

The Grad Guide

Jessica Leathe, Paulina Gonzalez-Brito, Victoria Villasana, and Armeet Kaur Gahra

2026-02-24

Contents

1	Welcome to the Grad Guide	5
1.1	Usage	5
1.2	Render book	5
1.3	Preview book	6
2	Tech Career Paths	7
2.1	A section	7
3	Strategic Job Search	9
3.1	Chapters and sub-chapters	9
3.2	Captioned figures and tables	9
4	Find Your Best Career Fit	13
5	Resume Prep	15
5.1	Footnotes	15
5.2	Citations	15
6	How to Network	17
6.1	Equations	17
6.2	Theorems and proofs	17
6.3	Callout blocks	17

7	Acing Interviews	19
7.1	Publishing	19
7.2	404 pages	19
7.3	Metadata for sharing	19
8	Interview Follow Up	21
8.1	Publishing	21
8.2	404 pages	21
8.3	Metadata for sharing	21
9	Career Readiness Assessment	23
9.1	Publishing	23
9.2	404 pages	23
9.3	Metadata for sharing	23
10	References	25

Chapter 1

Welcome to the Grad Guide

This is a *sample* book written in **Markdown**. You can use anything that Pandoc’s Markdown supports; for example, a math equation $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$.

1.1 Usage

Each **bookdown** chapter is an .Rmd file, and each .Rmd file can contain one (and only one) chapter. A chapter *must* start with a first-level heading: **# A good chapter**, and can contain one (and only one) first-level heading.

Use second-level and higher headings within chapters like: **## A short section** or **### An even shorter section**.

The `index.Rmd` file is required, and is also your first book chapter. It will be the homepage when you render the book.

1.2 Render book

You can render the HTML version of this example book without changing anything:

1. Find the **Build** pane in the RStudio IDE, and
2. Click on **Build Book**, then select your output format, or select “All formats” if you’d like to use multiple formats from the same book source files.

Or build the book from the R console:


```
bookdown::render_book()
```

To render this example to PDF as a `bookdown::pdf_book`, you'll need to install XeLaTeX. You are recommended to install TinyTeX (which includes XeLaTeX): <https://yihui.org/tinytex/>.

1.3 Preview book

As you work, you may start a local server to live preview this HTML book. This preview will update as you edit the book when you save individual .Rmd files. You can start the server in a work session by using the RStudio add-in “Preview book”, or from the R console:

```
bookdown::serve_book()
```


Chapter 2

Tech Career Paths

All chapters start with a first-level heading followed by your chapter title, like the line above. There should be only one first-level heading (#) per .Rmd file.

2.1 A section

All chapter sections start with a second-level (##) or higher heading followed by your section title, like the sections above and below here. You can have as many as you want within a chapter.

An unnumbered section

Chapters and sections are numbered by default. To un-number a heading, add a {.unnumbered} or the shorter {-} at the end of the heading, like in this section.

Chapter 3

Strategic Job Search

Cross-references make it easier for your readers to find and link to elements in your book.

3.1 Chapters and sub-chapters

There are two steps to cross-reference any heading:

1. Label the heading: `# Hello world {#nice-label}`.
 - Leave the label off if you like the automated heading generated based on your heading title: for example, `# Hello world = # Hello world {#hello-world}`.
 - To label an un-numbered heading, use: `# Hello world {-#nice-label}` or `{# Hello world .unnumbered}`.
2. Next, reference the labeled heading anywhere in the text using `\@ref(nice-label)`; for example, please see Chapter ??.
 - If you prefer text as the link instead of a numbered reference use: any text you want can go here.

3.2 Captioned figures and tables

Figures and tables *with captions* can also be cross-referenced from elsewhere in your book using `\@ref(fig:chunk-label)` and `\@ref(tab:chunk-label)`, respectively.

