

Adding Markdown to Your MT Templates

To add Markdown to your MovableType installation, you must first place a copy of the Markdown.pl file into your "plugins" folder. This will add the "Markdown" option within the Text Formatting drop-down menu list. If you have also installed the "SmartyPants" plug-in, you will also have a second option labelled, "Markdown with SmartyPants". To add the formatting capabilities to your templates, you must place two additional tags into each template. The suggested placement is just inside the <body> tags of your template file(s).

The tags are: <MTMarkdownOptions output="html"> and </MTMarkdownOptions>. The output options are: 'html', 'html4' and 'raw', each producing different results. The default option is to output XHTML, but you can use the *html4* and *raw* options to output HTML 4 code or raw which will output the standard Markdown-formatted text.

Headings

Setext-Style:

Header 1 Header 2
 ===== -----

atx-Style (Closing #'s are optional):

Header 1 #
 ## Header 2 ##
 ### Header 3 ###
 #### Header 4
 ##### Header 5
 ##### Header 6

Phrase Emphasis

**italic* or italic*
***bold** or bold*

Horizontal Rules

Three or more dashes or asterisks.
 --- or * * * or - - - -

Manual Line Breaks

End a line with two or more spaces:
 Roses are red,
 Violets are blue.

Images

Inline (titles are optional):
 ![alt text](/path/img.jpg)
 ![alt text](/path/img.jpg "Title")

Reference-style:
 ![alt text][id]

[id]: /path/to/img.jpg "Title"
 [1]: /path/myimage.jpg "My Image"

Blockquotes

E-mail-style angle brackets are used for blockquotes and can be nested.

> An example, single level.
 >> A nested blockquote.
 > ### Headers in blockquotes
 >
 > * You can quote a list.
 > * Etc.

Code Spans

<code> spans are delimited by backticks:
 You can include literal backticks like `` `this` ``.

Automatic Links

For creating automatic links for URLs and e-mail addresses:
 <http://www.example.com"> will turn into:

http://www.example.com

Email addresses will be HEX encoded

Preformatted Code Blocks

Indent every line of a code block by at least 4 spaces or 1 tab, and use a colon at the end of the preceding paragraph:

This is a normal paragraph:

This is a preformatted code block.

Preceded by a space, the colon disappears :

This is a preformatted code block.

Lists

Ordered, without Paragraphs (note that the order of the numbers is not important as the output will be in standard item 1item 2 format):

1. Foo
2. Bar

Unordered, with Paragraphs (optionally can use dashes, plus signs or asterisks):

- * A list item.

With multiple paragraphs.

- * Bar

Nested Lists

- * Millimeters
 - * Centimeters
- * Pixels
 1. Ems
 2. Points
 - * Picas
 3. Inches
- * Kilometers

Links

Inline links:
 An [example](http://url.com/ "title")

Reference-style links (titles are optional):
 An [example][id]. Then, anywhere else in the document, define the link:

[id]: http://www.daringfireball.com/ "Title"

Backslash Escape Characters

Markdown provides backslash escapes for the following:

\ backslash	() parantheses
` backtick	# hash mark
* asterisk	+ plus sign
_ underscore	- minus sign (hyphen)
{ } curly braces	. dot
[] square brackets	! exclamation mark

For example,
 * these would be literal asterisks*

Philosophy

Markdown is intended to be as easy-to-read and easy-to-write as is feasible. Readability, however, is emphasized above all else. A Markdown-formatted document should be publishable as-is, as plain text, without looking like it's been marked up with tags or formatting instructions. While Markdown's syntax has been influenced by several existing text-to-HTML filters – including Setext, atx, Textile, reStructuredText, Grutatext, and EtText – the single biggest source of inspiration for Markdown's syntax is the format of plain text email. To this end, Markdown's syntax is comprised entirely of punctuation characters, which punctuation characters have been carefully chosen so as to look like what they mean. E.g., asterisks around a word actually look like "emphasis". Markdown lists look like, well, lists. Even blockquotes look like quoted passages of text, assuming you've ever used email.