && \
    apt-get install -y vim && \
    apt-get install -y git && \
    apt-get install -y make
```

```
RUN apt-get install -y golang
```

```
RUN git clone https://github.com/gboulant/todo.go.git && \
    cd todo.go && make install
```

---

## Requirements

Functional requirements:

- Fit my personal usage with paper board
- no sophisticated features, that are never generally used

Requirements:

- Command line application to work in a shell terminal
- Database made of local files only (no network connection required)
- Written in pure go, without external dependency (neither go packages nor external shell programs)