Markdown Documentation Tutorial

Beginner Guide to Writing Documentation with Markdown for PDF Output

1. What is Markdown?

Markdown is a lightweight text formatting language used for documentation. It allows you to write content in plain text and convert it to PDF or HTML.

2. Why Use Markdown for Documentation?

Markdown is simple, readable, and converts cleanly into professional PDF documents.

3. Basic File Structure

Each document should include a title, metadata, introduction, main sections, and references.

4. Headings

Use # for titles, ## for sections, and ### for subsections. Do not skip heading levels.

5. Paragraphs

Separate paragraphs using blank lines. Avoid forced line breaks.

6. Emphasis

Use **bold** for emphasis, *italic* for subtle highlights, and `inline code` for technical terms.

7. Lists

Use numbered lists for steps and bullet lists for items. Lists render well in PDFs.

8. Code Blocks

Use fenced code blocks with language identifiers for clarity and syntax highlighting.

9. Tables

Tables are useful for structured information and convert well into PDF layouts.

10. Images

Reference images using relative paths and ensure good resolution for PDFs.

11. Links

Use descriptive link text instead of raw URLs.

12. Writing for PDF

Keep content clean, structured, and concise for best PDF output.

13. Folder Structure

Organize documentation into folders and sections for scalability.

14. Table of Contents

Use a central file that links all documentation sections.

15. Best Practices

Be consistent, review changes, and treat documentation like code.