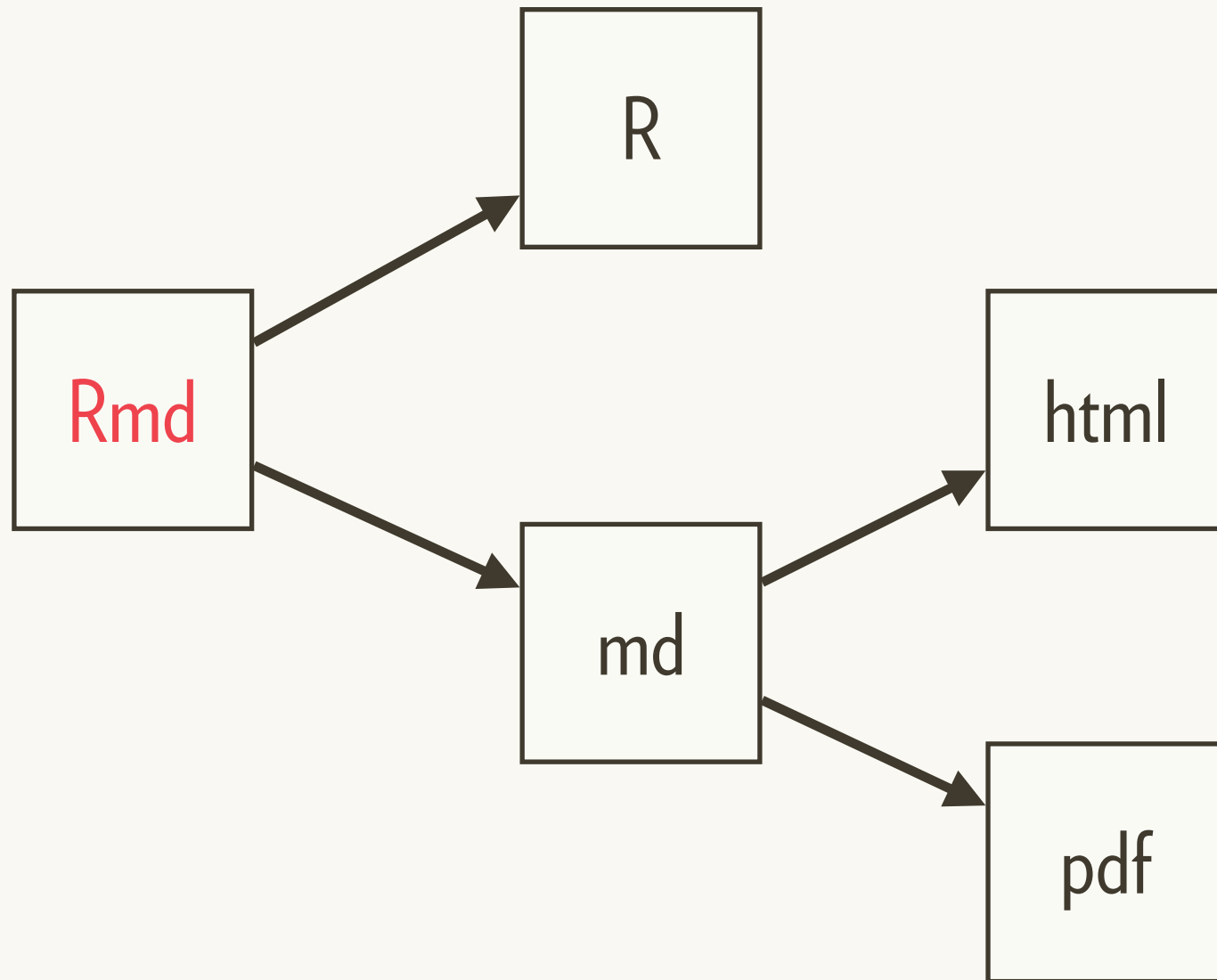


# vignettes/

*September 2016*

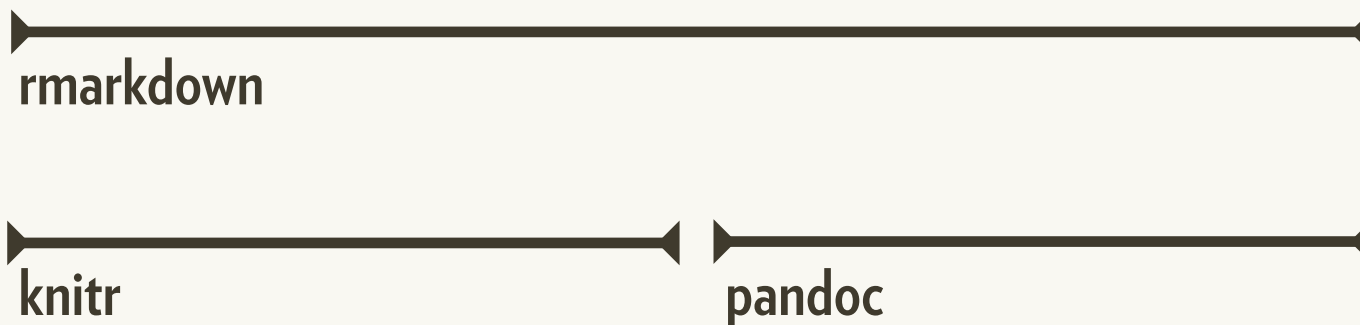
Hadley Wickham  
[@hadleywickham](#)  
Chief Scientist, RStudio

# Vignettes



Lets you combine prose  
and code to explain your  
how you package works.

The hard part is the  
writing, not the  
technology!



Easiest way to get started is with `use_vignette()`

```
devtools::use_vignette("name")
```

