

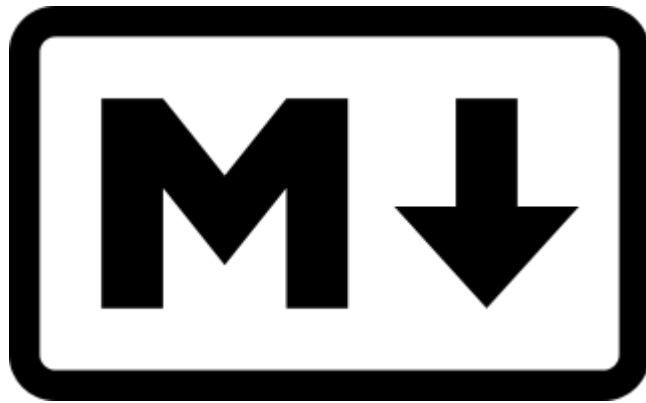
datto

The Markdown mark-up language

Fred Mora - System Engineering, Datto

What is Markdown?

- Markdown is a language to add enrichments to plain text
- It has been designed to be very lightweight and readable
- The goal is simplicity and ease of use
- It provides only the basics, not fine style control.



Markdown logo. Credit: John Gruber

Yet another markup language? Seriously?

- Common objections:
 - Isn't this what HTML is all about?
 - I have LaTeX and DocBook, why should I use Markdown?
 - I have this Microsoft Word thing that... Uh... Why are you putting on these brass knuckles?



Markdown was not designed for programming

- The author, John Gruber, is first a writer, and second a techie.
- He wanted a tool that non-programmers could pick up quickly.
- And he wanted to eschew binary formats.
- This lets implementation use text files and be extremely simple.
- We can learn all about markdown in 10 minutes!

Markdown express tutorial

- Titles

You type...

```
# Article title or  
Article title  
=====
```

```
## Article subtitle or  
Subtitle  
-----
```

```
### Third-level header
```

... and so on - Down to 6th level if needed.

You get...

Article title

Article title

Third-level header

Markdown express tutorial (cont'd)

- Bold, italics, code

You type...

`*Boldface*` or `_Boldface_`

`**Italics` or `__Italics__`

Type ``ls *.md`` to list all Markdown files

You get...

Boldface

Italics

Type `ls *.md` to list all Markdown files

Markdown express tutorial (cont'd)

- Paragraphs and block quotes

You type...

Paragraphs are simply blocks
of lines separated by blank lines.


Like this.

```
> Redmond. You will never find  
> a more wretched hive of scum  
> and villainy. We must be  
> cautious. *(Freddy-Wan  
> Kenobi)**
```

You get...

Paragraphs are simply blocks of lines separated
by blank lines.

Like this.



Redmond. You will never find a more wretched
hive of scum and villainy. We must be cautious.
(Freddy-Wan Kenobi)

Markdown express tutorial (cont'd)

- Lists

You type...

My favorite software:

1. Clippy

1. Bob

1. Windows ME

42. Internet Explorer 6

1. And all the error displays:

BSOD

Red Ring of Death

You get...

My favorite software:

1. Clippy

2. Bob

3. Windows ME

4. Internet Explorer 6

5. And all the error displays:

· BSOD

· Red Ring of Death

Note that numbers can be anything in numbering lists, and that you can nest lists.

Markdown express tutorial (cont'd)

- Tables, links

You type...

US market shares by smartphone OS,
Jan. 2016

```
OS | Share
-- | -----
Google Android | 52.8%
Apple iOS | 43.6%
MS Windows | 2.7%
Source: [Statista]
(https://www.statista.com/statistics/266572/market-share-held-by-smartphone-platforms-in-the-united-states/)
```

You get...

US market shares by smartphone OS, Jan. 2016

OS	Share
Google Android	52.8%
Apple iOS	43.6%
MS Windows	2.7%

Source: [Statista](#)

Markdown tools

- Some companies (e.g., Github) have created their own additions to MD, so look at the cheat sheet
- There are several online editors to get started:
 - Commercial: SlackEdit <https://stackedit.io/editor>
 - OSS: Dillinger: <http://dillinger.io/>
 - Many others

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- Locally: pandoc
 - Converts markdown to PDF, HTML, and many other formats
 - Has many options

```
pandoc -o ex.pdf ex.md
```



Questions?