

# Evolving real-world AsciiDoc® into a specification and how it will help the ecosystem

Alexander Schwartz, Principal Software Engineer @ Red Hat FOSDEM | Brussels, BE | 2024-02-01

# **Evolving real-world AsciiDoc**<sup>™</sup> into a specification



- Mission: Get the docs out to the readers!
- 2 Workflow: Author, Convert, Publish
- 3 AsciiDoc Brand and Language Documentation
- 4 AsciiDoc Language Specification

# **Evolving real-world AsciiDoc**<sup>™</sup> into a specification

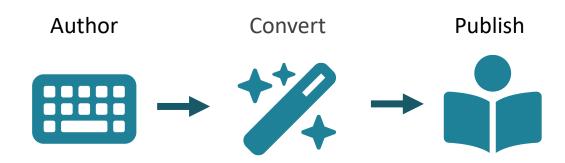


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# Get the docs out to the readers!



- Authors should focus on content and its structure
- Conversion should support multiple targets from a single source
- Published documentation educates users and provides answers to their questions



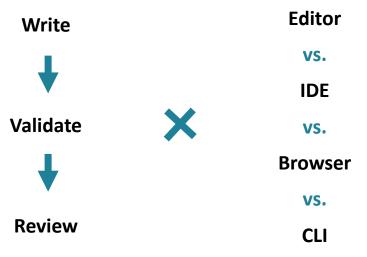
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# **Author**

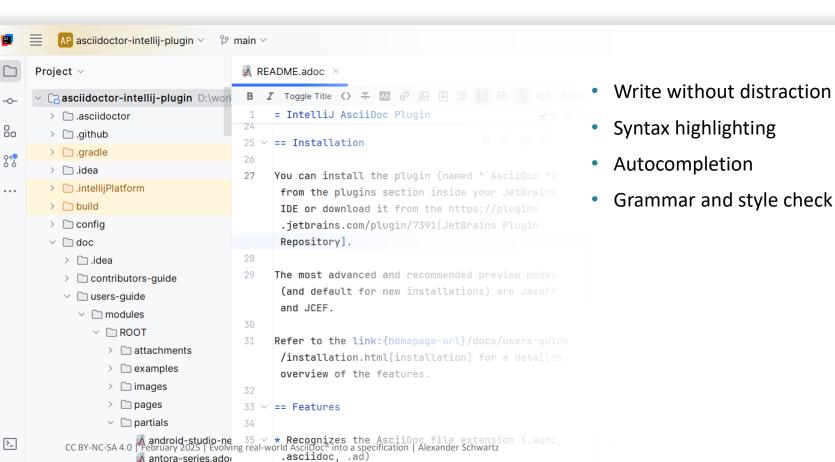






# Writing in an IDE





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# Writing in an IDE



runlde V

PDF DOCX HTML II

- Scrolling and navigate the context
- Styled Preview
- Collaborate using version control



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# IntelliJ AsciiDoc Plugin

Build passing jetbrains plugin v0.43.1 downloads 2.6M

A plugin for the IntelliJ platform (IntelliJ IDEA, RubyMine, etc.) that provides support for the <u>AsciiDoc</u> markup language. It also supports <u>Antora</u>, the documentation CMS build with AsciiDoc.

To contribute as a developer, some issues are labeled with "good first issue".

Maintainers are willing to help.

For more advanced topics, see tickets marked

### **Texts and lists**



Each sentence should be in a separate line.

Every blank line creates a new paragraph.

You can write \*bold\* text. \_Italic\_ works as well text.

### Lists

- work
- with
- dots

to make them numbered and

- \* asterisks
- \* to
- \* make

bullet points.

Each sentence should be in a separate line.

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### Lists

- 1. work
- 2. with
- 3. dots

to make them numbered and

- asterisks
- to
- make

bullet points.

# **Paragraphs and Admonitions**



### [IMPORTANT]

\_\_

You can mark a paragraph to be important.

**TIP:** There is also the shorter one-line-syntax.

### ====

This is an example block. Use it to provide examples to your users.

