

Pod::WikiDoc

Write more with less

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What is Pod::WikiDoc?

- A Pod processor
- Inspired by wikis – writing with simple text markup
- Extracts Pod and WikiDoc from a file (e.g. *.pm)
- Converts WikiDoc markup sections to Pod
- Writes it to another file (e.g. *.pod)

Why did I write it?

- I like good documentation
- I want to write good documentation
- Pod is great... but also annoying
 - Good: embedded
 - Annoying:
 - Markup – hard to do things that should be easy
 - Too many newlines
- Annoyance leads to reluctance
- I wanted something easier

Why I really wrote this... LISTS!

What I Want

THREE IMPORTANT THINGS

1. I like lists
2. Pod sucks for lists
3. Pod::WikiDoc is better

The Pod Way

```
=head1 THREE IMPORTANT THINGS
```

```
=over
```

```
=item 1.
```

```
I like lists
```

```
=item 2.
```

```
Pod sucks for lists
```

```
=item 3.
```

```
Pod::WikiDoc is better
```

```
=back
```

Why I really wrote this... LISTS!

What I Want

THREE IMPORTANT THINGS

1. I like lists
2. Pod sucks for lists
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The WikiDoc Way

= THREE IMPORTANT THINGS

- 0 I like lists
- 0 Pod sucks for lists
- 0 Pod::WikiDoc is better

Your choice – 17 lines or 4 lines?

The Pod Way

```
=head1 THREE IMPORTANT THINGS
=over
=item 1.
I like lists
=item 2.
Pod sucks for lists
=item 3.
Pod::WikiDoc is better
=back
```

The WikiDoc Way

```
= THREE IMPORTANT THINGS
@ I like lists
@ Pod sucks for lists
@ Pod::WikiDoc is better
```

Your choice – 17 lines or 4 lines?

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The WikiDoc Way

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= THREE IMPORTANT THINGS
@ I like lists
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```

WikiDoc is just a Pod format

```
=begin wikidoc
```

```
= NAME
```

```
My::Module – The abstract goes here
```

```
= DESCRIPTION
```

```
This is some bold text in WikiDoc. You can  
also use italics.
```

```
* Does bullet lists, too
```

```
* Just like this
```

```
For more details, see [Pod::WikiDoc].
```

```
=end wikidoc
```

Other nice features

- Automatic character escapes
`[This > needs escaping|perlpod]`
- Code just looks like a code block
`{ $hash = { $key => $value } }`
- Rudimentary keyword substitution
`This is version %%VERSION%%`
- 'Smart comments' mode
`### {wibble()} takes three arguments...`
- Command-line filter included
`$ wikidoc my_module.pm > my_module.pod`
- Build.PL recipe in Pod::WikiDoc::Cookbook
 - Sets VERSION keyword for you
 - Extracts WikiDoc to .pod files during distribution builds
 - End users *don't need* Pod::WikiDoc!!

Write more with less...

Use Pod::WikiDoc