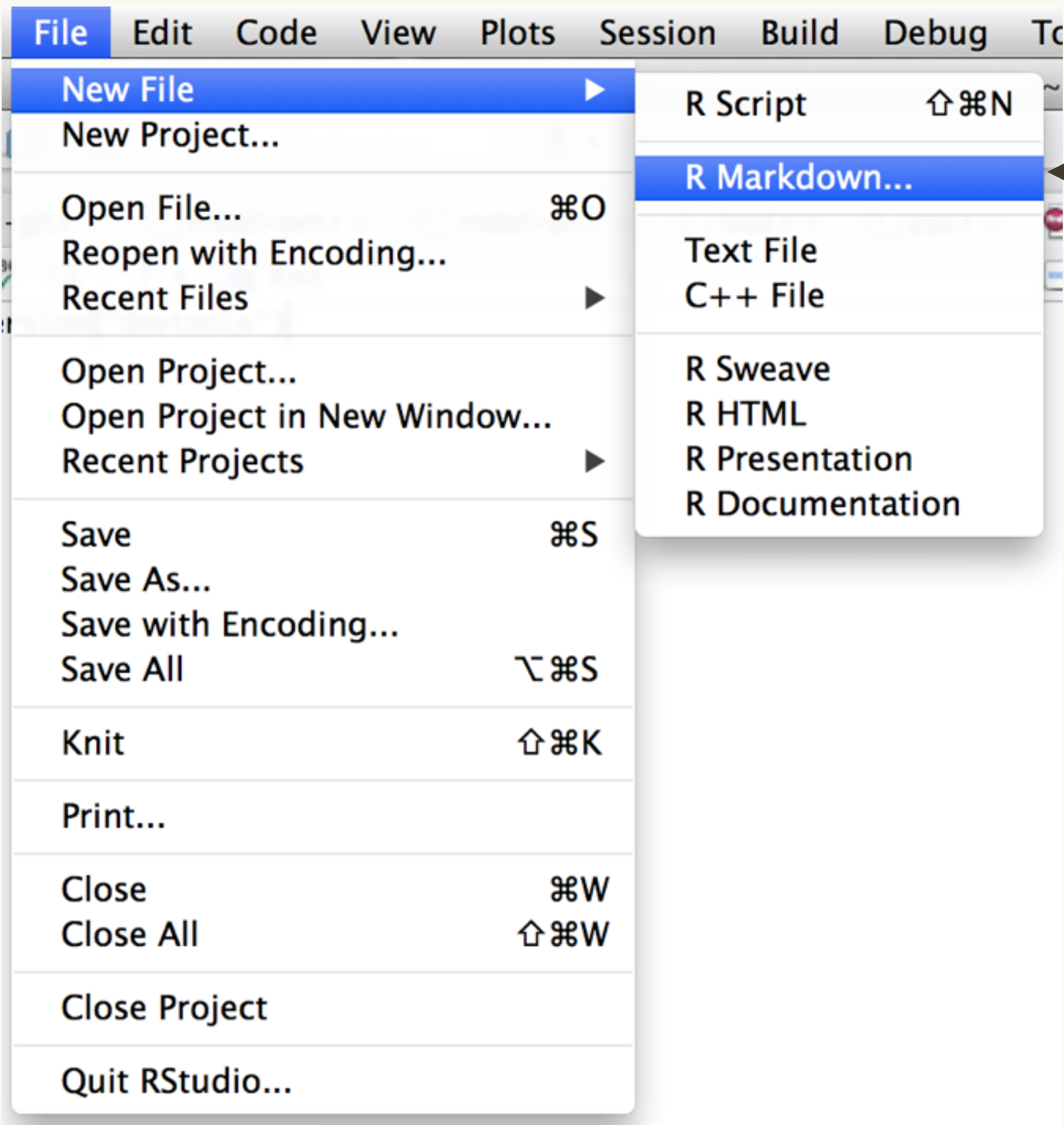
```
# Adds to DESCRIPTION
```

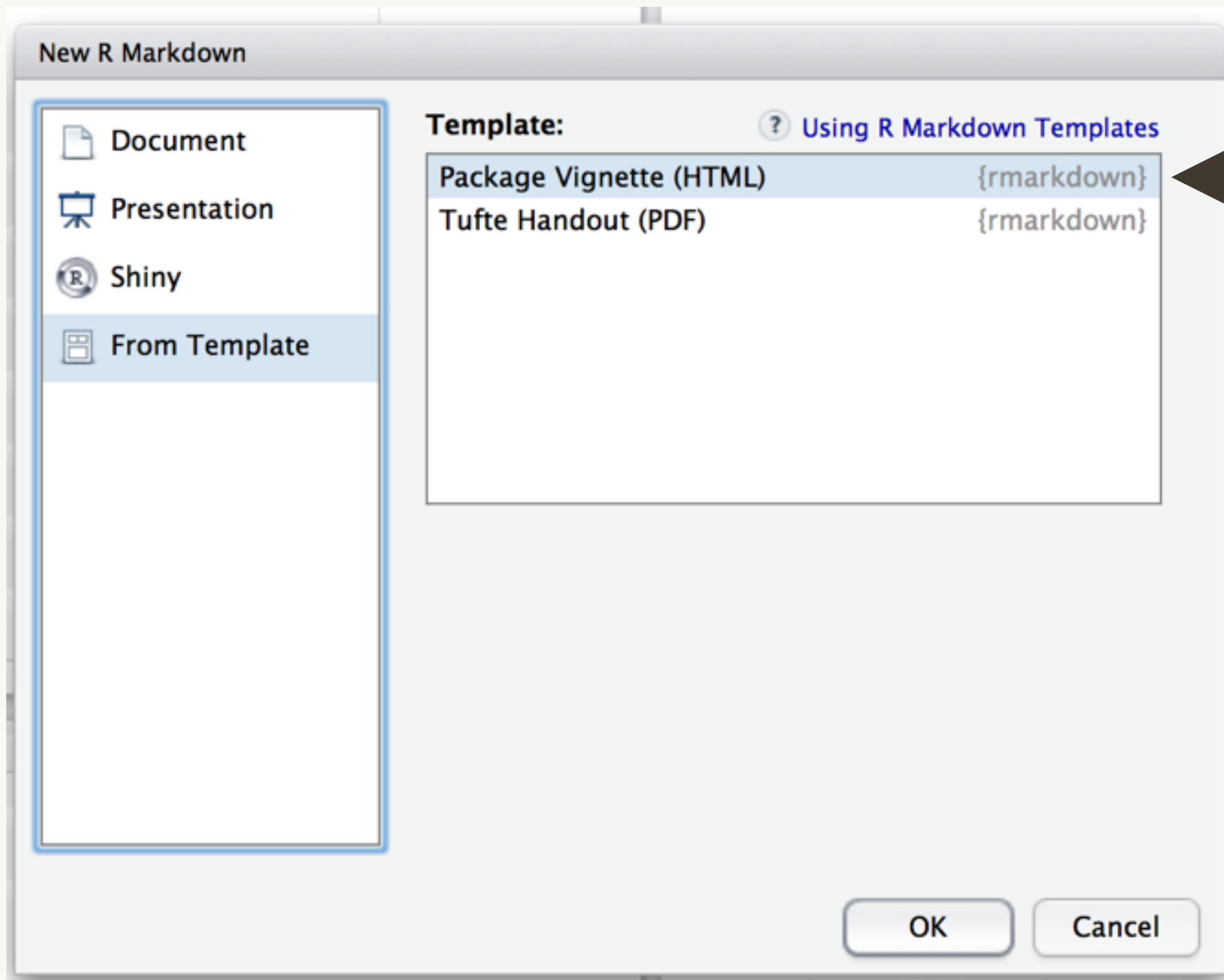
```
Suggests: knitr
```

```
VignetteBuilder: knitr
```

```
# Creates vignettes/
```

```
# Drafts vignettes/name.Rmd
```