See Figure 3.1.


```
par(mar = c(4, 4, .1, .1))  
plot(pressure, type = 'b', pch = 19)
```

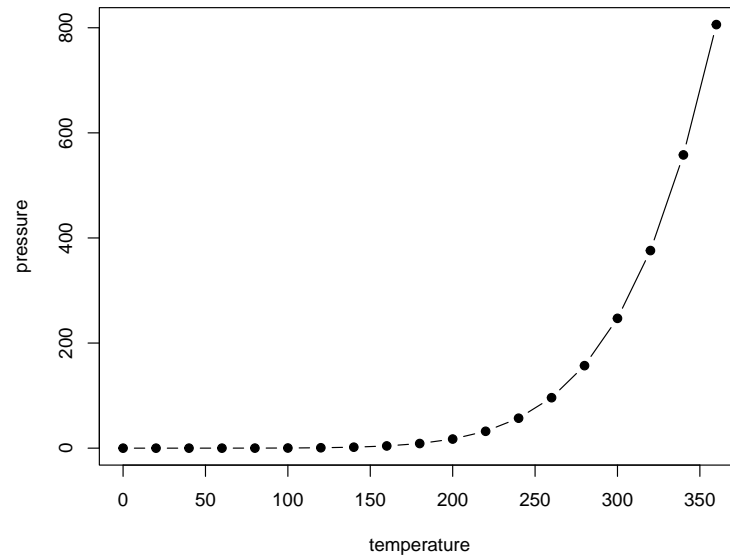


Figure 3.1: Here is a nice figure!

Don't miss Table 3.1.

```
knitr::kable(  
  head(pressure, 10), caption = 'Here is a nice table!',  
  booktabs = TRUE  
)
```


Table 3.1: Here is a nice table!

temperature	pressure
0	0.0002
20	0.0012
40	0.0060
60	0.0300
80	0.0900
100	0.2700
120	0.7500
140	1.8500
160	4.2000
180	8.8000

Chapter 4

Find Your Best Career Fit

You can add parts to organize one or more book chapters together. Parts can be inserted at the top of an .Rmd file, before the first-level chapter heading in that same file.

Add a numbered part: `# (PART) Act one {-}` (followed by `# A chapter`)

Add an unnumbered part: `# (PART*) Act one {-}` (followed by `# A chapter`)

Add an appendix as a special kind of un-numbered part: `# (APPENDIX) Other stuff {-}` (followed by `# A chapter`). Chapters in an appendix are prepended with letters instead of numbers.

Chapter 5

Resume Prep

5.1 Footnotes

Footnotes are put inside the square brackets after a caret `^[]`. Like this one ¹.

5.2 Citations

Reference items in your bibliography file(s) using `@key`.

For example, we are using the **bookdown** package (Xie, 2025) (check out the last code chunk in `index.Rmd` to see how this citation key was added) in this sample book, which was built on top of R Markdown and **knitr** (Xie, 2015) (this citation was added manually in an external file `book.bib`). Note that the `.bib` files need to be listed in the `index.Rmd` with the YAML `bibliography` key.

The `bs4_book` theme makes footnotes appear inline when you click on them. In this example book, we added `csl: chicago-fullnote-bibliography.csl` to the `index.Rmd` YAML, and include the `.csl` file. To download a new style, we recommend: <https://www.zotero.org/styles/>

The RStudio Visual Markdown Editor can also make it easier to insert citations: <https://rstudio.github.io/visual-markdown-editing/#/citations>

¹This is a footnote.

Chapter 6

How to Network

6.1 Equations

Here is an equation.

$$f(k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k} \quad (6.1)$$

You may refer to using `\@ref{eq:binom}`, like see Equation (6.1).

6.2 Theorems and proofs

Labeled theorems can be referenced in text using `\@ref{thm:tri}`, for example, check out this smart theorem 6.1.

Theorem 6.1. *For a right triangle, if c denotes the length of the hypotenuse and a and b denote the lengths of the **other** two sides, we have*

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

Read more here <https://bookdown.org/yihui/bookdown/markdown-extensions-by-bookdown.html>.

6.3 Callout blocks

The `bs4_book` theme also includes special callout blocks, like this `.rmdnote`.

