# Glow Markdown in the terminal

**START HERE**

**glow**
Browse Markdown files

`glow <url>`
Render a remote file

`glow <file.md>`
Render a file

`<cmd> | glow -`
Render stdin

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

`glow -s dark`
Pick a style

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

**?**
Show keys in the viewer

## 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

## RENDERING (cont.)

`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

`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

## KEYS (BROWSER AND VIEWER) (cont.)

**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

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

## CONFIG AND ENVIRONMENT (cont.)

`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
```