Writing Tools on the GitHub platform

with Matthew McCullough
Hi! I’m Matthew.

- Open source contributor
- O'Reilly Git Video co-instructor
- Co-Author of O'Reilly's Git book
- 6-year as a Git instructor
- Trainer at GitHub
Markdown
GitHub Flavored Markdown

GitHub uses what we call "GitHub Flavored Markdown" (GFM) everywhere you can use Markdown – in files, issues, and comments. It differs from standard Markdown (SM) in a few significant ways and adds some additional functionality.

If you're not already familiar with Markdown, take a look at Markdown Basics. If you'd like to know more about features that are available in issues, comments, and pull request descriptions, read Writing on GitHub.

Differences from traditional Markdown

Multiple underscores in words

It is not reasonable to italicize just part of a word, especially when you're dealing with code and names often appear with multiple underscores. Therefore, GFM ignores multiple underscores in words.

```
perform_complicated_task
do_this_and_do_that_and_another_thing
```
Mastering Markdown

Markdown is a lightweight and easy-to-use syntax for styling all forms of writing on the GitHub platform.

What you will learn:

- How the Markdown format makes styled collaborative editing easy
- How Markdown differs from traditional formatting approaches
- How to use Markdown to format text
- How to leverage GitHub's automatic Markdown rendering
We're saving so much time that we can write blog posts about it.

Here is how we do it:

**Everyone learns Markdown; all content is in Markdown**

Markdown is the minimum required skill to contribute to Asana.com. You don't have to know code. Luckily, if you can write, you can write Markdown. Everyone at Asana reads [this *Daring Fireball* article](http://daringfireball.net/2012/05/markdown_guide) to get familiar with the conventions. If you need to use an HTML snippet, such as a video embed code, Markdown parses it without a problem.

**Every page on our site is based on a Markdown file**: every landing page, every help article, every job listing, and every showcase app. Literally every word on our site is in a Markdown file where anyone on our team can edit it.

**We put the Markdown in Statamic, a file-based CMS**

[Statamic](http://statamic.com) has an intuitive folder structure that anyone can understand. Content contributors know they can jump right into the `_content` folder and start editing.
✓ Readme files
✓ Commit comments
✓ Pull Request comments
✓ Issues
✓ Gists
Asciidoc
✓ Targeted to book authoring

✓ More fully-featured than Markdown
Prose Diff
Today we are making it easier to review and collaborate on prose documents. Commits and pull requests including prose files now feature source and rendered views.

Click the "rendered" button to see the changes as they'll appear in the rendered document. Rendered prose view is handy when you're adding, removing, and editing text:

Obviously, you'll want to change `your-client-id` to match your actual client ID:

Also, notice that the URL uses the `scope` query parameter to define the scopes requested by the application. For our application, we're requesting `user:email` scope for reading private email addresses.

Our little server abuse is rather simple. In order to work in some intelligent authentication, we're...
Task Lists
GitHub Flavored Markdown is getting a little Task List flavoring.

Today, we’re shipping an enhancement to our Markdown pipeline to support task lists. Task lists are lists with items marked as either [ ] or [x] (incomplete or complete). For example:

- [ ] a task list item
- [ ] list syntax required
- [ ] normal **formatting**, @mentions, #1234 refs
- [ ] incomplete
- [x] completed

This renders as a list of checkboxes. If you can modify the Markdown text, you can check or uncheck the boxes and the text will automatically update.
GitHub Pages
GitHub Pages

Websites for you and your projects.

Hosted directly from your GitHub repository. Just edit, push, and your changes are live.

Bootstrap
Sleek, intuitive, and powerful mobile first front-end framework for faster and easier web development.

Download Bootstrap