You can use **markdown** inside a block.


```
head(beaver1, n = 5)
#>   day time  temp activ
#> 1 346  840 36.33     0
#> 2 346  850 36.34     0
#> 3 346  900 36.35     0
#> 4 346  910 36.42     0
#> 5 346  920 36.55     0
```

It is up to the user to define the appearance of these blocks for LaTeX output.

You may also use: `.rmdcaution`, `.rmdimportant`, `.rmdtip`, or `.rmdwarning` as the block name.

The R Markdown Cookbook provides more help on how to use custom blocks to design your own callouts: <https://bookdown.org/yihui/rmarkdown-cookbook/custom-blocks.html>

Chapter 7

Acing Interviews

7.1 Publishing

HTML books can be published online, see: <https://bookdown.org/yihui/bookdown/publishing.html>

7.2 404 pages

By default, users will be directed to a 404 page if they try to access a webpage that cannot be found. If you'd like to customize your 404 page instead of using the default, you may add either a `_404.Rmd` or `_404.md` file to your project root and use code and/or Markdown syntax.

7.3 Metadata for sharing

Bookdown HTML books will provide HTML metadata for social sharing on platforms like Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn, using information you provide in the `index.Rmd` YAML. To setup, set the `url` for your book and the path to your `cover-image` file. Your book's `title` and `description` are also used.

This `bs4_book` provides enhanced metadata for social sharing, so that each chapter shared will have a unique description, auto-generated based on the content.

Specify your book's source repository on GitHub as the `repo` in the `_output.yml` file, which allows users to view each chapter's source file or suggest an edit. Read more about the features of this output format here:

https://pkgs.rstudio.com/bookdown/reference/bs4_book.html

Or use:

```
?bookdown::bs4_book
```


Chapter 8

Interview Follow Up

8.1 Publishing

HTML books can be published online, see: <https://bookdown.org/yihui/bookdown/publishing.html>

8.2 404 pages

By default, users will be directed to a 404 page if they try to access a webpage that cannot be found. If you'd like to customize your 404 page instead of using the default, you may add either a `_404.Rmd` or `_404.md` file to your project root and use code and/or Markdown syntax.

8.3 Metadata for sharing

Bookdown HTML books will provide HTML metadata for social sharing on platforms like Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn, using information you provide in the `index.Rmd` YAML. To setup, set the `url` for your book and the path to your `cover-image` file. Your book's `title` and `description` are also used.

This `bs4_book` provides enhanced metadata for social sharing, so that each chapter shared will have a unique description, auto-generated based on the content.

Specify your book's source repository on GitHub as the `repo` in the `_output.yml` file, which allows users to view each chapter's source file or suggest an edit. Read more about the features of this output format here:

https://pkgs.rstudio.com/bookdown/reference/bs4_book.html

Or use:

```
?bookdown::bs4_book
```


Chapter 9

Career Readiness Assessment

9.1 Publishing

HTML books can be published online, see: <https://bookdown.org/yihui/bookdown/publishing.html>

9.2 404 pages

By default, users will be directed to a 404 page if they try to access a webpage that cannot be found. If you'd like to customize your 404 page instead of using the default, you may add either a `_404.Rmd` or `_404.md` file to your project root and use code and/or Markdown syntax.

9.3 Metadata for sharing

Bookdown HTML books will provide HTML metadata for social sharing on platforms like Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn, using information you provide in the `index.Rmd` YAML. To setup, set the `url` for your book and the path to your `cover-image` file. Your book's `title` and `description` are also used.

This `bs4_book` provides enhanced metadata for social sharing, so that each chapter shared will have a unique description, auto-generated based on the content.

Specify your book's source repository on GitHub as the `repo` in the `_output.yml` file, which allows users to view each chapter's source file or suggest an edit. Read more about the features of this output format here:

https://pkgs.rstudio.com/bookdown/reference/bs4_book.html

Or use:

```
?bookdown::bs4_book
```


Chapter 10

References

Bibliography

Xie, Y. (2015). *Dynamic Documents with R and knitr*. Chapman and Hall/CRC, Boca Raton, Florida, 2nd edition. ISBN 978-1498716963.

Xie, Y. (2025). *bookdown: Authoring Books and Technical Documents with R Markdown*. R package version 0.46.