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# **Cicero Documentation**

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**Radovan Bast, Ole Martin Bjørndalen, and Roberto Di Remigio**

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You **write your talk in Markdown**, host it on [GitHub](#) or [GitLab](#). We **render it** using `remark` of `reveal.js` and serve it for you before you can say blueberry pie. You can **style your slides** to your heart's content.



# CHAPTER 1

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## Getting started in 5 minutes

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Place the following Markdown file on <https://github.com> or <https://gitlab.com>, perhaps as `mytalk.md`:

```
class: center, middle

# Simple example presentation

## Author

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## Another slide

Try F and P keys.

- A bullet point
- Another convincing argument

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## Code blocks are no problem

Here we have some Python code:

```python
from itertools import cycle

fizz = cycle(['', '', 'Fizz'])
buzz = cycle(['', '', '', '', 'Buzz'])

for i in range(1, 101):
    print((next(fizz) + next(buzz)) or i)
...

[Source] (https://github.com/olemb/nonsense/blob/master/fizzbuzz/itertools\_cycle.py)
```

(continues on next page)

(continued from previous page)

```
---  
  
## Images  
  
An image fetched from the web:  
  
![Sample image] (https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/4/4f/The_Young_  
↳Cicero_Reading.jpg/316px-The_Young_Cicero_Reading.jpg)
```

Let us assume your talk is on (replace <namespace> and <repository>):

```
https://github.com/<namespace>/<repository>/mytalk.md
```

You can now visit (replace <namespace> and <repository>):

```
https://cicero.xyz/v3/remark/0.14.0/github.com/<namespace>/<repository>/main/mytalk.md
```

Of course you can reference another branch or tag or hash than main.

If you like <https://revealjs.com> better, then check <https://github.com/bast/cicero/tree/main/demo/reveal.js>.



## CHAPTER 2

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### Exporting slides to PDF

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The to my knowledge best way to export slides to PDF is using <https://github.com/astefanutti/decktape>.

First install the tool following <https://github.com/astefanutti/decktape#install>, then you can export slides, e.g.:

```
$ decktape http://cicero.xyz/v3/remark/0.14.0/github.com/coderefinery/social-coding/  
↪master/talk.md/ my-slides.pdf
```



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## Running the app locally

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You can preview your changes locally and also present your talk without relying on <https://cicero.xyz>:

```
$ pip install cicero
$ cicero --file /home/user/my-talk/talk.md
```

### 3.1 Available options

```
$ cicero --help

usage: cicero.py [-h] [--file FILENAME] [--engine ENGINE] [--debug]
                [--host HOST] [--port PORT]

optional arguments:
  -h, --help            show this help message and exit
  --file FILENAME, -f FILENAME
                        serve a local file (default: None)
  --engine ENGINE       rendering engine (available: remark-0.13.0,
                        remark-0.14.0, remark-legacy, reveal.js-3.7.0)
                        (default: remark-0.14.0)
  --debug
  --host HOST
  --port PORT
```



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### How to use your own CSS

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If you place a file in the same path as your talk, with the same name as your talk, and only replace the `.md` suffix by `.css`. Then the rendering engine will use this file: <https://github.com/bast/cicero/blob/main/cicero/templates/render.html#L11-L13>

In other words, if your talk is called `mytalk.md` and you want to customize CSS, place a file called `mytalk.css` in the same place as your `mytalk.md`.

With this you can even override CSS directives and style your slides to your heart's content.

Example: <https://github.com/bast/cicero/tree/main/demo/remark/styling>



You can either include images the [Markdown](#) way:

```
![alt text] (https://github.com/adam-p/markdown-here/raw/master/src/common/images/  
→icon48.png "Logo Title Text 1")  
  
![alt text] (path/myimage.jpg "Local image")
```

or the [HTML](#) way:

```

```





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## Background image

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### 6.1 remark

Setting and changing the background image is nicely documented here: <https://github.com/gnab/remark/wiki/Markdown#background-image>



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## How to customize everything

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You want to change looks and fonts? CSS is not enough? Perhaps you need an external JavaScript library?

You can place `*.head.html` and/or `*.body.html` alongside your `*.md` slides. In these files you can do and change almost everything: <https://github.com/bast/cicero/blob/main/cicero/templates/render.html>.

To get inspired of what is in these by default and what can be changed, please browse <https://github.com/bast/cicero/tree/main/cicero/static/engines>.



## CHAPTER 8

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### Math equations

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Here is an example: <https://github.com/bast/cicero/tree/main/demo/remark/equations>



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This API is currently the default:

```
/v3/<engine>/<engine_version>/<repo>/<branch>/<path>
```

Examples with files on GitHub:

- <https://cicero.xyz/v3/remark/0.14.0/github.com/bast/cicero/main/demo/remark/simple/talk.md>
- <https://cicero.xyz/v3/remark/0.14.0/github.com/bast/cicero/main/demo/remark/styling/talk.md>
- <https://cicero.xyz/v3/remark/0.14.0/github.com/bast/cicero/main/demo/remark/equations/talk.md>
- <https://cicero.xyz/v3/remark/0.14.0/github.com/bast/cicero/main/demo/remark/original/talk.md>
- <https://cicero.xyz/v3/remark/0.14.0/github.com/bast/cicero/main/demo/remark/header-footer/talk.md>
- <https://cicero.xyz/v3/reveal.js/3.7.0/github.com/bast/cicero/main/demo/reveal.js/talk.md>

Examples with files on GitLab:

- <https://cicero.xyz/v3/remark/0.14.0/gitlab.com/bast/cicero-example/master/demo/remark/simple/talk.md>
- <https://cicero.xyz/v3/remark/0.14.0/gitlab.com/bast/cicero-example/master/demo/remark/styling/talk.md>
- <https://cicero.xyz/v3/remark/0.14.0/gitlab.com/bast/cicero-example/master/demo/remark/equations/talk.md>
- <https://cicero.xyz/v3/remark/0.14.0/gitlab.com/bast/cicero-example/master/demo/remark/original/talk.md>
- <https://cicero.xyz/v3/reveal.js/3.7.0/gitlab.com/bast/cicero-example/master/demo/reveal.js/talk.md>





## CHAPTER 10

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v2

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This API is the past but still supported:

```
/v2/remark/github/<namespace>/<repo>/<branch>/<path>
```

Example: <https://cicero.xyz/v2/remark/github/bast/cicero/main/demo/remark/original/talk.md>



# CHAPTER 11

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v1

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This API is deprecated since it does not allow talks in subdirectories:

```
/v1/github/<namespace>/<repo>/<branch>/<path>/remark/
```



## CHAPTER 12

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### Running your own server

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You can run your own Cicero instance on your own server. Cicero is a Flask app and to serve it you should use a WSGI server for production. The sources are open: <https://github.com/bast/cicero>



## CHAPTER 13

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### Environment variables

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You will need to define `CICERO_URL_BASE` to the URL of your server. This sets the URL base for generated links in the Markdown file finder.

As an example, for <https://cicero.xyz> we set:

```
CICERO_URL_BASE=https://cicero.xyz
```





# CHAPTER 14

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## Dependencies

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The app depends on the following Python packages:

- Flask 1.0.2
- Requests 2.20.0

On the front-end side we depend on the following libraries:

- Vue 2.5.16
- Bootstrap 4.1.3



# CHAPTER 15

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## Setting up your environment

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First install the dependencies (you need a network connection for this step):

```
$ git checkout https://github.com/bast/cicero
$ cd cicero
```

Now install <https://flit.readthedocs.io/> from `requirements.txt`.

Then install the package and start the server:

```
$ flit install --symlink
$ cicero

* Running on http://127.0.0.1:5000/ (Press CTRL+C to quit)
```