# Markdown Guide

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### Introduction

Welcome to a markdown guide. The aim to provide the general quirks of markdown; intended to be revisited as often as needed.

I tend to forget some specific markdown syntax; by which this guide provides a nice reference for. Also, writing this markdown guide in markdown is just wonderful.

### What is markdown?

Markdown is a markup language with plain text formatting syntax (basically better text). It converts plain text to HTML.

### Why use markdown?

- Markdown is incredibly lightweight compared to rich text formats; such as .rtf or .docx.
- It is arguably the simplest markup language there is.
- Can be converted to a plethora of formats seamlessly; such as .html, .pdf, .docx, etc. (which implies that .md files are essentially future-proof).

### Where is markdown used?

- Repositories such as GitHub (README.md files) for software documentation.
- Forums and blog posts within applications or websites.
- Static websites.
- Documents and notes.
- Email formatting.
- This markdown guide.

### Headings and Sub-headings

Prepending a # before some text promotes it to a heading. Prepending additional #'s demotes it to a sub-heading, sub-sub-heading and so on.

Adding one (or multiple) = below the text also promotes it to a heading. Use - for a sub-heading.

#### Raw

```
# Heading
### Sub-heading
#### Sub-sub-heading
##### Sub-sub-sub-heading
##### Sub-sub-sub-heading
Also Heading
===
Also sub-heading
```

#### **Formatted**

# Heading

### Sub-heading

**Sub-sub-heading** 

Sub-sub-heading

Sub-sub-sub-heading

# Also Heading

### Also sub-heading

# Generic Formatting

#### Raw

Paragraphs are separated by a blank line.

Two spaces at the end of a line produce a line break.

Text attributes: \_italic\_, \*also italic\*, \*\*bold\*\*, \_\_also bold\_\_, `mono-space`, ~~strike-

#### **Formatted**

Paragraphs are separated by a blank line.

Two spaces at the end of a line produce a line break.

Text attributes: *italic*, *also italic*, **bold**, **also bold**, mono-space, strike-through.

### Lists

A blank line between list elements (sometimes) produces a larger space between the elements.

#### Raw

Unordered list:

- \* Fruits
  - Apples
  - Oranges
    - + Orange
    - Green
- + Meat

Subsequent indented paragraphs belong to the list element.

```
* Dairy

if (height<10cm){shortPerson.drinkMilk()}

- Vegetables

Ordered list:

1. Uno
2) Dos
3) Tres

4. Cuatro

Formatted

Unordered list:

• Fruits
```

- Apples
- Oranges
  - \* Orange
  - \* Green
- Meat

Subsequent indented paragraphs belong to the list element.

• Dairy

```
if(height<10cm){shortPerson.drinkMilk()}</pre>
```

• Vegetables

#### Ordered list:

- 1. Uno
- 2) Dos
- 3) Tres
- 4. Cuatro

# Links

#### Raw

A [Wikipedia] (https://www.wikipedia.org "Wikipedia Home") and [Google] [identifier] hyper-land A <a href="https://directlink.tv">https://directlink.tv</a> and <a href="https://www.google.com">directlink@email.org</a>.

[identifier]: https://www.google.com "Google Home"

#### **Formatted**

A Wikipedia and Google hyper-link.

A https://directlink.tv and directlink@email.org.

### Horizontal Rule

Horizontal rules are not used that often.

# Raw

Horizontal rule:
Also horizontal rule:
Also also horizontal rule:
***
Formatted
Horizontal rule:
Also horizontal rule:
Also also horizontal rule:

# **Images**

Text within the quotes after the image directory is the text displayed when the image directory is not found.

#### Raw

![Markdown Icon](../images/markdown-icon.png "Markdown Icon")

#### **Formatted**

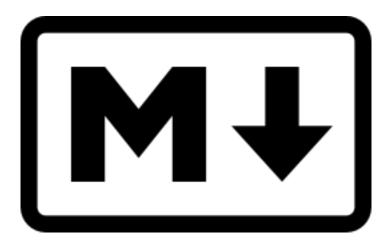


Figure 1: Markdown Icon

# **Block-quotes**

Prepend a > in every line of the block for a block-quote.

