

Guide: Progressive Outline

1 Function documentation

This section details all the parameters available for the progressive-outline function.

| Option | Type | Effect & Expected Values |
|------------------|------------|---|
| level-X-mode | string | Defines the visibility of level X (1, 2, or 3). Values: "all", "current", "current-parent", "none". |
| text-styles | dict | Dictionary of Typst text(...) styles for each level. Structure: (level-X: (active: (...), completed: (...), inactive: (...))). |
| spacing | dict | Controls vertical space (v-between-X-Y) and horizontal indentation (indent-X) between elements. |
| show-numbering | bool | Enables or disables the display of heading numbering. |
| numbering-format | str func | Typst numbering format (e.g., "1.1") or custom function (.n) => ... |
| match-page-only | bool | If true, considers a heading active if it is on the same page, regardless of its Y position. Useful for sidebars. |

2 Visibility

This section covers the level-X-mode parameters.

2.1 The ‘current-parent’ mode

The current-parent mode is the most powerful: it only displays the “siblings” of the current element. This allows you to see the plan of the current section without being distracted by other chapters.

```
progressive-outline(  
  level-1-mode: 'all',  
  level-2-mode: 'current-parent'  
)
```

Visibility Demonstration H2

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2.2 Isolation via ‘current’ mode

If you want an ultra-minimalist rendering, the current mode hides everything except the exact entry where you are located.

```
progressive-outline(  
  level-1-mode: 'current',  
  level-2-mode: 'none'  
)
```

Isolated Visibility Demonstration

Visibility

2.3 Deep nesting (Level 3)

For complex structures, you can enable Level 3. Using current-parent will show siblings at the current depth.

2.3.1 Deep Component A

2.3.2 Deep navigation test

```
progressive-outline(  
  level-2-mode: 'all',  
  level-3-mode: 'current-parent'  
)
```

Level 3 Siblings

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3 Style Customization

The function allows you to modify the appearance of headings based on their state (**completed**, **active**, or **inactive**).

3.1 The 3-state system

By default, headings can be in one of three states:

- **completed**: The heading has already been passed.
- **active**: This is the current heading.
- **inactive**: The heading is yet to come.

```
text-styles: (  
  level-1: (  
    active: (fill: eastern, weight:  
'bold'),  
    completed: (fill: gray.lighten(50%)),  
    inactive: (fill: black)  
  )  
)
```

Past, Present, Future

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3.2 The anti-jitter mechanism

Anti-jitter ensures that switching from a thin font to a bold one doesn't move the text. We use a ghost box to reserve the maximum space required.

```
text-styles: (  
  level-1: (  
    active: (weight: 'black', fill:  
eastern, size: 1.2em),  
    inactive: (weight: 'light', fill:  
gray, size: 1.2em)  
  )  
)
```

Stability Test H1

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3.3 Colors and decorations

Each level can have its own rules for colors, italics, or bold.

```
text-styles: (  
  level-2: (  
    active: (style: 'italic', fill: blue,  
weight: 'bold'),  
    inactive: (fill: luma(200))  
  )  
)
```

Creative Style H2

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4 Fine-grained spacing management

The spacing dictionary sculpts the rhythm.

4.1 Inter-level spacing

You can define the exact space between an H1 heading and an H2 heading, or between two headings of the same level.

```
spacing: (  
  v-between-1-1: 2em,  
  v-between-1-2: 1.2em,  
  v-between-2-2: 0.8em,  
  v-between-2-1: 1.5em  
)
```

Airy Vertical Rhythm

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4.2 Horizontal indentation

Indentation defines the offset to the right for each depth level.

```
spacing: (  
  indent-2: 3em,  
  indent-3: 6em  
)
```

Marked Indentation

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5 Numbering system

The function relies on Typst's native engine.

5.1 Complex hierarchical formats

The numbering-format parameter accepts all standard Typst models (1, a, i, I, A).

```
show-numbering: true,  
numbering-format: 'I.a.1. '
```

Legal Format

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5.2 Advanced textual prefixes

To use long words like "Chapter" without errors, pass a function. This prevents Typst from interpreting letters like 'a' or 'i' as numbering models.

```
show-numbering: true,  
numbering-format: (..n) => 'Chapter ' +  
  numbering('1', ..n) + ' : '
```

Secure 'Chapter' Prefix

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6 Advanced Behavior

6.1 Page-based matching

In contexts like sidebars, the outline is rendered in the page margin or background before the slide content. This can cause the active heading detection to fail because the content is technically "after" the sidebar in the document flow.

Setting `match-page-only: true` solves this by considering any heading on the current page as "active", ignoring precise vertical positioning.

match-page-only: true

Sidebar Logic

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7 Additional information

It is optimized to work within presentation themes (like progressive-outline), but can be used in any standard Typst document.