Glow Markdown in the terminal

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

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

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

KEYS (BROWSER AND VIEWER) (cont.)

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

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
```