

Make a Book from markdown files

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Introduction of MakeBookCli

Why ?

Every now and then I have wanted to transform my investigations , written as blog posts, into books

Also occured to me that I want to write a book. But each chapter was self sufficient. And transforming different chapters into a book required manual labor . That for this software application, that has as purpose to transform a chapter collection into a book (i.e. a HTML document or a Word document or a)

About

My name is Andrei Ignat .



This software is open source and you can download from <https://github.com/ignatandrei/makeBook>

How the help manual it was created

Of course the help manual was created using this software. What is better than dogfooding ?

If you want to edit, please go to <https://github.com/ignatandrei/makeBook> and edit src/help files

You can download this help file as HTML , Word , PDF or EPUB

Steps to use

Installation

Download latest version of the software from github

<https://github.com/ignatandrei/makeBook/releases>

You will download an executable file - latest is <https://github.com/ignatandrei/makeBook/releases/download/v8.2024.717.2216/MakeBookCLI.exe>

Note for Windows Users : Unblock the software prior to execute it.

Now run

```
MakeBookCLI i --folder  
MakeBookCLI gmk --folder
```

The first command will init the structure.

The second one will start to generate output (html, doc,epub) from the mark-down files.

Usage

Put title and author Modify bookData.json file in the .bookSettings folder and change the author (obviously , your name) and title (obviously , the title of the book)

Put the chapters in the book folder Modify the documents on the book folder. The program will execute continuously and generate the html and doc documents . Those can be seen at the .output folder

PDF

If you want the pdf , then you should install a PDF Engine . You could install miktex with

```
choco install pandoc
choco install rsvg-convert python miktex
```

Modify in the .bookSettings/bookData.json

```
"valueNear": ".pandoc/pandoc.exe",
"value": "%LocalAppData%\Pandoc\pandoc.exe"
```

Also modify in .bookSettings/bookData.json the "make an pdf with miktex" value

```
"enabled":true,
"redirectOutput":false
```

Close the app (and the console that you are using)and restart the application .

Advanced - Organization

Folders

There are 4 folders into the project: .output , .bookSettings, .pandoc , book

.output This folder will contain the output of the application. The output can be HTML, DOCX, EPUB, PDF or any other kind pandoc will generate

.pandoc Here will be the pandoc executable with all files needed to generate documents.

.bookSettings Here will be the settings of the book. The most important file is bookData.json . This is a sample:

```
{
  "book":{
    "title":"The book title",
    "author":"Your name"
  },
  "locations": [
    {
      "name": "pandoc",
      "value": ".pandoc/pandoc.exe",
      "valueIfChocoInstalled": "%LocalAppData%\Pandoc\pandoc.exe"
    }
  ],
  "commands": [
    {
      "name": "make a html",
      "value": "-d .settings/pandocHTML.yaml --resource-path book --metadata=title:\">{title}"
      "enabled":true
    }
  ]
}
```

book Here you will put the chapters of the book. Each chapter will be a markdown file. The order of the chapters will be the order of the files. However, introduction.md will be the first (if exists)

I suggest to put each image for a chapter in a separate folder with the name of the chapter. This will help you to organize the images. (It is not necessary, but it is a good practice)