### ----

### ----

This is a listing.

You can provide syntax highlighting for XML/Java etc. here.

### ----

### **IMPORTANT**

You can mark a paragraph to be important.

# TIP

There is also the shorter one-line-syntax.

This is an example block. Use it to provide examples to your users.

This is a listing.

You can provide syntax highlighting for XML/Java etc. here.

# **Tables**



```
Tables are blocks, `|===` marks their
beginning and end.
.Table title
[cols="1,1,3a,1"]
|===
H1 H2 H3 H4
|Cell 1
|Cell 2
Formatting *of words* works like in
_before_ if you switch the column or
cell to AsciiDoc format.
Cell 4
|===
```

Tables are blocks, |=== marks their beginning and end.

Table 1. Table title

H1	H2	H3	H4
Cell	Cell	Formatting of words works like in <i>before</i> if you switch the column or cell to AsciiDoc format.	Cell
1	2		4

# **Embedding Source Code**



```
Standard include
[,java]
include::Example.java[]
:icons: font
.Pick a block with callout
[,java,indent=0]
include::Example.java[tag=sop]
<1> this is your first line of Java
```

```
Standard include
 public class Example {
     public static int main() {
          // tag::sop[]
          System.out.println("Hello world!"); // <1>
          // end::sop[]
Pick a block with callout
 System.out.println("Hello world!"); (1)
   this is your first line of Java
```

# **Validating the contents**



```
# .vale.ini
StylesPath = .github/styles
MinAlertLevel = suggestion

Packages = RedHat

IgnoredClasses = error-message
[*.adoc]
BasedOnStyles = RedHat
RedHat.TermsErrors = warning
```

https://github.com/errata-ai/vale-action

```
<>
           @@ -67,7 +67,7 @@
           For Infinispan deployment, check xref:openshift/installation-infinispan.adoc#ispn-variable
           page.
           For Keycloak deployment, check xref:customizing-deployment.adoc[Keycloak Customization] pa
         - Note that not all variable are respected.
70
     70 + Note that not all variables are respected.
⚠ Check warning on line 70 in doc/kubernetes/modules/ROOT/pages/openshift/cross-site-rosa.adoc
   GitHubActions / runner / vale
   [vale] reported by reviewdog 😭
   [RedHat.PassiveVoice] 'are respected' is passive voice. In general, use active voice. Consult the s
   Raw Output:
   {"message": "[RedHat.PassiveVoice] 'are respected' is passive voice. In general, use active voice.
```

### Convert



HTML

VS.

**PDF** 

VS.

**DocBook** 

VS.

•••

Maven

VS.

npm

VS.

CLI

VS.

•••

Asciidoctor (Ruby, JavaScript, Java)

VS.

libasciidoc (Go)

VS.

Asciidoc-hs (Haskell)

VS.

•••

# **Command line converters vs. embedding**



```
$ asciidoctor test.adoc
asciidoctor: WARNING: test.adoc: line 2: multiple ids
detected in style attribute
```

```
= Hello, AsciiDoc!
This is an interactive editor.
Use it to try https://asciidoc.org[AsciiDoc].
== Section Title

* A list item
* Another list item

[,ruby]
----
puts 'Hello, World!'
----
```

# Hello, AsciiDoc!

This is an interactive editor. Use it to try AsciiDoc.

### **Section Title**

- A list item
- Another list item

puts 'Hello, World!'

### **Extensions to interact on structural level**



### Write extensions that

- Extend the AsciiDoc syntax by adding new macros
- Interact with a document on an AST level
- Generate AsciiDoc content that can be rendered in any supported output format

• ...