# Vignette = Rmarkdown + special metadata

```
---  
title: "Vignette Title"  
author: "Vignette author"  
date: "`r Sys.Date()`"  
output: rmarkdown::html_vignette  
vignette: >  
  %\VignetteIndexEntry{Vignette Title}  
  %\VignetteEngine{knitr::rmarkdown}  
  \usepackage[utf8]{inputenc}  
---
```



Special output format for vignettes

Special metadata needed by R

Vignettes are long form documentation commonly included in packages. Because they are part of the distribution of the package, they need to be as compact as possible. The `'html_vignette'` output type provides a custom style sheet (and tweaks some options) to ensure that the resulting html is as small as possible. The `'html_vignette'` format:

...

Markdown

“Markdown is a text-to-HTML conversion tool for web writers. Markdown allows you to write using an easy-to-read, easy-to-write plain text format, then convert it to structurally valid XHTML (or HTML).”

“The overriding design goal for Markdown’s formatting syntax is to make it as readable as possible. The idea is that a Markdown-formatted document should be publishable as-is, as plain text, without looking like it’s been marked up with tags or formatting instructions.”

—*John Gruber*



# This is a top level heading

This is some text. Make text *italic* with single underscores (or stars). Make it **bold** with double stars (or underscores). Here is a [link to a markdown guide](http://bit.ly/19fAexE).

