

# Converting Google Docs Content to Markdown

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# 1 Overview

Our Developer Portal at <https://developer.skava.com> (the Portal) is the official knowledge base for all technical documentation for the company's platform products. The Portal is currently hosted by ReadMe (<https://readme.io/>) and its content is managed by the Documentation Team. The high-level workflow is as follows:

1. Author Content
2. Review Content and Signoff
3. Copyedit Content and Signoff
4. Convert Approved Content to Markdown (MD)
5. Upload Content Images to a Content Delivery Network (CDN)
6. Update Markdown file with CDN Image URLs
7. Copy contents of the Markdown file to its Portal Page
8. Publish the Portal Page

The purpose of this document is to step users through tasks 1-6 above. **Note:** these instructions were created on a Mac using the Google Chrome browser.

## 1.1.1 Content Authoring and Collaboration

Developers and architects are the primary authors of technical articles and tutorials published on the Portal; however, the content may also be authored by a business analyst or a member of the Documentation Team. Typically, content authors use Google Docs (Docs) as their authoring tool because it makes content sharing and team collaboration easy. Additionally, using Docs eliminates document versioning issues that invariably occur when multiple authors and reviewers “collaborate” by passing documents back and forth via email.

## 1.1.2 Content Copyediting

Once a technical document has been authored and its content reviewed and approved for technical correctness, the Documentation Team reviews the document, applies any necessary formatting, and corrects inconsistencies and repetition as well as any spelling, capitalization, punctuation, tense, and other grammatical errors. Again, this process is managed easily within Google Docs. After the content has been reviewed and approved for correctness and grammar, it is ready to be uploaded to ReadMe and published.

## 1.1.3 Google Docs vs. ReadMe Markdown

ReadMe's authoring tool is Markdown – a plain text markup language that is easy to learn and use and also converts, neatly, to HTML. While the conversion from Markdown to HTML is relatively seamless, the conversion from a word processor, like Google Docs, to Markdown is neither neat nor clean. The text content in Google Docs can be copied directly into ReadMe, but the text formatting and spacing will not be retained with a copy and paste. That means you will have to recheck and reformat the entire document again, which can be time consuming if you are working with a large document. Any images

embedded in the Google Doc must be processed manually. Without another utility, you must export and save each image in the Google Doc locally, store each image somewhere on the Internet, like in a Content Delivery Network (CDN), and then add each image's Internet URL to the markdown file, manually.

While it is possible to use copy and paste for the conversion process, there is an easier and cleaner method. There is a free script available, called **gdocs2md**, that can be used within Google Docs to convert content to Markdown, cleanly. Upon completion, the script triggers an email to you with the resulting markdown file and images from the Doc attached. The script exports all images from the Google Doc, renames them sequentially as they appear in the document (e.g. image01\_png, image02\_png, etc.), and places a corresponding placeholder with the same name in the Markdown file. You will still need to upload your images to a CDN, but the use of placeholders makes the process of adding each image URL to the Markdown file relatively painless.

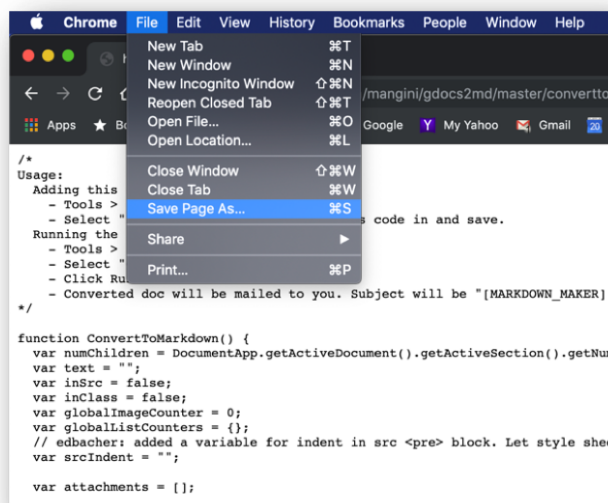
See next: [2 Conversion Script](#).

**Note:** For more information about Markdown, checkout <https://daringfireball.net/projects/markdown/syntax> and <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Markdown>.

