yamllint YAML linter

START HERE

`yamllint <file>`
Lint one file

`yamllint .`
Lint a whole tree

`yamllint -d relaxed <file>`
Use the lenient preset

`yamllint -c <config> <file>`
Use your config

`yamllint -f parsable .`
One line per problem

`yamllint -s .`
Warnings fail too

`yamllint --list-files .`
See what gets linted

`# yamllint disable-line`
Silence one line

CONCEPTS

Without a config file yamllint uses the default preset: syntax errors and style (indent, line length 80, trailing spaces) are errors; document-start, truthy and comments are warnings.

-c / -d flag wins if given
↓ else
.yamllint[.yaml/.yml] cwd or a parent
↓ else
$YAMLLINT_CONFIG_FILE env var
↓ else
~/.config/yamllint/config then built-in default

How a config is chosen

Exit code: 1 on any error, 0 on warnings only. With -s warnings alone give 2.

RUNNING

`yamllint <file> <dir>`
Lint files and directories

`yamllint .`
Lint every YAML file below here

*Directories only pick up *.yaml, *.yml and .yamllint unless yaml-files says otherwise.*

`cat <file> | yamllint -`
Lint standard input

`yamllint -s .`
Exit non-zero on warnings too

`yamllint --no-warnings .`
Show errors only

RUNNING (cont.)

`yamllint --list-files .`
List files that would be linted

`yamllint -f parsable .`
file:line:col output for scripts

`yamllint -f github .`
GitHub Actions annotations

`yamllint -f colored .`
Colored output

`yamllint -f auto .`
Pick format from environment

CONFIG SELECTION

`yamllint -c <config> <file>`
Use a config file

`yamllint -d relaxed <file>`
Built-in lenient preset

`yamllint -d default <file>`
Built-in default preset

`yamllint -d "{extends: default, rules: {line-length: {max: 120}}}" .`
Inline config on the CLI

`YAMLLINT_CONFIG_FILE=<path> yamllint .`
Config via environment

`.yamllint`
Per-project config file name

Also .yamllint.yaml and .yamllint.yml; searched in the current dir and its parents.

CONFIG FILE KEYS

`extends: default`
Start from the default preset

CONFIG FILE KEYS (cont.)

`extends: relaxed`
Start from the lenient preset

`rules:`
Map of rule name to settings

`<rule>: enable`
Turn a rule on with defaults

`<rule>: disable`
Turn a rule off

`level: warning`
Rule problems become warnings

`level: error`
Rule problems become errors

`ignore: |`
Gitignore-style paths to skip

`<rule>: {ignore: <patterns>}`
Skip paths for one rule only

`ignore-from-file: .gitignore`
Read ignore patterns from a file

Cannot be combined with ignore.

`yaml-files: ["*.yaml", ".yamllint"]`
Which names count as YAML

INLINE DISABLES

`# yamllint disable-line`
Skip this line

Put it at the end of the line or on the line above.

`# yamllint disable-line rule:<rule>`
Skip one rule on this line

INLINE DISABLES (cont.)

`# yamllint disable`
Skip all rules from here

`# yamllint enable`
Resume checking

`# yamllint disable rule:<rule>`
Skip one rule from here

`# yamllint enable rule:<rule>`
Resume one rule

`# yamllint disable-file`
Skip the whole file

Must be the first line of the file.

Prefer a rule-specific disable: a bare disable-line hides every rule, including real mistakes.

WHITESPACE RULES

`indentation: {spaces: 2}`
Fixed indent width

`indentation: {spaces: consistent}`
Any width, used consistently

`indentation: {indent-sequences: consistent}`
Allow both list indent styles

true forces indented lists under keys, false forbids it, consistent allows either per file.

`line-length: {max: 120}`
Longer lines allowed

`line-length: {allow-non-breakable-words: true}`
Long URLs are exempt

WHITESPACE RULES (cont.)

`line-length: disable`
No line length limit

`empty-lines: {max: 1}`
Limit consecutive blank lines

SYNTAX AND STYLE RULES

`document-start: {present: false}`
Do not require ---

`document-start: disable`
Ignore the --- check

`truthy: {allowed-values: ["true", "false"]}`
Which bool words are allowed

`truthy: {allowed-values: ["true", "false", "on"]}`
Allow on (GitHub Actions)

`truthy: {check-keys: false}`
Do not flag keys like on:

`comments: {min-spaces-from-content: 1}`
Gap before inline comment

`comments-indentation: disable`
Allow odd comment indent

`colons: {max-spaces-after: -1}`
No limit after colon (aligned values)

`braces: {min-spaces-inside: 0, max-spaces-inside: 1}`
Spaces inside { }

SYNTAX AND STYLE RULES (cont.)

`brackets: {max-spaces-inside: 1}`
Spaces inside [ ]

VALUE AND KEY RULES

`key-duplicates: enable`
Same key twice in a mapping

On by default; the most useful catch for copy-pasted config.

`anchors: {forbid-unused-anchors: true}`
Flag &anchors nobody uses

`quoted-strings: {required: only-when-needed}`
Quote only when necessary

RECIPES

Typical project .yamllint

```
extends: default
rules:
  line-length:
    max: 120
    level: warning
  document-start: disable
  truthy:
    check-keys: false
```

Skip generated and vendor files

```
extends: default
ignore: |
  node_modules/
  charts/*/templates/
  .github/workflows/generated-*.yml
```

CI: fail on any problem, annotate PRs

```
yamllint -s -f github .
```