Introduction to Markdown

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Markdown

Markdown is a simple way to format text that looks great on any device. It doesn't do anything fancy like change the font size, color, or type — just the essentials, using keyboard symbols you already know.

Introduction

Each lesson introduces a single Markdown concept with an example. When you see a red pulsing circle in the example, select to examine it for details.

After studying the example, try a few practice exercises with your new knowledge. Skip to any lesson at any time via the navigation controls. Experiment and have fun!

Emphasis

Bold and Italics

- To create bold or italic, wrap with asterisks * or underscores _.

- To avoid creating bold or italic, place a backslash in front * or _.

- Two ** or __ will make the enclosed text bold.
  - Like   **text**
  - Or   __text__

- One * or _ will make the enclosed text italic.

- The same character must be used to open and close emphasis.

- There must be no space between the * or _.

Example - Bold

Making the words "American" bold:

The music video for Rihanna's song **American** Oxygen depicts various moments from __American__ history, including the inauguration of Barack Obama.

Results in Bold

The music video for Rihanna's song **American** Oxygen depicts various moments from **American** history, including the inauguration of Barack Obama.

Example - Italics

Making the word "six" italic.

Why, sometimes I've believed as many as _six_ impossible things before breakfast.

Results in *Italics*

Why, sometimes I've believed as many as *six* impossible things before breakfast.

Style should be consistent

The configured strong style can be a specific symbol to use ("asterisk", "underscore"), or can require that usage be consistent within the document.

Rationale: Consistent formatting makes it easier to understand a document

Example - Bold & Italics

Makeing the whole sentence bold, and italicize the word "must".

Everyone *must* attend the meeting at 5 o'clock today.

Results in - Bold & *Italics*

Everyone *must* attend the meeting at 5 o'clock today.

Example - Disabling the formatting

Consider

I am totally awesome. *

* for certain very small values of awesome.

Without escape character "". It results in

I am totally awesome. *

- for certain very small values of awesome.

Example - Disabling the formatting (contd.)

Lets change the last line so the * is visible:

I am totally awesome. *
* for certain very small values of awesome.

Resulting in

I am totally awesome. *
* for certain very small values of awesome.

Paragraphs

A paragraph is consecutive lines of text with one or more blank lines between them.

For a line break, add either a backslash \ or two blank spaces at the end of the line. That is, use either two spaces or a backslash \ at the end of a line to create a line break.

A blank line is any line without text or a line that contains nothing but spaces or tabs.

Example - Paragraphs

Organize the following two sentences into two paragraphs

The sky above the port was the colour of television, tuned to a dead channel. It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen.

**To do this, we will add backspace **

The sky above the port was the color of television, tuned to a dead channel.
It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen.

Example - Poem

Format this poem so the lines end exactly as shown

Only my heart knows the pleasures of this love,
Only my heart knows the sorrows it has brought.
Only my heart knows the oppressions of time,
Only my heart knows the times it was pestered.

As without any formatting, It ends up like

Only my heart knows the pleasures of this love, Only my heart knows the sorrows it has brought. Only my heart knows the oppressions of time, Only my heart knows the times it was pestered.

Example – Poem (contd.)

So we add \ after each line

Only my heart knows the pleasures of this love,\

Only my heart knows the sorrows it has brought.\

Only my heart knows the oppressions of time,\

Only my heart knows the times it was pestered.

Hence, it results in new lines

Only my heart knows the pleasures of this love,

Only my heart knows the sorrows it has brought.

Only my heart knows the oppressions of time,

Only my heart knows the times it was pestered.

Headings

Starting a line with a hash # and a space makes a header.

The more #, the smaller the header.

This is same as having <**H** *n*> tag in HTML.
THat is **<H1> <H2> <H3>** and so on.

Headings (contd.)

For heading level one, there is an alternate "underline" style using =

Heading 1
=======

Results in forming a level 1 heading

Heading 1

Headings (contd..2)

Similar to Heading 1

For heading level two, there is an alternate "underline" style using -

Heading 2

Results in forming a level 2 heading

Heading 2

Headings (contd..3)

You can optionally add more # at the end to close the header. You don't need to match the number of # used at the beginning.

There must be a space between the # and the heading title.

The title can also contain formatting like bold and italic.

Heading 1

Heading 2

Heading 3

Title

Heading

Sub Heading

Another heading

Example - Headings

Chapter 1

Something about the room made him uneasy.

Chapter 2

It's behind you! Hurry before it

Adding # will result in

Chapter 1

Something about the room made him uneasy.

Chapter 2

It's behind you! Hurry before it catches you.