- \* This is a list

- \* This is another item

```
```R
```

```
# Some R code
```

```
f <- function() x + 1
```

```
```
```

## This is a secondary heading

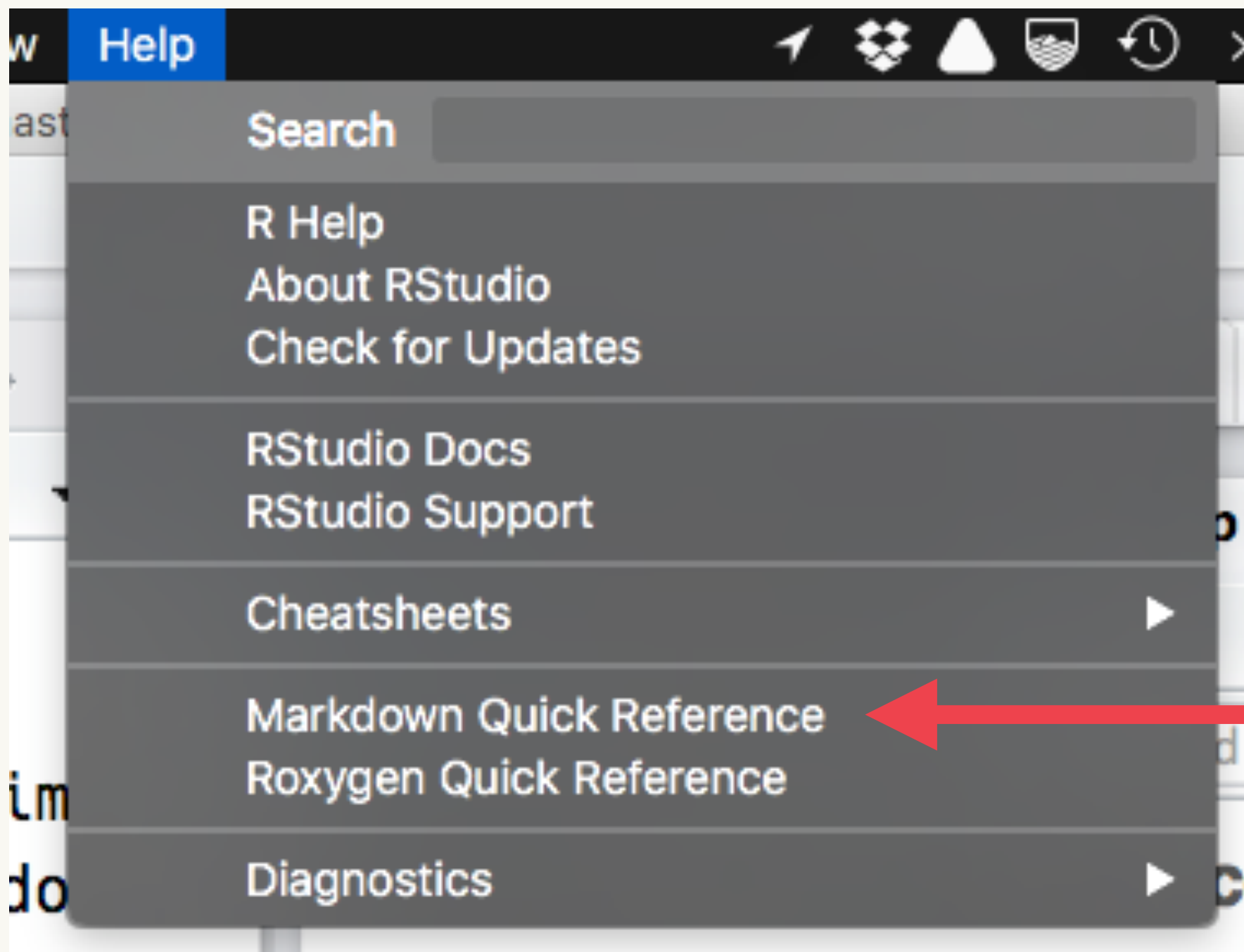
You can also do ``inline code``, numbered lists and quotes and more.

# Your turn

Read <http://r-pkgs.had.co.nz/vignettes.html>

How do you create a numbered list?

How do you add a horizontal rule?



Knitr

The main difference with R markdown compared to markdown is that instead of putting R code in blocks like:

```
```r
# Some R code
f <- function() x + 1
```
```

