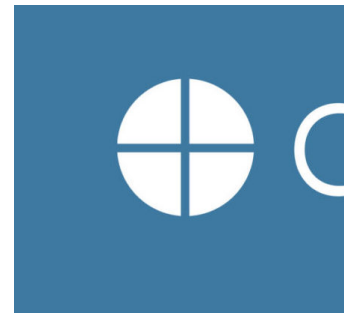# Setting up a minimal Quarto blog

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Quarto is an extension of the Rmarkdown ecosystem. It leverages the power of `knitr` and `pandoc,` It providing a number of useful additional tools for literate programming and blogging.

I'm using quarto for my lab's home page with an embedded blog. [(focusonR)](#).

This post will include some of the most useful and interesting quarto tools presented in the context of a `Palmer Penguins` data set analysis. We'll start with a minimal setup and add needed components.

The recommended method to start a blog, say `qblog`, begin by running the command `quarto create-project` in your `~/prj` development directory.

```
quarto create-project qblog --type website:blog
```

This generates a project folder `~/prj/qblog` with the following structure:

```
test/
|-- _quarto.yml
|-- about.qmd
|-- index.qmd
|-- posts/
|   |-- _metadata.yml
|   |-- post-with-code/
|   |   |-- image.jpg
|   |   `-- index.qmd
|   `-- welcome/
|       |-- index.qmd
|       `-- thumbnail.jpg
|-- profile.jpg
`-- styles.css
```

Next steps:

- cd to `~/prj/qblog/posts/`
- for the first post, create a new directory, say `sample_post`
- cd to `~/prj/qblog/posts/sample_post`
- edit the `index.qmd` file and add content. `vim index.qmd`

The framework for a quarto blog can be quite minimal. For example the following set of files is sufficient to start a useful blog:

```
minimal_blog
|-- _quarto.yml
|-- index.qmd
`-- posts
    |-- index.qmd
    `-- post1.qmd
```

with file contents:

Listing 1.1 `_quarto.yml`

```yaml
project:
  type: website
website:
  title: "Thomas Lab home page"
  navbar:
    left:
      - href: posts/index.qmd
        text: Blog
format:
  html:
    theme: cosmo
```

Listing 1.2 `index.qmd`

```
---
title: "Thomas lab"
---

**Director: Professor Ronald G. Thomas**<br>
School of Public Health<br>
UC, San Diego<br>
La Jolla, California

Focused on new and interesting data science technologies.
```

Minimal blog presents as the following:

Listing 1.3 `posts/index.qmd`

```
---
title: "Blog"
listing: default
---
```

Listing 1.4 `posts/post1.qmd`

```
---
title: "Setting up R, vimtex and Ultisnips in vim on a Mac"
description: "Detailed configuration for optimal interaction and efficiency"
categories: [vim, R, Tex, Ultisnips]
date: last-modified
---


# Introduction


Start by installing vim (neovim),
[R]( https://cran.r-project.org/bin/macosx/ )
[tex](https://www.tug.org/mactex/mactex-download.html)
[ vimtex ]( https://github.com/lervag/vimtex.git )
[ultisnips]( https://github.com/SirVer/ultisnips.git )

See post "Setting up a minimal neovim... "
for details on installing plugins with Neovim.
```

Thomas Lab home page   Blog

Thomas lab

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Chapter 2

Appendix

mcanouil/awesome-quarto: [A curated list of Quarto talks, tools, examples & articles](#)

Consider some ideas from

- Rob Hyndman - [Template of quarto website](#)
- Eric Ekholm - [Modifying the Default Quarto Blog Structure](#)
- Allison Hill - [We don't talk about Quarto](#)
- Nick Tierney - [Notes on Changing from Rmarkdown/Bookdown to Quarto](#)