Example 2 – Headings

Consider the following

After the Big Bang

A brief summary of time

Life on earth

10 billion years

You reading this

13.7 billion years

Example 2 - Headings (contd.)

Making the first line a level 1 header, and the lines beginning with "Life" and "You" level 2 headers

After the Big Bang

A brief summary of time

Life on earth

10 billion years

You reading this

13.7 billion years

Example 2 – Headings (contd..2)

Will result in

After the Big Bang

A brief summary of time

Life on earth

10 billion years

You reading this

13.7 billion years

Blockquotes

To create a blockquote, start a line with greater than > followed by an optional space. Blockquotes can be nested, and can also contain other formatting.

To keep the quote together, blank lines inside the quote must contain the > character. The space between the > and the quoted text is optional.

Example - Blockquotes

Consider this statement

The quote "Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known" has been ascribed to Carl Sagan.

Making this quote a proper blockquote & removing the "" characters, too

The quote

> Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known

has been ascribed to Carl Sagan.

Example 2 - Blockquotes

My favourite Miss Manners quotes:

Allowing an unimportant mistake to pass without comment is a wonderful social grace.

Ideological differences are no excuse for rudeness.

Adding blockquote > results in

My favourite Miss Manners quotes:

> Allowing an unimportant mistake to pass without comment is a wonderful social grace.
> Ideological differences are no excuse for rudeness.

Lists

Unordered lists can use either asterisks *, plus +, or hyphens - as list markers.

Ordered lists use numbers followed by period . or right parenthesis).

A space is required after each list character.

Lists (contd.)

Use any of *, + or - to make a list. Each list must consistently use the same character.

Ordered lists start with a number followed by a . or) and a space.

If you don't want a list? Use backslash to escape:

```
12\. An even number.
```

Lists (contd..2)

You don't have to use ordered numbers

```
1. One
1. Two

and

5. Five
7. Six
```

Both render an ordered list, the latter will start at 5

1. One

2. Two

and

5. Five

6. Six

Example – Unordered Lists

Writing items in new like like this:

```
Flour
Cheese
Tomatoes
```

Renders as

Flour Cheese Tomatoes

Making this into an unordered list by adding a dash - and a space

```
- Flour
- Cheese
- Tomatoes
```

Will render as

- Flour

- Cheese

- Tomatoes

Example - Ordered Lists

Similarly, consider

```
Four steps to better sleep:
Stick to a sleep schedule
Create a bedtime ritual
Get comfortable
Manage stress
```

Can be made into an ordered list like this

```
Method 1:
1. Four steps to better sleep:
1. Stick to a sleep schedule
1. Create a bedtime ritual
1. Get comfortable
1. Manage stress
```

Another way is

```
Method 2:
1) Four steps to better sleep:
2) Stick to a sleep schedule
3) Create a bedtime ritual
4) Get comfortable
5) Manage stress
```

Both will render as

1. Four steps to better sleep:

2. Stick to a sleep schedule

3. Create a bedtime ritual

4. Get comfortable

5. Manage stress

Example - Numbers not Lists

Observe this

```
1986. What a great season. Arguably the finest season in the history of the franchise.
```

Renders as

1986. What a great season. Arguably the finest season in the history of the franchise.

Here 1986 is rendered as a numbered bullet point, as a list item. We don't want a list here. To avoid this, we have to use a , the escape character to render as a number rather than a list.

```
1986\. What a great season. Arguably the finest season in the history of the franchise.
```

Links

Links can be either inline with the text, or placed at the bottom of the text as references.

Link text is enclosed by square brackets [], and for inline links, the link URL is enclosed by parens ().

Don't put a space between any of the brackets.

We can also use relative URLs such as /example.html

```
[text](http://a.com)

[text][id]
⋮
[id]: http://b.org/ "title"
```

The link definition can be placed anywhere after a blank line, but is generally near the bottom.

Definition identifiers may consist of letters, numbers, spaces, and punctuation. They are not case sensitive. The title of the link is optional.

URLs may not become links in Markdown until enclosed in < and >. Turn this URL into a link:

```
You can do anything at https://html5zombo.com
You can do anything at <https://html5zombo.com>
```

Will render as

You can do anything at https://html5zombo.com

You can do anything at https://html5zombo.com

Observe that only the latter link is clickable.

Example - Links: Inline style

Lets try to link "University of Rwanda" to http://www.ur.ac.rw with an inline link in the following text.

The University of Rwanda was formed in 2013 through the merger of Rwanda's seven public institutions of higher education.

To do so, we have to do something like this:

```
The [University of Rwanda](http://www.ur.ac.rw) was
formed in 2013 through the merger of Rwanda's seven
public institutions of higher education.
```

Resulting in

The University of Rwanda was formed in 2013 through the merger of Rwanda's seven public institutions of higher education.

