MarkJet User Guide

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### 1. Introduction to Markdown

Markdown is a lightweight, human-readable markup language used to format text quickly and easily. Rather than relying on bulky toolbars or complicated commands, Markdown uses simple punctuation and characters to denote styles and structure. For instance, placing \*\* around a word makes it **bold**, while a single \* around a word makes it *italic*. Headers are created by starting a line with one or more # symbols, and so forth.

Markdown is widely supported on many platforms (GitHub, forums, blogs) and can be converted into HTML. Because it is plain text, it’s portable, easy to read, and does not require special formatting tools. This editor provides you with a live preview of your formatted Markdown as you type, making it simple to produce professional-looking content quickly.

### 2. Overview of the Editor

This Markdown Editor (as provided by the FrmMainMarkdown form) is designed to allow you to:

* Write Markdown text in a dedicated text box.
* See your formatted output rendered in real-time in a preview pane.
* Quickly apply formatting modes (bold, italic, headers, underline, and strike-through) using buttons or keyboard shortcuts.
* Import existing Markdown files.
* Save your current document at any time.
* Customize your experience by toggling Word Wrap, Dark Mode, Word Count, and even use Vim-like commands for advanced editing.
* Access About and Help dialogs to learn more about Markdown and available features.

### 3. Editor Interface Elements

Upon launching the editor, you will see several key components:

* **Menu Strip (File, Options, About, Help)**:
  + **File**: Create a new document, Import (open existing .md files), Save your current document, or Quit the program.
  + **Options**: Opens the Options dialog (FrmOptions) to toggle various features like Dark Mode, Word Count, and Vim Mode.
  + **About**: Shows the About dialog (FrmAbout), providing author information and a brief Markdown introduction.
  + **Help**: Shows the Help dialog (FrmHelp), providing detailed instructions, references, and keyboard shortcut listings.
* **Main Text Box (Left Panel)**:  
  This is where you type your Markdown content. Initially, it may show placeholder text (# Start typing your Markdown here...). Once you start typing, your own text replaces the placeholder.
* **Formatting Buttons (Above the Text Box)**:
  + **Header**: Apply or toggle header formatting (# at the start of a line).
  + **Bold**: Apply bold formatting (\*\*text\*\*).
  + **Italic**: Apply italic formatting (\*text\*).
  + **Underline**: Apply underline formatting (<u>text</u>).
  + **Strike-Through**: Apply strike formatting (~~text~~).
* **Preview Pane (Right Panel)**:  
  Shows a live HTML-rendered version of your Markdown. As you type or apply formatting, the preview updates immediately, allowing you to see the final appearance of your text.
* **Command Box (For Vim Mode)**:  
  Hidden by default, this text box appears when you enter Vim command mode (pressing Shift+; when Vim mode is enabled). You can enter commands like :wq to save, :e to import, :clear for a new document, etc.
* **Word Count Label (Optional)**:  
  When enabled via Options, a Word Count label displays the number of words in your current document.

### 4. Dynamic Updating and Preview

The Markdown Editor automatically converts and displays your Markdown text as HTML in the preview pane. Every time you type, delete, or format text in the main text box, the preview will update to reflect those changes. This real-time feedback allows you to see how your Markdown document will look as a finished product, eliminating guesswork and the need for external Markdown rendering tools.

### 5. Formatting Modes (Header, Bold, Italic, Underline, Strike)

There are two ways to format text in the editor:

1. **Direct Selection Formatting**:  
   If you select text and then click one of the formatting buttons (e.g., Bold), the selected text is immediately wrapped in the appropriate Markdown syntax.
2. **Toggle Formatting Modes**:  
   If you click on a formatting button without selecting text, you activate a mode. For example, if you click the Bold button, new text you type from that point until you toggle the mode off will be enclosed in \*\* \*\* when you exit the mode. This approach makes it easy to type continuously in a certain style.

Modes Explained:

* **Header Mode**: Places # at the start of each new line typed. Pressing the Header button again finalizes the headers.
* **Bold Mode**: Wraps typed text in \*\* \*\* when finalized.
* **Italic Mode**: Wraps typed text in \* \* when finalized.
* **Underline Mode**: Wraps typed text in <u></u> tags when finalized.
* **Strike Mode**: Wraps typed text in ~~ ~~ when finalized.

