

Creating your site

After you've [installed](#) Material for MkDocs, you can bootstrap your project documentation using the `mkdocs` executable. Go to the directory where you want your project to be located and enter:

```
mkdocs new .
```

Alternatively, if you're running Material for MkDocs from within Docker, use:

Unix, Powershell

```
docker run --rm -it -v ${PWD}:/docs squidfunk/mkdocs-material new .
```

Windows

```
docker run --rm -it -v "%cd%"/:/docs squidfunk/mkdocs-material new .
```

This will create the following structure:

```
.
├── docs/
│   └── index.md
└── mkdocs.yml
```

Configuration

Minimal configuration

Simply add the following lines to `mkdocs.yml` to enable the theme:

```
theme:
  name: material
```

Recommended: configuration validation and auto-complete ▼

In order to minimize friction and maximize productivity, Material for MkDocs provides its own [schema.json](#)¹ for `mkdocs.yml`. If your editor supports YAML schema validation, it's definitely recommended to set it up:

Visual Studio Code

1. Install `vscode-yaml` for YAML language support.
2. Add the schema under the `yaml.schemas` key in your user or workspace `settings.json`:

```
{
  "yaml.schemas": {
    "https://squidfunk.github.io/mkdocs-material/schema.json": "mkdocs.yml"
  }
}
```

Other

1. Ensure your editor of choice has support for YAML schema validation.
2. Add the following lines at the top of `mkdocs.yml`:

```
# yaml-language-server: $schema=https://squidfunk.github.io/mkdocs-material/schema.json
```

Advanced configuration

Material for MkDocs comes with many configuration options. The setup section explains in great detail how to configure and customize colors, fonts, icons and much more:

- [Changing the colors](#)
- [Changing the fonts](#)
- [Changing the language](#)
- [Changing the logo and icons](#)
- [Ensuring data privacy](#)
- [Setting up navigation](#)
- [Setting up site search](#)
- [Setting up site analytics](#)
- [Setting up social cards](#)
- [Setting up a blog](#)
- [Setting up tags](#)
- [Setting up versioning](#)
- [Setting up the header](#)
- [Setting up the footer](#)
- [Adding a git repository](#)
- [Adding a comment system](#)

- [Building for offline usage](#)

Furthermore, see the list of supported [Markdown extensions](#) that are natively integrated with Material for MkDocs, delivering an unprecedented low-effort technical writing experience.

Previewing as you write

MkDocs includes a live preview server, so you can preview your changes as you write your documentation. The server will automatically rebuild the site upon saving. Start it with:

```
mkdocs serve ①
```

1. If you have a large documentation project, it might take minutes until MkDocs has rebuilt all pages for you to preview. If you're only interested in the current page, the `--dirtyreload` flag will make rebuilds much faster:

```
mkdocs serve --dirtyreload
```

If you're running Material for MkDocs from within Docker, use:

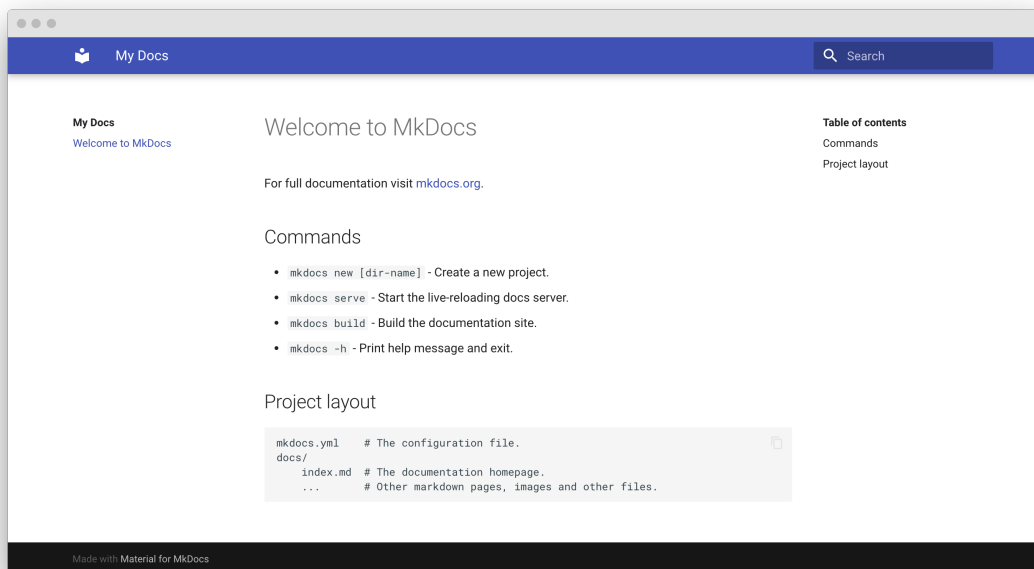
Unix, Powershell

```
docker run --rm -it -p 8000:8000 -v ${PWD}:/docs squidfunk/mkdocs-material
```

Windows

```
docker run --rm -it -p 8000:8000 -v "%cd%"/:/docs squidfunk/mkdocs-material
```

Point your browser to localhost:8000 and you should see:



Building your site

When you're finished editing, you can build a static site from your Markdown files with:

```
mkdocs build
```

If you're running Material for MkDocs from within Docker, use:

Unix, Powershell




```
docker run --rm -it -v ${PWD}:/docs squidfunk/mkdocs-material build
```

Windows

```
docker run --rm -it -v "%cd%":/docs squidfunk/mkdocs-material build
```

The contents of this directory make up your project documentation. There's no need for operating a database or server, as it is completely self-contained. The site can be hosted on [GitHub Pages](#), [GitLab Pages](#), a CDN of your choice or your private web space.

1. If you're a MkDocs plugin or Markdown extension author and your project works with Material for MkDocs, you're very much invited to contribute a schema for your [extension](#) or [plugin](#) as part of a pull request on GitHub. If you already have a schema defined, or wish to self-host your schema to reduce duplication, you can add it via [\\$ref](#). [←](#)

 2022-10-16  2020-07-16  GitHub 

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