

Utopia Reimagined: From Dream To Design

dhilipsiva

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This version was published on 2025-03-02



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To Humanity - or every person who believes that we can be kinder, freer, and more equal than we are today. May our shared ideals guide us toward a future where care and cooperation define what it truly means to be human.

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2. Defining Scope & Goals

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2.1. Identify Your Essentials

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2.2. Set Simple Objectives

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3. Tools & Techniques: Keeping It Straightforward

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3.1. Paper & Pen, Spreadsheets, or a Basic App

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3.2. Transparent Logging & Weekly Check-Ins

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4. Introducing Merit Points (If You're Ready)

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5. Experimenting with a Mini “Pod” Mindset

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5.1. Think Like a Tiny Society

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5.2. Local-First Approach (Even Without Tech)

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6. Challenges & Tips

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7. One Family's Success Could Spark Larger Pods

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8. Vision for Growth

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Moving Forward

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When a Village Joins: Neighborhoods, Towns, & Localities

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1. Why Expand Beyond One Family?

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2. Forming a Community “Pod” Network

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2.1. Linking Multiple Households

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2.2. Creating a Village Council

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3. Shared Projects & Services

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3.1. Co-op Grocery & Supply Store

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3.2. Community Kitchen or Canteen

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3.3. Local Healthcare & Clinics

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3.4. Local Tuition Centers

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4. Governance & Decision-Making

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4.1. Offline-Ready Voting & Ledger

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4.2. Conflict Resolution

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5. Merging Family Pods into a Broader “Town” Pod

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5.1. Gradual Integration

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5.2. Larger Infrastructure

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6. Practical Obstacles & Suggestions

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6.1. Cultural Resistance

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6.2. Corruption or Power Plays

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6.3. Quality & Accountability

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7. A Taste of Growing Community

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8. Next Steps: Scaling Further

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Cities, Provinces, and Nations: Spreading the Movement

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1. Why Expand to Urban & Regional Scales?

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2. Integrating Multiple Pods into a City Ecosystem

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2.1. District or Borough Councils

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2.2. Standardizing Merit & Services

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2.3. Scaling Infrastructure

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3. Provincial & State-Level Coordination

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3.1. Merging Multiple Cities

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3.2. Balancing Urban-Rural Relations

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3.3. Hybrid Governance

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4. National-Level Adoption

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4.1. Legal & Constitutional Adjustments

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4.2. National Resource Pools

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4.3. Avoiding Over-Centralization

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5. Potential Obstacles at Larger Scales

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5.1. Political Resistance

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5.2. Cultural & Regional Diversity

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5.3. Tech & Infrastructure Gaps

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6. A Glimpse: National & Provincial Success

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7. Laying Foundations for Global and Interplanetary Adoption

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Next Chapter: One Planet, One People: A Vision of Global Adoption

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One Planet, One People: A Vision of Global Adoption

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1. The Rationale for a Planetary Approach

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2. From National Pods to a Planetary Web

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2.2. Supranational Councils or Forums

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2.3. Collective Resource Pools

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3. Cultural Diversity & Autonomy

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3.1. Preserving Local Identities

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3.2. Adaptive Modules

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4. Addressing Skeptics & Structural Hurdles

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4.1. Existing Power Structures

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4.3. Technological Equity

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5. The Dream of Interplanetary Adoption

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5.1. Space Colonies or Stations

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5.2. Universal Laws or Principles

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6. Practical Examples of a Global MVS

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6.1. Global Education Exchange

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6.2. International Environmental Summits

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6.3. Cross-Border Healthcare & Mobility

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7. Vision vs. Reality: The Ongoing Journey

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Toward the Challenges & Forward Path

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Challenges, Collaboration, and the Path Forward

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Embracing Open Collaboration & Imperfect Solutions

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A Glimpse at the Final Reckoning

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Pitfalls & Skepticisms: Hard Questions, Hard Answers

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1. “Isn’t This Just a Naive Utopia?”

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Critique

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Potential Response

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2. “Couldn’t People ‘Game’ Merit Points?”

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Critique

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Potential Response

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3. “Won’t Corruption or Elitism Just Reappear in a New Form?”

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Potential Response

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4. “What about Human Laziness or Free Riders?”

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Critique

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Potential Response

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5. “Cultural, Religious, or Political Resistance?”

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Critique

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Potential Response

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6. “How Do We Handle Advanced Tech & Data Security?”

