Pandoc Document converter

CONCEPTS

Pandoc reads any input format into an internal document tree, then writes any output format. Formats are guessed from file extensions; -f/-t override that. Without -s you get only a fragment, without header or footer.

BASIC CONVERSION

pandoc *<file>* **-o** *<out>*
Convert, formats from extensions

pandoc -f *<fmt>* **-t** *<fmt>* *<file>*
Choose input and output format

pandoc -s *<file>* **-o** *<out>***.html**
Standalone page with head and body

pandoc *<a>***.md** *<b>***.md -o** *<out>*
Concatenate several inputs

cat *<file>* **| pandoc -f** *<fmt>* **-t** *<fmt>*
Read stdin, write stdout

pandoc -o *<out>***.pdf** *<file>***.md**
Make a PDF

pandoc --pdf-engine=*<prog>* **...**
Pick the PDF engine

pandoc -f markdown -t gfm *<file>*
Normalise to GitHub Markdown

pandoc *<file>***.docx -t markdown --wrap=none**
Docx to readable Markdown

pandoc --embed-resources -s *<file>* **-o** *<out>***.html**
Single self-contained HTML file

FORMATS AND EXTENSIONS

pandoc --list-input-formats
Readable formats

pandoc --list-output-formats
Writable formats

pandoc --list-extensions=*<fmt>*
Extensions of a format and defaults

-f markdown+*<ext>*
Enable an extension

-f markdown-*<ext>*
Disable an extension

STANDALONE, TEMPLATES AND STYLING

pandoc -s ...
Add header and footer

pandoc --toc --toc-depth=*<n>*
Table of contents to depth n

pandoc -N
Number section headings

pandoc -V *<key>*=*<val>*
Set a template variable

pandoc -M *<key>*=*<val>*
Set a metadata field

pandoc --template=*<f>*
Use a custom template

pandoc -D *<fmt>*
Print the default template

MARKDOWN SYNTAX

| a | b | with |:--|--:|
Pipe table, colons align

text[^1] and [^1]: note
Footnote

x^2 and $$...$$
Inline and display math

```python
Fenced code with language

YAML metadata block

```
---
title: My report
author: [Ada, Grace]
date: 2026-10-11
toc: true
---
```

CITATIONS

pandoc -C --bibliography=*<f>***.bib**
Resolve citations with citeproc

pandoc -C --csl=*<style>***.csl**
Choose the citation style

[@key]
Parenthetical citation

FILTERS AND SLIDES

pandoc --version
Show version and data directory