# **Publish**



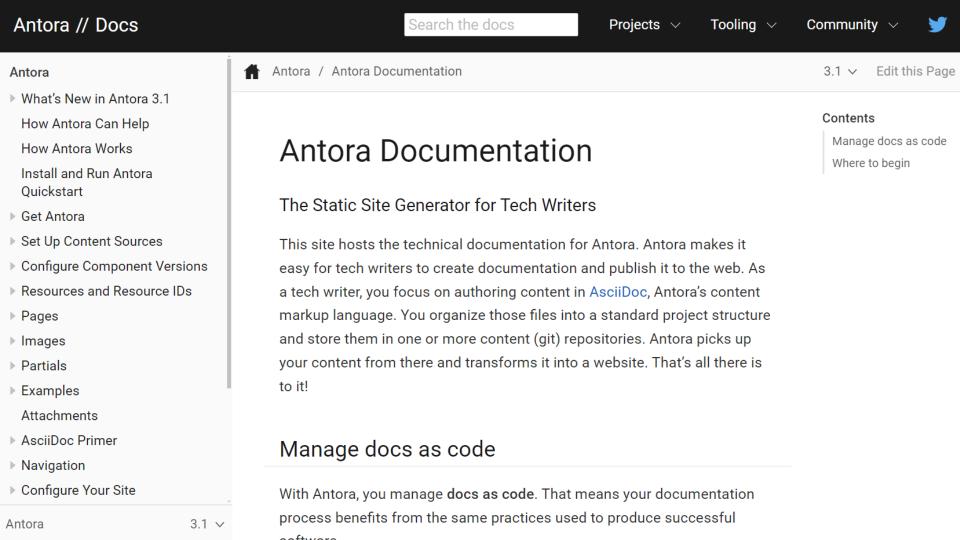












### Antora

- What's New in Antora 3.1
   How Antora Can Help
   How Antora Works
   Install and Run Antora
   Quickstart
- ▶ Get Antora
- ▶ Set Up Content Sources
- ▶ Configure Component Versions
- ▶ Resources and Resource IDs
- ▶ Pages
- ▶ Images
- Partials
- ExamplesAttachments
- ▶ AsciiDoc Primer
- Navigation
- Configure Your Site

# Ħ

Antora / Antora Documentation

# **Antora** Documentation

The Static Site Generator for Tech Writers

This site hosts the technical documentation for a easy for tech writers to create documentation and a tech writer, you focus on authoring content in a markup language. You organize those files into a and store them in one or more content (git) reposition there and transforms it into a vito it!

Manage docs as code

With Antora, you manage docs as code. That mean process benefits from the same practices used to

- Static site publishing for AsciiDoc content
- Generates a simple to host website
- Fully automated publishing
- Customizable Theme to match your design
- Navigation outline
- Site Search

3.1 \

- Custom Navigation
- Page linking
- Redirects when pages have been renamed

earch the docs Projects V Tooling V Community V

ra Documentation

# a Documentation

### Site Generator for Tech Writers

the technical documentation for Antora. Antora makes it the writers to create documentation and publish it to the web. As a you focus on authoring content in AsciiDoc, Antora's content auge. You organize those files into a standard project structure em in one or more content (git) repositories. Antora picks up from there and transforms it into a website. That's all there is

# docs as code

you manage docs as code. That means your documentation lefts from the same practices used to produce successful

### Contents

3.1 ∨

Manage docs as code
Where to begin

Edit this Page

# **Antora: Roles and responsibilities**



### **Author:**

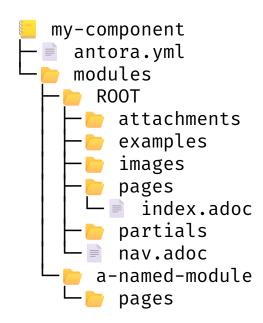
- Creates content in a well-defined folder structure
- Customizes navigation and versions

# **Docu Ops:**

Prepares automation scripts for validation and publishing

# Web Developer:

Customizes the UI theme



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### **AsciiDoc Brand**



AsciiDoc® and AsciiDoc Language™ are trademarks of the Eclipse Foundation, Inc.

For questions related to these brand guidelines please reach out to the AsciiDoc Working Group.



# Brand Guidelines

### **AsciiDoc Website**



Visit https://asciidoc.org/ to learn about AsciiDoc and links to all resources.

