Introduction to Marp

Markdown Presentation Ecosystem

What is Marp?

Marp = Markdown + Presentation

- Write in simple Markdown syntax
- Get professional-looking slides automatically
- This presentation slide is made with Marp.

Building a House vs. Building with LEGO

Traditional Presentation Tools (PowerPoint, Google Slides)

- Like building a house from scratch
- Every room needs individual design
- Time-consuming decoration and formatting

Marp

- Like building with LEGO blocks
- Pre-designed components that fit together
- Focus on content, not formatting

Why Use Marp?

Version Control Friendly

```
git add presentation.md
git commit -m "Updated project presentation"
```

Developer-Friendly Workflow

- Same tools as coding (VS Code, Git, etc.)
- No binary files to worry about

Consistent Styling

- One theme, all slides look professional
- No manual formatting inconsistencies

Fast Content Creation

- Focus on what you want to say, not how it looks
- No clicking through menus

Easy Collaboration

- Text-based = easy to merge changes
- Review presentations like code reviews

Platform Independent

- Works on any system with a text editor
- Export to PDF, HTML, PowerPoint

Based on Markdown

- No learning necessary
- Easy conversion from existing Markdown documents

Basic Marp Syntax Examples

YAML is used for the header (frontmatter).

 With this YAML header, the Markdown file becomes the Marp slides.

```
marp: true
theme: default
---
```

The content is written in Markdown.

```
# Title Slide
## Subtitle
---

# Second Slide
Content goes here
```

- Key Points:
 - --- separates slides
 - # creates slide titles
 - First slide is special (title slide)
 - We can use HTML comment as Marp comment <!--

Marp Features - Code Blocks

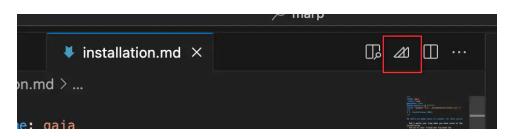
- Perfect for software engineering presentations!
 - Syntax highlighting automatically applied
 - Code is readable and professional
 - Easy to copy-paste working examples

```
def hello_world():
    print("Hello, World!")
    return "Welcome to programming!"

# Call the function
message = hello_world()
```

How to compile this page in Marp for VSCode Extension

- Click the Marp button.
- Choose Export Slide Deck.
- Choose any option: PDF, PPT, HTML.



Marp vs Traditional Tools

Feature	PowerPoint	Google Slides	Marp
Version Control	X	X	✓
Code Syntax	<u> </u>	•	✓
Collaboration	<u> </u>	✓	✓
Speed	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	✓
Platform Free	X	<u> </u>	✓
Developer Workflow	X	X	✓

Perfect for Software Engineering

Technical Presentations

- Code examples with syntax highlighting
- Architecture diagrams (with Mermaid)
- API documentation

Project Presentations

- Easy to update with project progress
- Version controlled with your code
- Team can contribute via pull requests

Documentation

- Living documentation that stays updated
- Export to multiple formats

Installation

Option 1: VS Code Extension

- 1. Install "Marp for VS Code" extension
- 2. Create .md file with marp: true header
- 3. Preview and export icons are created.

Option 2: Marp CLI

```
npm install -g @marp-team/marp-cli
marp presentation.md --pdf
```

Best Practices for Marp

Keep It Simple

- One main idea per slide
- Use bullet points for clarity
- Don't overcrowd slides

Use Consistent Structure

```
# Main Topic
## Key Point
- Supporting detail
- Example or evidence
```

Version Your Presentations

- Save in Git repository
- Tag important versions
- Document major changes

Creating Custom Marp templates

- Create a Marp directory in the VSC project.
- Make the css file in it.

```
@import 'gaia';
section {
  background: ...
  color: #1a202c;
  line-height: 1.6;
}
```

Visual Studio configuration

Create a .vscode\settings.json in the VSC project.

Point to the location where the Marp themes are located.

```
"markdown.marp.themes": [
   "Marp/presentation_style.css",
   "Marp/smalltalk_style.css",
   "Marp/practice_style.css",
   "Marp/project_style.css",
   "Marp/base_style.css",
],
"markdown.marp.pdf.outlines": "both",
"markdown.marp.html": "all",
"markdown.marp.exportType": "html",
```

Compilation using CLI

marp is the CLI tool.

- --theme specifies the css theme
- -o specifies the output.

marp slide-deck.md --theme ./themes/custom-theme.css -o output.html

Output Format	Command Example	
HTML	<pre>marp slide.mdtheme custom.css -o slides.html</pre>	
PDF	<pre>marp slide.mdtheme custom.csspdf</pre>	
Multiple CSS	<pre>marp slide.mdtheme-set style1.css style2.css -o slides.html</pre>	

Resources

- Official Documentation
 - Marp Official Site
 - Marp GitHub