

# 21 README File

Proper documentation is vital for open-source projects, and in addition is also useful for virtually any commercial project too. A README file constitutes a big part of documentation, as this is the first file an end-user sees and should be clear, concise, comprehensive and maybe also a bit fun.

## Guidelines

Our README structure is based on the above requirements, whilst being tailored to both our internal and external projects. Our README provides an overview of the project, installation, usage and configuration instructions, contribution guidelines, credits and of course, the indispensable license overview. The file also usually contains a screenshot, badges and several colourful icons, which makes it aesthetically pleasing.

## Markdown

### Emoticons

<https://gist.github.com/rxaviers/7360908>

## Example

Below you can find the content of an example readme file. To see it live, please visit our repository with [the example](#).

```
# readme formatting

[[coverage](https://gitlab.com/gitlab-org/gitlab-ee/badges/master/coverage.svg?job=coverage)](https://gitlab-org.gitlab.io/gitlab-ee/coverage-ruby)

project to showcase different readme designs

## :memo: Description

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```

## ## :camera: Screenshot

![labview](https://proxy.duckduckgo.com/iu/?u=http%3A%2F%2Fforums.ni.com%2Flegacyfs%2Fonline%2F202594\_Hololens\_LabVIEW\_simple\_example.png&f=1)

## ## :rocket: Installation

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nascetur ridiculus mus.  
```\n

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## ## :bulb: Usage

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## ## :wrench: Configuration

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## ## :building\_construction: Applications

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## :busts\_in\_silhouette: Contributing

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## :beers: Credits

- \* Hat tip to anyone whose code was used
- \* Inspiration
- \* etc

## :page\_facing\_up: License

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Last update: **2024/12/13 15:07**

