Pandoc Basics: Convert Documents

Free command-line converter from pandoc.org

What it does

Pandoc converts a document from one format to another, such as Markdown to Word, HTML or EPUB.

Install

Download it from pandoc.org or use your package manager. Check it with pandoc --version.

The basic command

pandoc notes.md -o notes.docx reads notes.md and writes notes.docx. Pandoc guesses formats from the file endings.

Full pages

Add -s (standalone) to get a complete HTML page, not just a fragment.

PDF output

Pandoc makes PDFs through another program, such as LaTeX. Add --pdf-engine=xelatex if needed.

Useful options

--toc adds a table of contents. -V sets variables, such as -V geometry:margin=1in for page margins.

Joining files

Give several inputs, like pandoc a.md b.md -o all.docx, to merge them in order.

Tip: Run pandoc --list-output-formats to see every format you can write.

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