Glow Markdown in the terminal

START HERE

glow
Browse Markdown files

`glow -s dark`
Pick a style

`glow <file.md>`
Render a file

?
Show keys in the viewer

`glow -p <file.md>`
Read in a pager

`glow <owner>/<repo>`
Show a GitHub README

`glow <url>`
Render a remote file

`<cmd> | glow -`
Render stdin

CONCEPTS

Glow has two modes: a TUI file browser (no argument) and a plain renderer (with a source).

Source file, stdin, repo, URL
↓ glamour
Styled text -s, -w
↓ -p
Terminal or pager less -r by default

Without -s, Glow guesses a dark or light style from your terminal background.

RENDERING

glow
Browse Markdown in the current directory

`glow <file.md>`
Render a file to the terminal

`glow <dir>`
Browse a specific directory

`<cmd> | glow -`
Render Markdown from stdin

RENDERING (cont.)

`glow <owner>/<repo>`
Show a GitHub or GitLab README

`glow github.com/<owner>/<repo>`
Same, with explicit host

`glow https://<host>/<file>.md`
Fetch and render a URL

glow -t
Force the TUI browser

glow --version
Print the version

glow --help
List flags and the config path

OUTPUT OPTIONS

`glow -p <file.md>`
Show output in a pager

`glow -s <style>`
Choose a style by name or JSON path

glow -s dark
Use the dark style

glow -s light
Use the light style

OUTPUT OPTIONS (cont.)

`glow -s <file>.json`
Use a custom style file

`glow -w <cols>`
Wrap lines at a width

glow -n
Keep single newlines as line breaks

glow -a
Include hidden and ignored files in TUI

glow -l
Show line numbers in the TUI viewer

glow -m
Enable mouse wheel in the TUI

KEYS (BROWSER AND VIEWER)

j / k
Move or scroll down / up

Enter
Open the selected document

/
Filter the file list

Esc
Back to the list; clear the filter

KEYS (BROWSER AND VIEWER) (cont.)

g / G
Jump to top / bottom

Tab / Shift+Tab
Next or previous section

e
Edit the selected or open file

F
Reload the local file search

f / b
Page down / up

?
Toggle the key help

q
Quit

d / u
Viewer: half page down / up

c
Viewer: copy document to clipboard

r
Viewer: reload file from disk

In the viewer, Esc returns to the file list; q quits only after you are back in the list.

CONFIG AND ENVIRONMENT

glow config
Open glow.yml in your editor

`PAGER=<cmd> glow -p <file.md>`
Use another pager for -p

`GLOW_STYLE=<style>`
Set the default style via env

`GLOW_WIDTH=<cols>`
Set the default wrap width via env

glow completion *<shell>*
Generate shell completions

glow man
Print a man page

Keys in glow.yml

Key	Effect
`style`	default style (auto)
`width`	wrap width
`pager`	always use the pager
`tui`	always open the TUI
`showLineNumbers`	line numbers in TUI
`preserveNewLines`	keep newlines

CONFIG AND ENVIRONMENT (cont.)

Flags override the config file; GLOW_ environment variables use the same key names in upper case.

RECIPES

Read a project README in a pager

```
glow -p README.md
glow -p -w 80 docs/guide.md
```

Preview Markdown from a command

```
git show HEAD:README.md | glow -
curl -s https://<host>/notes.md | glow -
```

Try a style or a custom theme

```
glow -s light README.md
glow -s ./mytheme.json README.md
```

Browse docs in a monorepo

```
cd <repo>
glow docs
```