#### Raw

```
> Append two space in first line
> for a line-break in block-quote.
>
> Second paragraph in block-quote.
>
>> Deeper block-quote with additional `>`.
>>
>>> Even deeper block-quote.
```

#### **Formatted**

Append two space in first line for a line-break in blockquote.

Second paragraph in blockquote.

Deeper blockquote with additional >.

Even deeper blockquote.

### Code-blocks

Surround the block with three 's or three 's (above and below the block).

Optionally append the first line with the name of the defined language for syntax highlighting.

A code-block can also be formed with a prepended tab (four spaces) in each line.

#### Raw

```
```Python
# A code-block
import numpy as np
def func(x):
    """Returns sin squared of a number."""
    assert type(x) in (int,float)
   return np.sin(x)**2
if __name__ == '__main__':
    pass
~~~C++
// Another code-block
for(int i=0;i++;i<42){
  Serial.println(i);
}
    free(malloc(69))
    malloc(free(42))
```

#### **Formatted**

```
# A code-block
import numpy as np
def func(x):
    """Returns sin squared of a number."""
    assert type(x) in (int,float)
    return np.sin(x)**2
if __name__ == '__main__':
    pass

// Another code-block
for(int i=0;i++;i<42){
    Serial.println(i);
}
free(malloc(69))
malloc(free(42))</pre>
```

# Comments

#### Raw

```
<!--
Comment
-->
[//]: # (This is the most platform independent syntax.)

[///]: # (This will not be included in the output file.)
```

#### **Formatted**

### **Footnotes**

#### Raw

```
Text[^footnote-identifier] with a footnote[^long-footnote] and inline^[You do not have to complete the complete of the complet
```

[^long-footnote]: Footnote with multiple blocks.

Subsequent indented paragraphs belong to the footnote.

#### **Formatted**

Text<sup>1</sup> with a footnote<sup>2</sup> and inline<sup>3</sup>.

### LaTeX

Surround LaTeX code with double \$.

#### Raw

\$\$\frac{some}{69}\cdot\frac{420}{LaTeX}\$\$

#### **Formatted**

$$\frac{some}{69} \cdot \frac{420}{LaTeX}$$

### **Tables**

Generally and unfortunately, for some table styles, you cannot directly set the column width; unless you perform some wonky stuff with its behaviour.

#### Raw

|Left|Centre|Right| |:--|:-:|--:| |1,1|1,2|1,3| |2,1|2,2|2,3| |3,1|3,2|3,3| |4,1|4,2|4,3|

Subsequent indented paragraphs belong to the footnote.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Footnote information.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Footnote with multiple blocks.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>You do not have to create an identifier.

Table: Pipe Table

### Formatted

Table 1: Pipe Table

Left	Centre	Right
1,1	1,2	1,3
2,1	$^{2,2}$	2,3
3,1	3,2	3,3
4,1	4,2	4,3

# Pandoc Tables

# Raw

Left	Centre	Right
1,1	1,2	1,3
2,1	2,2	2,3
3,1	3,2	3,3
4,1	4,2	4,3

: Simple Table

1,1	1,2	1,3
2,1	2,2	2,3
3,1	3,2	3,3
4,1	4,2	4,3

: Header-less Simple Table

Left	Centre	Right
Aligned	Aligned	Aligned
This sentence spans two lines	1,2	1,3

2,1 2,2

Note the the blank line between rows.

-----

: Multi-line Table

: Grid Table

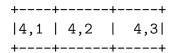
+----+

Default	Default
- 0.33,1  - 0.67,1	+======+   1,2   
- 1.33,1  - 1.67,1 +	2,2   

: Piped Grid Table

: Header-less Grid Table

+:---+:---:+---:+ |1,1 | 1,2 | 1,3| +----+----+ |2,1 | 2,2 | 2,3| +----+----+ |3,1 | 3,2 | 3,3|



### Formatted

Table 2: Simple Table

Left	Centre	Right
1,1	1,2	1,3
2,1	$^{2,2}$	2,3
3,1	3,2	3,3
4,1	4,2	4,3

Table 3: Header-less Simple Table

1,1	1,2	1,3
2,1	$^{2,2}$	$^{2,3}$
3,1	3,2	3,3
4,1	4,2	4,3

Table 4: Multi-line Table

Left Aligned	Centre Aligned	Right Aligned
This sentence spans two lines	1,2	1,3
2,1	2,2	Note the blank line between rows.

