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Markdown field guide pdf

David Sparks, also known online as MacSparky, has added a new edition to his series of field guides, this one focusing on Markdown (which is an excellent writing syntax for the Internet, for those of you who are not yet familiar with it). It aims to get a complete beginner up to speed on Markdown and then venture into some pretty advanced territory, so there should be useful information, even Markdown pros. David's guides are always excellent and full of good information, interviews and screengrabs. This particular guide has 130 pages, over 1.5 hours of screencast video, and an hour of audio interviews with surprising geeky writers like Merlin Mann, Brett Terpstra, Federico Viticci, and Gabe Weatherhead. At \$10, this book is a must for anyone who loves Markdown or would like to get started with it. Posted by Chris Gonzalez Sign up for our weekly awesomeness newsletter for updates and highlights from the site. It's no secret that we're big fans of Markdown on Ghost. We built our editor to work with Markdown directly! Once you get the hang of Markdown, it's an incredibly powerful writing tool that will allow you to write rich content for the Internet much faster than almost any other method. To get to this point, however, there is a bit of a learning curve. We thought we'd compile an all-inclusive guide to make this curve a little shorter, and potentially teach you a few super-user tricks for Markdown that you might not have known. What is Markdown Markdown is a simple text formatting syntax for writers. This allows you to quickly write structured content for the Internet, and it is seamlessly converted into pure, structured HTML. Back in 2004, Apple scientist John Gruber came up with the idea after being frustrated by writing long, time-consuming HTML tags to properly format its content. He has developed a simple writing system that will make web documents both easier to write and easier to read raw. Here's a quick example of Markdown in action: a fast brown fox, jumped over a lazy dog (. becomes a fast brown fox, jumped over a lazy dog. With just a few extra characters, Markdown makes a rich document formatting quickly and beautifully. Why do writers love Markdown so much? Is that true? - I hear you ask - I could just click on a few formatting buttons in most editors and achieve the same! Very true! But we're just getting started. The range of formatting tools has come a very long way since the creation of Markdown in 2004, so you'd be forgiven for wondering what benefits it has, say, the Bold Button in Microsoft Word. While most novice users Find the buttons a little easier to use, advanced writers often swear by Markdown and nothing else. Why? The biggest reason is writing a thread. Using the traditional user interface writing you you you Pause writing every few minutes (and sometimes seconds) and reach the mouse in order to press, highlight, press the formatting button, and then press back to where you left off to continue. This process creates a tedious, disjointed experience when all you want to do is get the words out of your head and on the screen. Markdown lets you keep your fingers firmly planted on the keyboard as you apply formatting on the fly. In short: You never have to stop typing or think about anything else to apply your styles. This may seem like a small detail, but it can have a really big effect. Once you start writing at Markdown, it's really hard to get back to the click-through festival of the past. Major Marking Formatting Ok! You're sold. So how does it work? Let's dive in: Markdown was designed with the explicit intention of being easily readable by people. You have to find that most of the syntax is quite simple and intuitive. Here are the items you'll use more often: **Headline 1** **Headline 2** **Headline 3** **Headlines in Markdown** are any line that advance with the symbol. The number of hashes indicates the level of the title. One hash is converted into h1, two hashes into h2 and so on. There are a total of 6 levels that you can use - but for most writing, you rarely ever need more than 3. The text *italic* () If you want to emphasize the word a little, wrap it in asterisks. For something that needs more emphasis: double asterisks. If you really want to drive the point home, use a triple asterisk. If you prefer, you can also use highlights - they are completely interchangeable. To add a link: wrap the text you want to be linked in brackets, and then the URL to be linked to in brackets. The easiest way to remember this one is to think of it as turning a word into a button. (button) and (place to start at the touch of a button) combine to form a link. Image! I don't know what to do. (Markdown images have exactly the same formatting as a link, except that they are prefixed with!. This time, the text is bracketed by alt text - or descriptive text for the image. In most Markdown editors, you don't need to write this code. They will provide a tool that allows you to upload an image and automatically insert that code. It will then appear in your document. Lists: Milk and Bread, whole grain butter 1. Clean the kitchen 2. Preparing ingredients 3. Cook delicious things formatting nightmare lists in HTML, but Markdown lists are incredibly easy to manage. For a list of bullets, just prefix everyone like with - or - or - and they will be converted into dots. You You can create nested lists. just an indent line with 4 spaces and it will be nested under the line above. Milk bread butter for ingested lists, doing the same - but use the rooms! The quotes are to be or not to be, that's the question. If you want to add a quote to Markdown, it's just like the formatting that you may already be familiar with from your email app of choice when you answer someone. To be or not to be, that's the question. Prefixing a line with a zgt; converts it into a block-quote. How can I remember all of Markdown's syntax?! This seems a bit daunting at first, but you may be surprised how naturally it comes to you after a few posts written in Markdown. Most good Markdown editors come with a built-in crib to make it a little easier to learn. Here's one that you can pull out of the Ghost editor anytime if you get stuck. So you have the Basics Of Markdown nailed down and you want to move on to bigger and better things? It's cool. There's a lot more we can do. Horizontal Rules --- Want to throw down a quick divider in your article to indicate a visual separation between different sections of text? No problem. 