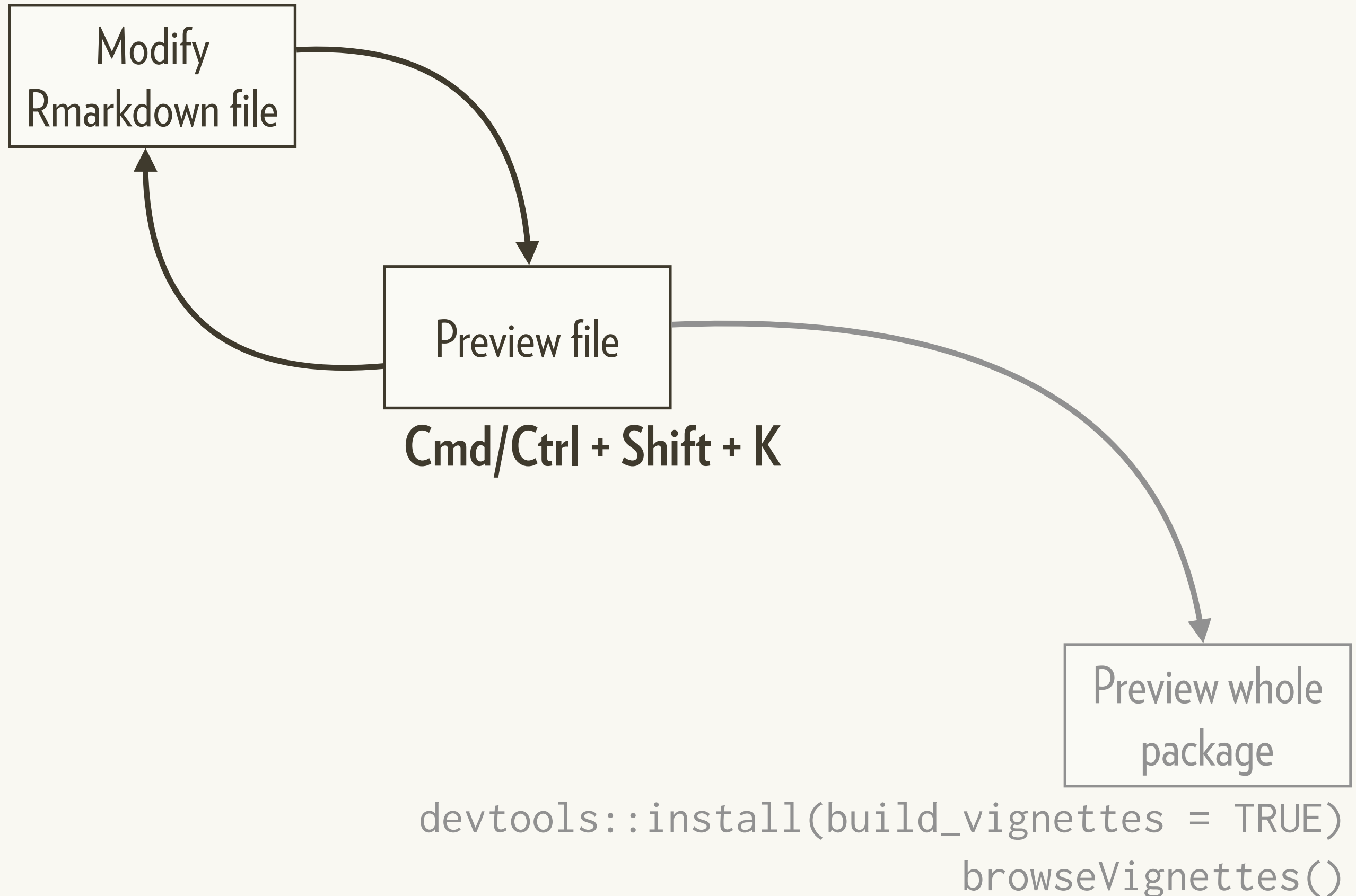
you put it in blocks like

```
```{r}
# Some R code
f <- function() x + 1
```
```

and the code is run and the output included in a generated .md file.

More documentation at <http://yihui.name/knitr/>

# Documentation workflow



Change working directory/project to:

[document-me]

# Your turn

Open `vignettes/clt.Rmd`. Knit it. Why does it fail? Fix the error.



```
```{r, include = FALSE}  
# include = FALSE suppresses the output of this block  
library(rv2)  
```
```

Other useful options:

- \* `message = FALSE`: suppresses messages
- \* `error = TRUE`: if you want to show an error
- \* `eval = FALSE`: show the code, don't run it

See more at <http://r-pkgs.had.co.nz/vignettes.html#knitr>  
Complete list at <http://yihui.name/knitr/options>



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