Table 5: Grid Table

Default	Default
• 0.33,1	1,2
• 0.67,1	0.0
<ul><li>1.33,1</li><li>1.67,1</li></ul>	2,2

Table 6: Piped Grid Table

Left	Centre	Right
$\overline{1,1}$	1,2	1,3
$^{2,1}$	$^{2,2}$	2,3
3,1	3,2	3,3
4,1	4,2	4,3
,	, ,	

Table 7: Header-less Grid Table

$\overline{1,1}$	1,2	1,3
$^{2,1}$	2,2	2,3
3,1	$3,\!2$	3,3
4,1	4,2	4,3

### Line-block

Prepend a | in each line of the line-block.

This allows new lines without an empty line between each line, which is useful for verses and addresses.

#### Raw

| An iconic lullaby:
| Twinkle twinkle little star,
| how I wonder what you are.
| Up above the world so high,
| like a diamond in the sky.
| Twinkle twinkle little star,
| how I wonder what you are.

#### **Formatted**

An iconic lullaby:

Twinkle twinkle little star, how I wonder what you are. Up above the world so high, like a diamond in the sky. Twinkle twinkle little star, how I wonder what you are.

### Task-list

#### Raw

- [x] Done.
- [] Not done.

#### **Formatted**

- $\boxtimes$  Done.
- $\square$  Not done.

# Superscripts and Subscripts

Surround literals between~ for a subscript. Very useful in chemical formulae.

Conversely, surround literals between ^ for a superscript.

#### Raw

H~2~0 is one of the main reasons to why life exists.

 $f(x) = Ae^-bx^-$  describes exponential decay.

### **Formatted**

 $H_2O$  is one of the main reasons to why life exists.

 $f(x) = Ae^{-bx}$  describes exponential decay.

### Line-break

### Raw

١

#### **Formatted**

#### Definition-list

#### Raw

#### Term

: This is a definition.

: This is an alternate definition.

#### Formatted

**Term** This is a definition.

This is an alternate definition.

# Compiling

I mainly use ghostwriter and pandoc.

### ghostwriter

- Can choose Markdown Flavor and Style Sheet for HTML preview.
- Can see Outline HUD and Documents Statistics HUD; and can use ctrl + shift + h to remove or show them.
- Can Insert Image by dragging in an image.
- Can Copy HTML with ctrl + shift + c.
- Can Export directly.
- Can use Distraction Free Mode with no HUD and no HTML preview.

#### Pandoc

- To HTML example snippet: pandoc src/markdown-guide.md -o build/markdown-guide.html -s --mathjax.
- To PDF example snippet: pandoc src/markdown-guide.md -o build/markdown-guide.pdf --pdf-engine=pdflatex.
- To Beamer example snippet: pandoc src/markdown-guide.md -o build/markdown-slide.pdf -t beamer -V theme:Luebeck. Note: Beamer does not like footnotes that take more than the available space (hence make sure that this is satisfied before converting to beamer); also it is best remove any geometry tags and decrease the font size as well.
- -s means standalone and not a fragment; e.g. an HTML file with head and body.
- -f and -t specifies input and output format respectively (markdown, latex, html), otherwise format is interpreted from file type.
- --toc for table of contents; useful with -c style.css.
- Make modifications to latex-template.tex from pandoc -D latex >> latex-template.tex, and then use --template=latex-template.tex.

• Can concatenate multiple input files.

## Adding References

- 1. Add a .bib file into a directory, and optionally a .xcsl file.
  - Here is a link in formating the .bib file.
  - Here is a link for .csl files for citation standards.
- 2. Within your markdown document, append @ with the unique citation-key declared in the .bib file, to add references.
- 3. Add the -C or --cite-proc argument when compiling, to process the citations.
- 4. Add the --bibliography=<file-name>.bib argument to specify the path to the file (replace <file-name>).
- 5. Optionally add the --csl=<file-name>.csl argument to specify a certain citation style.

#### Raw

This is a self reference. [@self]

#### **Formatted**

This is a self reference. [1]

### Explore

- Labels
- Images
- Citations
- Citation Syntax

### References

[1] P. Aim, "Markdown guide," 2022. [Online]. Available: https://github.com/puth2314/markdown-guide