Markdown cheat sheet

Core syntax / editable reference

These patterns are source text to copy. The printed sheet preserves the punctuation.

Purpose	Write this	Result or condition
Heading	`# Heading`	Heading; leave a space after the marker
Subheading	`## Section`	A nested section
Emphasis	`*italic*`	Italic text
Strong emphasis	`**bold**`	Bold text
Inline code	`` `value` ``	Literal text in code style
Link	`[label](https://example.com)`	A named link
Image	`![description](image.png)`	Loads the referenced image
Quote	`> Quoted words`	A blockquote
Literal symbol	`\*not italic\*`	Asterisks remain visible
Paragraph	A blank line between paragraphs	A new paragraph

Lists

Use a space after each marker. Keep a blank line around the block.

```
- Draft
- Review

1. Write
2. Save
```

Display a fenced code example

The outer fence below has four backticks at both ends. The inner example has three.

````
````markdown
```python
print("hello")
```
````
````

CommonMark: spec.commonmark.org/0.31.2/

Markdown cheat sheet

Extensions / print and reuse

Tables, task lists and strikethrough need a renderer that supports those extensions.

Purpose	Write this	Scope
Strikethrough	`~~removed~~`	GFM extension
Task marker	`- [ ] Open` or `- [x] Done`	Checkbox support varies
Table row	`| Name | State |`	Needs a delimiter row below
Delimiter row	`| --- | --- |`	Enables table parsing in table-capable readers
Alignment	`:---` / `:---:` / `---:`	Left / center / right in supporting readers

A table to copy

```
| Name | State |
| --- | --- |
| Draft | Ready |
```

Find the failed stage

Symptom	Inspect	Action
Pipes appear as text	Is the table extension active?	Select a table-capable reader
Task markers stay visible	Are tasks supported separately?	Enable task support or keep text labels
Code example swallows later text	Does the outer fence close?	Match both outer fence lengths
Content is cut off on paper	Does the HTML already contain it?	Change print layout or shorten the example

Keep both copies

Edit the Markdown source. Use the PDF for a fixed visual reference. A PDF alone does not preserve the original Markdown punctuation or renderer settings.

Local comparisons use markdown-it-py CommonMark, Python-Markdown with tables and fenced_code, and Pandoc GFM. They do not test hosted GitHub, VS Code or Jupyter.

GFM: github.github.com/gfm/