To end a mode and apply formatting, press the respective formating keyboard shortcut or button. You can also press Ctrl+Q (A Universal Mode Toggle) or Ctrl+D (to cancel and discard the mode formatting).

Note: you can tell when you are in a mode if the button is colored Green

### 6. Keyboard Shortcuts

To speed up your workflow, the editor supports various keyboard shortcuts:

* **Basic Formatting:**
  + **Ctrl+B**: Toggle/apply Bold
  + **Ctrl+I**: Toggle/apply Italic
  + **Ctrl+U**: Toggle/apply Underline
  + **Ctrl+5**: Toggle/apply Strike-Through
  + **Ctrl+H**: Toggle/apply Header
* **Editing and Navigation:**
  + **Ctrl+Z**: Undo
  + **Ctrl+Y** or **Ctrl+Shift+Z**: Redo
  + **Ctrl+S**: Save
  + **Ctrl+Q**: Finalize and close the current formatting mode.
  + **Ctrl+D**: Cancel any active formatting mode without applying.
  + **Ctrl+R**: Refresh the preview (clears and re-renders).
  + **Ctrl+Backspace**: Deletes the previous word in the text box.
* **Vim Mode Access:**
  + When Vim Mode is enabled, press **Shift+;** (that is, : in Vim terms) to open the Vim command input. Enter a command (e.g., :wq) and press Enter.

### 7. Application Options Explained

Via the FrmOptions dialog (reachable from the main window’s Options button or menu), you can toggle:

* **Dark Mode**: Changes the interface and preview to a darker color scheme for comfortable low-light usage.
* **Word Count**: Displays or hides the word count label.
* **Word Wrap**: Enables wrapping of long lines in the text box, so you don’t have to scroll horizontally.
* **Vim Mode**: Switches the editor into a minimalist mode, hiding most UI elements and enabling Vim-like command controls for advanced users.

After choosing your preferred options, click **Apply** to confirm or **Cancel** to discard changes.

### 8. Vim Mode Functionality

Vim Mode emulates a command-line editing environment:

* When Vim Mode is enabled, the toolbar, menu, and extra buttons disappear, leaving a clean writing interface.
* Press Shift+; to enter command mode. A command textbox appears at the bottom. Type commands such as:
  + **:wq**: Save file
  + **:e**: Import a file
  + **:clear**: Create a new blank document
  + **:about**: Show About dialog
  + **:options** or **:config**: Open the Options dialog
  + **:help**: Show the Help dialog
  + **:vim**: Exit Vim Mode and return to the normal UI

Press **Enter** to run your command or **Escape** to cancel command entry.

Vim Mode is ideal for users familiar with Vim’s workflow or those who prefer keyboard-only interaction and minimal distraction.

### 9. Additional Tips and Usage Suggestions

* **Starting a New Document**: Use File > Create to start fresh.
* **Importing Existing Markdown**: Bring in existing Markdown files from File > Import.
* **Saving Work**: Save frequently using **Ctrl+S** to avoid losing progress.
* **Undo/Redo**: Use **Ctrl+Z** and **Ctrl+Y**/ **Ctrl+Shift+Z** to correct mistakes easily.
* **Experiment with Formatting**: Try toggling modes vs. selecting text directly to find the workflow that suits you best.
* **Dark Mode for Comfort**: If working in low light, enable Dark Mode under Options.

### 10. About and Help Resources

* **About Dialog (FrmAbout)**: Provides author details (Jetson Black), contact information, and a brief explanation of Markdown.
* **Help Dialog (FrmHelp)**: Offers direct links to Markdown documentation, lists keyboard shortcuts, and explains each feature in detail.

Both About and Help forms respect Dark Mode and can be accessed from the main menu.

### 11. Example WorkFlow

Say as a user I want to type out **I love MarkJet** as seen here (meaning in bold)

I would first enter the text box and do one of the following

1. Using Mode Based Editing
   1. Enter Bold Mode First Press CTRL+B or using the Button(since I want to type in bold)
   2. Type Out “I love MarkJet”
   3. Exit Bold Mode By pressing CTRL+B or using the Button thus wrapping the text in markdown
2. Using Select Based Editing
   1. Type Out “I love MarkJet”
   2. Use my mouse to Highlight/Select the Text
   3. Press CTRL+B or click the Button thus wrapping the Text in Markdown