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Potential Response

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7. “Mass Implementation Feels Impossible”

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Critique

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Potential Response

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8. Pulling It All Together

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Next Chapter: Governance & Conflict Resolution

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Governance & Conflict Resolution: Keeping the System Fair

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1. Why Governance Matters in MVS

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2. Layers of Governance: Pods, Councils, and Delegates

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2.1. Local Pods as the Core

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2.2. Clustered Representation: Boroughs or Village Committees

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2.3. Higher-Level Councils

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3. Decision-Making Processes

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3.1. Direct Voting vs. Delegated Models

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3.2. Consensus & Quorum

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4. Conflict Resolution & Arbitration

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4.1. Local Disputes

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4.2. Escalation to Larger Councils

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4.3. Deterrence of Systemic Abuse

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5. Handling Merit-Based Inequities & Minority Protections

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5.1. Merit Points vs. Baseline Rights

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5.2. Ensuring Minority Voices

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6. Countering Power Grabs & Corruption

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6.1. Rotational Leadership & Term Limits

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6.2. Public Ledger & Audit Trails

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7. Example: A Day in the Life of Fair Governance

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8. Limitations & Ongoing Revisions

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Conclusion: Building Trust Through Fair Process

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MVS in Action: Experimentation, Open Source, and Community-Driven Innovation

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1. Why Experimentation Matters

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2. Hypothetical Pilot Scenarios

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2.1. A Suburban “Merit Town”

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2.2. Rural “Agri-Pod” Network

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2.3. Tech-Forward “Urban Commune”

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3. The Role of Open-Source Principles

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

3.1. Sharing Code & Governance Templates

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

3.2. “Forking” Ideas for Local Needs

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

3.3. Collective Knowledge Base

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

4. Community-Driven Innovation: Examples & Opportunities

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

4.1. Local Workshops & Skill Labs

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

4.2. Real-Time Feedback Loops

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

4.3. Partnerships with NGOs & Researchers

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

5. Potential Barriers & Solutions

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

5.1. Lack of Funding

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

5.2. Community Resistance

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

5.3. Scaling & Sustainability

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

6. Envisioning the Future of MVS Innovation

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

Conclusion: The Power of Collective Experimentation

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

A Hopeful Reckoning: The Road from Imagination to Reality

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

1. The Gap Between Vision and Practice

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

2. Facing the Unfinished Work

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

2.1. Cultural Evolution Takes Time

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

2.2. Policy & Structural Overhauls

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

2.3. Technological Upkeep

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

3. Strengths that Keep Us Going

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

4. Steps Toward Larger-Scale Transformation

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

4.1. Collaborative Roadmaps

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

4.2. Alliances & Advocacy

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

4.3. Cultural Endeavors

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

5. The Role of Ordinary People

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

6. Embracing Imperfection & The Long View

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

7. A Final Word of Hope

This content is not available in the sample book. The book can be purchased on Leanpub at <https://leanpub.com/Utopia-Reimagined-From-Dream-To-Design>.

Writing in Markua

Writing in Markua is easy! You can learn most of what you need to know with just a few examples.

To make *italic text* you surround it with single asterisks. To make **bold text** you surround it with double asterisks.

Section One

You can start new sections by starting a line with two # signs and a space, and then typing your section title.

Sub-Section One

You can start new sub-sections by starting a line with three # signs and a space, and then typing your sub-section title.

Including a Chapter in the Sample Book

At the top of this file, you will also see a line at the top:

```
1 {sample: true}
```

Leanpub has the ability to make a sample book, which interested readers can download or read online. If you add this line above a chapter heading, then when you publish your book, this chapter will be included in a separate sample book for these interested readers.

Links

You can add web links easily.

Here's a link to the [Leanpub homepage](#).

Images

You can add an image to your book in a similar way.

First, add the image to the “Resources” folder for your book. You will find the “Resources” folder under the “Manuscript” menu to the left.

If you look in your book’s “Resources” folder right now, you will see that there is an example image there with the file name “palm-trees.jpg”. Here’s how you can add this image to your book:



If you want to add a figure title, you put it in quotes:



Figure 1. Palm Trees

If you want to add descriptive alt text, which is good for accessibility, you put it between the square brackets:



Figure 2. Palm Trees

You can also set the alt text and/or the figure title in an attribute list:



Figure 3. Palm Trees

Finally, if no title is provided, and the `alt-title` document setting is the default of `all`, the alt text will be used as the figure title instead of as alt text.



Figure 4. Palm Trees

You can set the important document settings at Settings > Generation Settings.

Lists

Numbered Lists

You make a numbered list like this:

1. kale
2. carrot
3. ginger

Bulleted Lists

You make a bulleted list like this:

- kale
- carrot
- ginger

Definition Lists

You can even have definition lists!

term 1

definition 1a

definition 1b

term 2

definition 2

Page Breaks

We don't recommend that you manually break pages, since that is brittle and can lead to unexpected formatting if you edit text earlier in your chapter and forget about the manual page breaks. But if you really want to add a page break, you use the `{pagebreak}` directive on a line by itself, with blank lines above it and below it.

