Formatting Text

Last Modified on 08/03/2026 11:54 am EDT

DevResults enables you to format text in narrative fields using a system called Markdown. Markdown uses simple characters to create emphasis, lists, headers, links, and images. If you use **forms** to generate reports from DevResults, the exported Word document will come with the formatting used online. You can use Markdown on the project overview page, the indicator definition page, and for **narrative responses** each reporting period.

This page includes information about:

- **Making text bold or italic**
- **Using paragraphs**
- **Creating bulleted or numbered lists**
- **Adding headers**
- **Including links**
- **Embedding images**
- **Creating tables**

Making text bold or italic

The examples below show how to type the formatting and how it appears when you're done.

```
Create italic text with one set of *asterisks* or _underscores_.

Make text bold with double **asterisks** or __underscores__.

Combine emphasis with **asterisks and _underscores_**.

Strikethrough uses two tildes. ~~Scratch this.~~
```

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Make text bold with double **asterisks** or **underscores**.

Combine emphasis with **asterisks and *underscores***.

Strikethrough uses two tildes. ~~Scratch this~~.

Using paragraphs

```
Make sure to use two returns to create separate paragraphs.

This appears in a separate line
while this does not.

You can also add line dividers using three dashes in a paragraph by themselves.

---

This creates separate sections on the page.
```

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This creates separate sections on the page.

Creating bulleted or numbered lists

In this example, leading and trailing spaces are shown with with dots: ····

```
Create a bulleted list with asterisks, pluses, or minuses. They all work the same:
* Item one
- Item two
+ Item three

Add a numbered list like so:
1. First ordered item
2. Second item
3. Another item

Create sublists and combine bullets and numbering:

1. First numbered list item
2. Second numbered list item
··* Bulleted sub-item
··* Bulleted sub-item
3. Another item
··1. Numbered sub-item
··2. Numbered sub-item
4. And another item

···You can have properly indented paragraphs within list items. Notice the blank line above and the leading

···To have a line break without a paragraph, you will need to use two trailing spaces.··
···Note that this line is separate, but within the same paragraph.··
```

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    - Bulleted sub-item
3. Another item
    3.1. Numbered sub-item
    3.2. Numbered sub-item
4. And another item
You can have properly indented paragraphs within list items. Notice the blank line above and the leading spaces.
To have a line break without a paragraph, you will need to use two trailing spaces.
Note that this line is separate, but within the same paragraph.

Adding headers

Use hashes to create headings on separate lines:

```
# Main Heading
## Sub-Heading
### Another Sub-Heading
#### Even More Specific Heading
##### We Can Keep On Going
###### And We're Finally Getting to the Point
```

Main Heading

Sub-Heading

Another Sub-Heading

Even More Specific

We Can Keep On Going

AND WE'RE FINALLY GETTING TO THE POINT

Including links

Create links using brackets and parentheses:

```
[Here's a link](https://www.devresults.com)

[Here's a link with hover-over title](https://www.devresults.com "DevResults Homepage")

[Here's a link to start an email]()
```

Here's a link

Here's a link with hover-over title

Here's a link to start an email

Embedding images

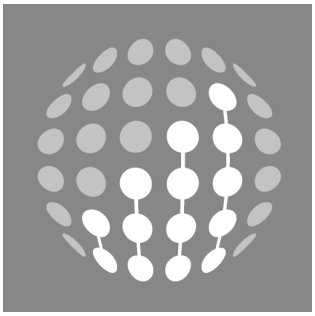
Adding images is similar to adding links. All you have to do is type **** and then put the URL to the photo in the **(**parentheses**)**. Add a descriptive title inside the **[**square brackets**]** so that visually impaired users (or anyone else who uses a screen reader) will also know what the image is. For example:

```
Here's our logo. Hover to see the image title:

![DevResults logo](https://i.imgur.com/eUgvBht.png)
```

You can paste this code into your narrative section or Markdown tile. The result would be:

Here's our logo. Hover to see the image title:



To get a link to a photo in your DevResults site, first click on the photo in your photos tab to get to a full-sized view. Right click on the image and select "copy image address."

Resizing Images

Markdown does not offer an easy way to resize images. As an alternative, you can use **HTML**. These two lines of code are equivalent:

Markdown:

```
![DevResults logo](i.imgur.com/eUgvBht.png)
```

HTML:

```
<img src="i.imgur.com/eUgvBht.png" title="DevResults logo"></img>
```

Now you can add to your HTML code to resize an image. Here, I'm setting the width equal to 500 pixels. (The height will then scale proportionally.)

```
<img src="i.imgur.com/eUgvBht.png" title="DevResults logo" width="500px"></img>
```

Using an Image in Google Drive

Google makes it difficult to to generate a link directly to the image content in Google Drive, but it's still possible. To do so:

Get the ID of the file: You can open the image in a new window or get the "shareable link" to the file. When you're viewing the image, your URL will look something like this:

```
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dCIELFHSw8KmXms431d8PPQkuWDfi3_Z/view
```

The ID of the image would be:

```
1dCIELFHSw8KmXms431d8PPQkuWDfi3_Z
```

Next, add the ID to this URL:

```
https://drive.google.com/uc?id=
```

The result is this new URL:

```
https://drive.google.com/uc?id=1dCIELFHSw8KmXms431d8PPQkuWDfi3_Z
```

You can then include the image in your DevResults site using this URL with either the Markdown or HTML syntaxes described above.

Creating Tables

You can create tables within DevResults using three or more hyphens (---) to create column headers, and pipes (|) to separate each column. You can also use hyphens between the first row and other rows to denote which row should be treated as the header.

```
| This is a column | This is another column|
| ---------- | ---------- |
| This is the first row of info for column one | This is the first row for column two|
| Second row for column one| Second row for column two        |
```

The table should look like this in DevResults:

This is a column	This is another column
This is the first row of info for column one	This is the first row for column two
Second row for column one	Second row for column two

More Resources

For more markdown tricks, you can check out the syntax guide for the version we use, available at **daringfireball.net**.

> Didn't answer your question? Please email us at **help@devresults.com**.

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