3 Dash Products: Sleek Element. Code Fragments Some text with a snippet of code (code' snippet .my-link - text-decoration: if you're a technical writer, you can use sample snippets of code to teach your readers a particular syntax (as I do, with this very blog post). Using one back-tick around the word in a sentence, you can show a quick piece of code. A four-part indentation will turn the entire paragraph into a code-block. Markdown (so it's easy to read even in a raw format) and then inserted directly as the usual links when converted to HTML. Jumped over a lazy dog. You'll also notice that we've added a header attribute to the links by adding the word to quotes immediately after the URL. Wherever you use the URL, you can follow it with the title in quotes to create a title attribute. (Dog) I don't drink (Wikipedia: Dog) Escaping from literally What to do if you literally want to type literally - without it appearing in a flashing light? Avoiding markdown of characters with a back slash allows you to use any characters that may be getting accidentally converted to HTML. The coolest feature of Markdown is that it also simply supports simple old HTML. If you find yourself and not being able to do what you want in Markdown - you can just write in plain HTML and it will work just fine. In the above example, I know that the style of this blog is CSS style button, which is with the attribute of the class. So you can fall into any HTML, exchange button. JavaScript snippet or iFrame you like, and it will work on the page just as usual. Advanced Markdown Ok, you want big guns. Every example so far has been vanilla, a normal Markdown. These code fragments will work absolutely everywhere that Markdown syntax supports. Now we'll look at some syntax, which is not standard for native Markdown. They are an extension of language. All of these things work in Ghost, but they can't work in other editors. Here are some good advanced things you can do with Markdown's Ghost: Strike-throughs remote words deleted words Highlights oooh fancy oooh fancy Fast Brown Fox 1 jumped over a lazy dog. Foxes red: Dogs are usually not red Fast Brown Fox jumped over a lazy dog. Syntax Emphasizing JavaScript... Combined with Prism.js in the Ghost theme. // API notifications // RESTful API to create notifications var Promise ('bluebird'), /permissions').CanThis, errors require (... /errors), scrapes require ('.Jutils'), // Keeps permanent notifications NotificationsStore , // Holds the last idCounter notification used No. Speed up the workflow with Markdown keyboard shortcuts Writing Markdown pretty quickly right out of the box, but you can speed it up even further by familiaring with the keyboard shortcuts in your editor's choice. All of this is usually a little different, but in Ghost you can access some on-the-fly formatting very easily: Ctrl and B for Bold Ctrl I for Italian Ctrl and K for Links Click Ctrl H several times for the most common H2 and H3 there are many more included in the Markdown Help Overlay in the Editor. No matter what app you use to write, it's a job to figure out Markdown key shortcuts available to speed up the workflow. Convert HTML to Markdown If you just got into Markdown and you found yourself with a massive back-journal of old files that are written in HTML, you can convert them to Markdown to make them easier to work with in the future. Here's a handy House Christie tool that lets you do just that. The best Markdown apps, as well as using Markdown in Ghost, you can also use it to format your day-to-day documents. Many people love to write in Markdown and then export later to HTML, PDF, or a wide range of types of documents. Here are some of our favorite Markdown editors for Mac, PC, desktop and mobile devices. Mac OSX Markdown Mac Editors decorated with a large selection of Markdown apps to choose from! The very first, Moo, is what the Ghost editor was originally based on. Windows PC Markdown Windows contests seem to be pretty rare in Markdown Markdown but most seem to agree that MarkdownPad is the tool of choice. Apple iOS Markdown Apps The best Markdown apps for iOS don't come cheap! On the other hand, most of them offer very good cloud synchronization functionality, which is important if you use the same app on multiple devices. Werdsmith - Free Writer IA - \$9.99 ByWord - \$5.99 Day First - \$4.99 Google Android Markdown Apps Markdown Apps on Google Play Store couldn't be cheaper if they tried! It's just a small selection of a large number of applications that are out there. The quality seems to be clearly lower than the whole iOS store, so it may take a bit of digging to find a good Android Markdown app. Publishing The Internet with Markdown Based Blogging is kind of something we specialize in! If you are looking for a blog with a full editor Markdown. Ghost may be exactly what you need for a beautiful, simple publication. It works on any device, and on any platform. What to do next After just a couple of hours with Markdown, we're sure your fingers will fly through the keys as you pen your latest and greatest post. Practice these steps to become a professional: Start by writing the first Markdown document and feel the basics. It comes faster than you think! Don't forget keyboard shortcuts for instant time saving and much faster writing. Use HTML whenever you want advanced formatting, having this power available to you means you can actually do (almost) anything. We've been writing at Markdown for quite some time, but we're always learning new and amazing ways to use it. Any advice we missed? Missed? markdown field guide pdf. the macsparky markdown field guide

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