Example – Links: Reference style

Lets link both of the words "hurricane" to the Wikipedia entry at https://w.wiki/qYn with a reference style link:

```
[Hurricane][1] Erika was the strongest and longest-lasting
tropical cyclone in the 1997 Atlantic [hurricane][1] season.

[1]:https://w.wiki/qYn
```

Resulting in

Hurricane Erika was the strongest and longest-lasting tropical cyclone in the 1997 Atlantic hurricane season.

images

Images are almost identical to links, but an image starts with an exclamation point !.

```
![alt](cat.png)

![alt][id]

[id]: dog.jpg "title"
```

Alternate (alt) text is displayed when the image can't be shown, or for the visually impaired.

It's fine to leave this blank but the [] is required.

You can also use complete URLs, such as http://a.com/dog.jpg

Make sure there are no spaces between the brackets.

Definition identifiers may consist of letters, numbers, spaces, and punctuation. They are not case sensitive.

The link definition can be placed anywhere after a blank line, but is generally near the bottom.

The title of the image is optional.

A title provides more textual detail about what the image shows or contains.

Example - Images

```
https://commonmark.org/help/images/favicon.png
```

Makeing this image appear – no need for alt text or title, leave those blank, by changing it to the following

```
![](https://commonmark.org/help/images/favicon.png)
```

Example - Images, referenced and alternate text

Adding alt text of Logo and title of Creative Commons licensed to this image

```
![][1]

[1]: https://commonmark.org/help/images/favicon.png
```

By changing this to

```
![Logo][1]

[1]: https://commonmark.org/help/images/favicon.png "Creative Commons licensed"
```

CODE

To create inline code, wrap with backticks `.

To create a code block, either indent each line by 4 spaces, or place 3 backticks ``` on a line above and below the code block.

```
Inline `code`
```

```
    Or indent 4 spaces for the whole line.
```

```
```

Or use 3 backticks to create multi line code block.
```

- A code block or span displays every character inside exactly as it was typed.

- Remember, one level of indentation in a code block equals 4 spaces or one tab.

- An indented code block continues until it reaches a line that is not indented.
  3 backticks on a single line ``` marks the beginning and end of a code block.

- This is sometimes called a "code fence" or 'code block'.

## Example - Inline Code

Lets try to format only the math in this sentence as inline code in the following statement.

When x = 3, that means x + 2 = 5.

To do so we do something like this:

```
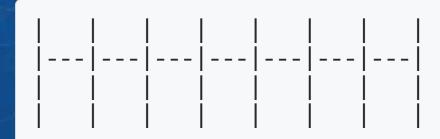When 'x = 3', that means 'x + 2 = 5'
```

Resulting in somethinflike this:

When 'x = 3', that means 'x + 2 = 5'

Tables

A table is an arrangement of data in rows and columns. To add a table in Markdown, use the vertical line | to separate each column, and use three or more dahses --- to create each column's header. A vertical line should also be added at either end of the row. The output will look exactly the same.

```
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
```

Results in

Which is an empty table. It wraps around the content inside.

```
|S.No.|A|B|C|D|E|
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|1|A1|B1|C1|D1|E1|
|2|A2|B2|C2|D2|E2|
|3|A3|B3|C3|D3|E3|
```

Results in a table like this

S.No.	A	B	C	D	E
1	A1	B1	C1	D1	E1
2	A2	B2	C2	D2	E2
3	A3	B3	C3	D3	E3

Alignment

You can align text in the columns to the left, right, or center by adding a colon (:) to the left, right, or on both side of the hyphens within the header row.

```
| Syntax      | Description | Test Text         |
| :---        |     :----:  |              ---: | <-- Here
| Header      | Title       | Here's this       |
| Paragraph   | Text        | And more          |
```

Syntax	Description	Test Text
Header	Title	Here's this
Paragraph	Text	And more

You can't use headings, blockquotes, lists, horizontal rules, images, or most HTML tags.

Example – Tables

DIVISION	DT Code	Functional ID	DT location	KVA Rating
CHANDNI CHOWK	DL-1LDTRKT99009297	1S-DL-YP-CTC-DCCK-0104-LHR037	CHURCH MISSION ROAD	990
CHANDNI CHOWK	DL-1LDTRNF99006236	1S-DL-YP-CTC-DCCK-0104-LHR033	KATRA BARYAN:ID	990
CHANDNI CHOWK	DL-1LDTRKT99055443	1S-DL-YP-CTC-DCCK-0103-THL014	KUMAR CINEMA:PKG	990