

# 1 Why Pandoc?

Pandoc is a document converter, and it supports a plethora of different formats. In addition, the Pandoc guys have defined their own Markdown flavour, which makes writing documents very easy. I prefer this over LaTeX for its simplicity and speed of creation, but the joy of using Pandoc's Markdown is its support of typing raw LaTeX inline. For example, I can type this directly into the document

```
\begin{center}
\begin{tabular}{c c c }
cell1 & cell2 & cell3 \\
cell4 & cell5 & cell6 \\
cell7 & cell8 & cell9
\end{tabular}
\end{center}
```

which produces this:

cell1	cell2	cell3
cell4	cell5	cell6
cell7	cell8	cell9

So generally put, you get the power of LaTeX, but wrapped in a more minimalist markup, for when the extra features aren't needed.

## 2 Syntax

The syntax is a superset of the Markdown syntax, which I'm sure you all know. In addition, Pandoc's Markdown includes some extra features:

- Math formatting:

This is done inline with single  $\$$ -signs, like this:  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and display math is done with double dollar signs  $\\$\\$$ .

$$1 + 1 = 2$$

- Footnotes:

Are added using a  $\wedge$  and square brackets, for example <sup>1</sup>, which was made by typing `^[Hello, you were sent down here from the text, how cool is that?]`.

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<sup>1</sup>Hello, you were sent down here from the text, how cool is that?

- Cross-referencing:

You can cross reference by appending an equation, figure or similar with `{#eq:my-id}` or similar. This is then referenced in the text with `@eq:my-id`. For example, this section is labelled with `{#sec:syntax}`, which i can reference by typing `@sec:syntax`, like this: section 2. Cross-referencing requires an extension, the installation of which is described in section 3.1

- ...and lots more

## 3 Installation

Installing Pandoc and the required extensions is easy, just type this into the command line:

**MacOS:**

```
brew install pandoc pandoc-citeproc
```

**Ubuntu:**

```
sudo apt-get pandoc pandoc-citeproc
```

**Arch Linux:**

```
sudo pacman -S pandoc pandoc-citeproc
```

It is not required to have LaTeX installed on your computer, but to get a LaTeX-formatted PDF, you must at least have `pdflatex` in your PATH.

### 3.1 Installing `pandoc-xnos` for cross referencing

To get cross-referencing up and running, `pandoc-xnos` must be installed. Ensure a Python installation is present, then run:

```
sudo pip install pandoc-eqnos pandoc-secnos pandoc-tablenos pandoc-fignos
```

When using cross-referencing in your document, be sure to include the option `--filter pandoc-xnos` when running Pandoc from the command line.

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After installing the above, you can for example compile these documents into a pdf by running:

```
pandoc *.md -o mypdf.pdf --filter pandoc-xnos
```