Code Samples

You can add code samples really easily. Code can be in separate files (a “local” resource) or in the manuscript itself (an “inline” resource).

Local Code Samples

Here’s a local code resource:

Inline Code Samples

Inline code samples can either be spans or figures.

A span looks like `puts "hello world"` this.

A figure looks like this:

```
1  require 'time'
2
3  # This is just some pointless code so you can see the syntax highlighting...
4  def display_info
5    pi = Math::PI.round(10)
6    time_last_year = (Time.now - 365 * 24 * 60 * 60).getlocal("-08:00")
7    formatted_time = time_last_year.strftime("%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S")
8    puts "Pi to 10 decimal places: #{pi}"
9    puts "The time 1 year ago in Pacific Time: #{formatted_time}"
10 end
```

You can also add a figure title using the title attribute:

Figure 5. Hello World in Ruby

```
1  require 'time'
2
3  # This is just some pointless code so you can see the syntax highlighting...
4  def display_info
5    pi = Math::PI.round(10)
6    time_last_year = (Time.now - 365 * 24 * 60 * 60).getlocal("-08:00")
7    formatted_time = time_last_year.strftime("%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S")
8    puts "Pi to 10 decimal places: #{pi}"
9    puts "The time 1 year ago in Pacific Time: #{formatted_time}"
10 end
```

Tables

You can insert tables easily inline, using the GitHub Flavored Markdown (GFM) table syntax:

Header 1	Header 2
Content 1	Content 2
Content 3	Content 4 Can be Different Length

Tables work best for numeric tabular data involving a small number of columns containing small numbers:

Central Bank	Rate
JPY	-0.10%
EUR	0.00%
USD	0.00%
CAD	0.25%

Definition lists are preferred to tables for most use cases, since reading a large table with many columns is terrible on phones and since typing text in a table quickly gets annoying.

Math

You can easily insert math equations inline using either spans or figures.

Here’s one of the kinematic equations $d = v_i t + \frac{1}{2} a t^2$ inserted as a span inside a sentence.

Here’s some math inserted as a figure.

$$\left| \sum_{i=1}^n a_i b_i \right| \leq \left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i^2 \right)^{1/2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n b_i^2 \right)^{1/2}$$

Figure 6. Something Involving Sums

Headings

Markua supports both of Markdown's heading styles.

The preferred style, called atx headers, has the following meaning in Markua:

```

1 {class: part}
2 # Part
3
4 This is a paragraph.
5
6 # Chapter
7
8 This is a paragraph.
9
10 ## Section
11
12 This is a paragraph.
13
14 ### Sub-section
15
16 This is a paragraph.
17
18 #### Sub-sub-section
19
20 This is a paragraph.
21
22 ##### Sub-sub-sub-section
23
24 This is a paragraph.
25
26 ##### Sub-sub-sub-sub-section
27
28 This is a paragraph.
```

Note the use of three backticks in the above example, to treat the Markua like inline code (instead of actually like headers).

The other style of headers, called Setext headers, has the following headings:

```
1 {class: part}
2 Part
3 ====
4
5 This is a paragraph.
6
7 Chapter
8 =====
9
10 This is a paragraph.
11
12 Section
13 -----
14
15 This is a paragraph.
```

Setext headers look nice, but only if you're only using chapters and sections. If you want to add sub-sections (or lower), you'll be using atx headers for at least some of your headers. My advice is to just use atx headers all the time. (The `{class: part}` attribute list on a chapter header to make a part header does actually work with Setext headers, but it's really ugly.)

Note that while it is confusing and ugly to mix and match using atx and Setext headers for chapters and sections in the same document, you can do it. However, please don't.

Block quotes, Asides and Blurbs

Block quotes are really easy too.

—Peter Armstrong, *Markua Spec*

Asides are useful for longer text.

But typing them like this isn't fun.

Asides can be written this way, since adding a bunch of A> stuff at the beginning of each line can get annoying with longer asides.

Blurbs are useful

Blurbs are useful

There are many types of blurbs, which will be familiar to you if you've ever read a computer programming book.



This is a discussion.

You can also specify them this way:



This is a discussion



This is an error.



This is information.



This is a question. (Not a question in a Markua course; those are done differently!)



This is a tip.



This is a warning.



This is an exercise. (Not an exercise in a Markua course; those are done differently!)

Good luck, have fun!

If you've read this far, you're definitely the right type of person to be here!

Our last piece of advice is simple: once you have a couple chapters completed, publish your book in-progress!

This approach is called Lean Publishing. It's why Leanpub is called Leanpub.

If you want to learn more about Lean Publishing, read [this](#) or watch [this](#).