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# Pandoc

<https://pandoc.org/>

You can use Pandoc to generate PDF's directly from other **document formats**, like Markdown, wikitext, Libre Office, slides, InDesign ICML files, or PDF.

Pandoc is described as an "universal document converter": it **converts documents** from one markup language into another.

**Extensive documentation:** [Pandoc's Manual](#) or `man pandoc`

## Pandoc common arguments

**-f** or **--from** - option standing for "from", is followed by the input format

**-t** or **--to** - option standing for "to", is followed by the output format

**-S** or **--standalone** - option standing for "standalone", produces output with an appropriate header and footer

**-s** or **--stylesheet** - option to use a CSS stylesheet

**-o** or **--output** - option for file output

## Pandoc stdin and stdout

By default, Pandoc can take **stdin** as an **input**.

Likewise, Pandoc also writes its **output** to **stdout** by default.

An example of using the **stdin**: if you use a pipeline to get your text from a pad, you can use `curl` to download this text and *pipe* it into Pandoc:

```
$ curl https://pad.xpub.nl/p/collaborations/export/txt | pandoc --from markdown  
--to html
```

This will output HTML in your terminal.

An example of using the **stdout**: if you want to turn this HTML page into a PDF, for example using [Weasyprint](#), you can *pipe* the output of Pandoc into Weasyprint:

```
$ curl https://pad.xpub.nl/p/collaborations/export/txt | pandoc --from markdown --to html | weasyprint - pad.pdf
```

Note that Weasyprint (and many other programs) use a **dash** - as a special symbol to use stdin as input.

## Changing the default template

```
$ pandoc --from markdown --to html --print-default-template=html5 > template.html
$ pandoc --from markdown --to html --template template.html input.md -o output.html
```

## PDF

A range of **PDF engines** are supported at the moment, including Paged.js, weasyprint and LaTeX. You need to select the one of choice using the `--pdf-engine` option, and have the PDF engine installed on your computer.

You can follow this page for instructions: <https://pandoc.org/MANUAL.html#creating-a-pdf>

## Examples

### STRING to MARKDOWN

```
$ echo "Hello Pandoc from html to markdown" | pandoc -f html -t markdown
```

### WIKI to HTML

- Save the content of a wiki page on to a plain-text file, example: page.wiki
- convert mediawiki to html:

```
$ pandoc page.wiki -f mediawiki -t html -o page.html
```

### WIKI to HTML to PDF to BOOKLET PDF

MediaWiki provides a way to get the content of a page in wikitext or HTML:

- <https://pzwiki.wdka.nl/mediadesign/Wordhole?action=raw> (wikitext)
- <https://pzwiki.wdka.nl/mediadesign/Wordhole?action=render> (HTML)

You can use [Weasyprint](#) to generate a PDF from an URL!

```
$ weasyprint -s stylesheet.css https://pzwiki.wdka.nl/mediadesign/Wordhole?action=render wordhole.pdf
```

Another example:

```
$ curl https://pzwiki.wdka.nl/mediadesign/Voting_by_show_of_hands?action=raw > Voting_by_show_of_hands.mediawiki
```

```
$ pandoc --from mediawiki --to html Voting_by_show_of_hands.mediawiki --output Voting_by_show_of_hands.html
```

```
$ weasyprint Voting_by_show_of_hands.html Voting_by_show_of_hands.pdf
```

And to make a booklet PDF:

```
$ pdftobook2 --paper=a4paper --short-edge --no-crop Voting_by_show_of_hands.pdf
```

### PAD to MARKDOWN to HTML to PDF to BOOKLET PDF

In one pipeline:

```
$ curl https://pad.xpub.nl/p/collaborations/export/txt | pandoc --from markdown --to html | weasyprint -s stylesheet.css - pad.pdf
```

or in multiple lines, and with in between moments of saving the content to files:

```
$ curl https://pad.xpub.nl/p/collaborations/export/txt > pad.md
```

```
$ pandoc --from markdown --to html pad.md --output pad.html
```

```
$ weasyprint -s stylesheet.css pad.html pad.pdf
```

And to make a booklet PDF:

```
$ pdftobook2 --paper=a4paper pad.pdf
```

```
$ pdftobook2 --paper=a4paper --short-edge --no-crop pad.pdf
```