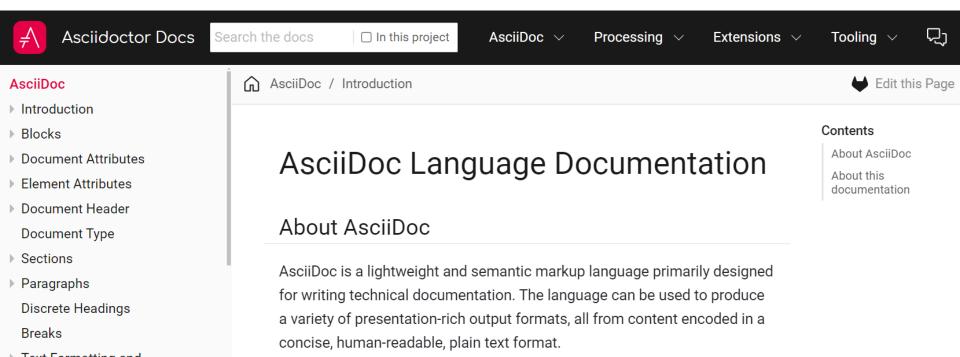
AsciiDoc About Compare Specifications Tools Docs

# Publish presentation-rich content from a concise and comprehensive authoring format.

# **AsciiDoc Language Documentation**



Visit https://docs.asciidoctor.org/asciidoc/latest/ to learn about the language.



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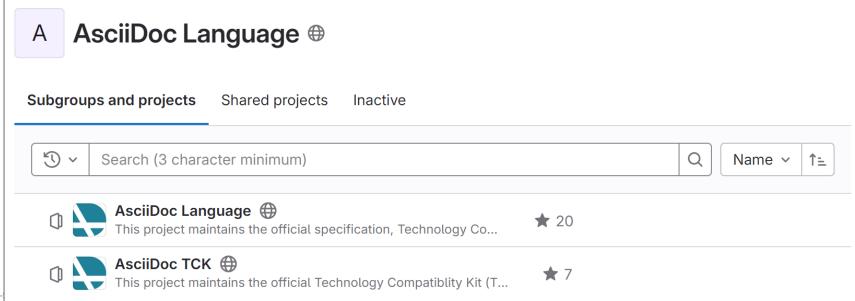


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# **AsciiDoc Language Specification**



Visit <a href="https://gitlab.eclipse.org/eclipse/asciidoc-lang">https://gitlab.eclipse.org/eclipse/asciidoc-lang</a> to get involved, and discuss at <a href="https://chat.asciidoc.org/">https://chat.asciidoc.org/</a>



# **Specification Decision Records to agree on a spec**



Community and experts agree on how to standardize the behavior in a best backwards compatible way.

# SDR-5: Describe Inline Syntax using Formal Grammar

Related issues

• asciidoc-lang#16

• asciidoc-lang#22

### Context

The inline syntax in the AsciiDoc language has never had a formal grammar, nor was it initially designed to have one. Inline syntax refers to the markup in the content of a non-verbatim leaf node (e.g., paragraph, heading, title, block content attribute, etc.). We herein refer to this content as regular text.

The inline markup in AsciiDoc is currently processed as a sequence of substitutions on regular text using

# TCK to check compatibility of implemenations



= Document Title
body

```
"name": "document",
"type": "block",
"attributes": {},
"header": {
  "title": [
      "name": "text".
      "type": "string",
      "value": "Document Title",
      "location": [{ "line": 1, "col": 3 }, { "line": 1, "col": 16 }]
  "location": [{ "line": 1, "col": 1 }, { "line": 1, "col": 16 }]
```

# Links



### **AsciiDoc**

https://asciidoc.org

### **Asciidoctor**

https://asciidoctor.org

### **Antora**

https://antora.org/

https://www.ahus1.de/post/documentation-site-antora

# Videos, slides and examples

https://www.ahus1.de/post/asciidoctor-intro-and-deep-dive

### **Slides:**



# **IntelliJ AsciiDoc Plugin**

https://ahus1.de/post/technical-writing-udemy





# Contact



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