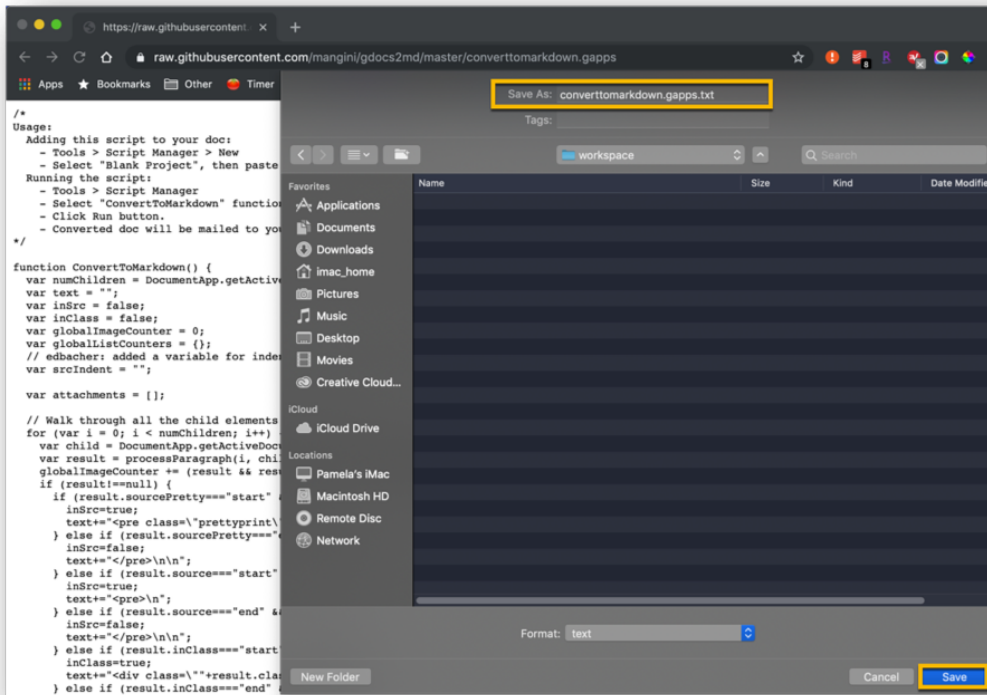
## 2 Conversion Script

### 2.1.1 Download the **gdocs2md** Script from GitHub

- Launch a web browser
- Navigate to the script at <https://raw.githubusercontent.com/mangini/gdocs2md/master/converttomarkdown.gapps>
- Click **File** and **Save Page As...** in your browser menu



- Save the [converttomarkdown.gapps.txt](#) file to your drive



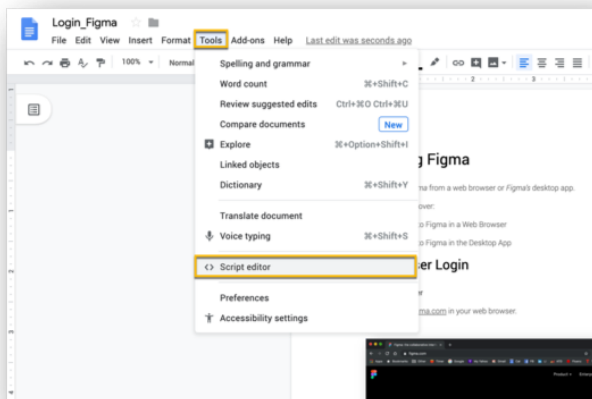
See next: [3 Convert Your Google Doc to Markdown](#).

**Note:** For details about the script, licensing, and the author, see <https://github.com/mangini/gdocs2md>.

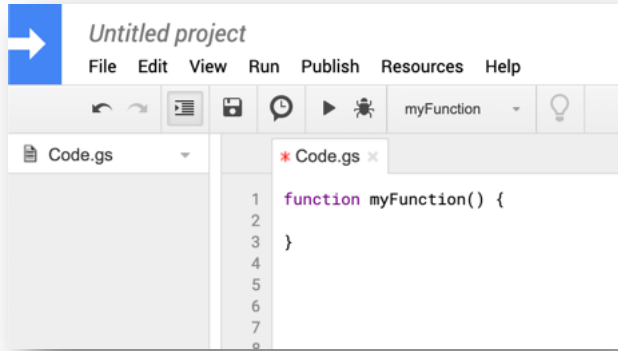
## 3 Convert Your Google Doc to Markdown

### 3.1.1 Add the Script to Your Google Doc

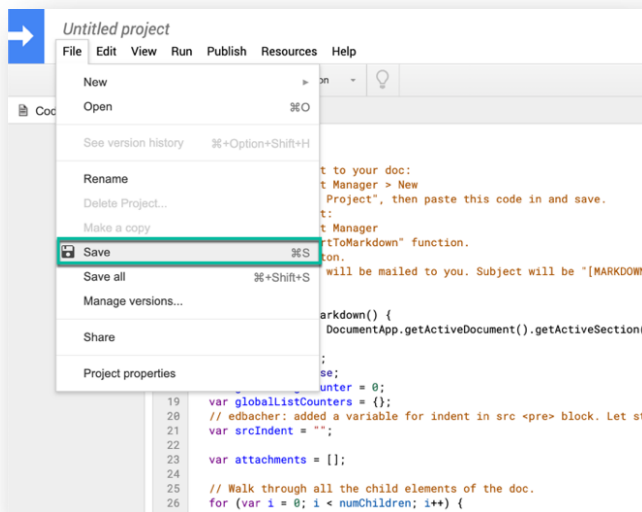
- Open your Google Doc
- Click **Tools** and **Script editor** in the menu



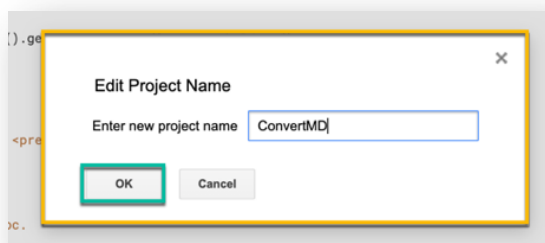
- Clear the default empty function – myFunction() – from the workspace



- Open converttomarkdown.gapps.txt
- Click Edit and Select All in the menu
- Click Edit and Copy in the menu
- Paste the contents of converttomarkdown.gapps.txt into the code editor
- Click File and Save in the menu

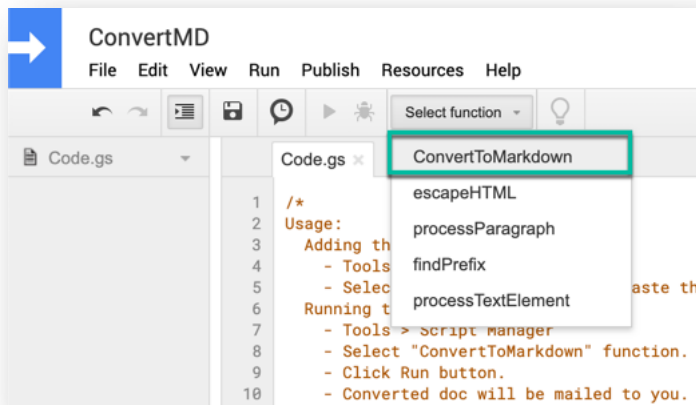


- Enter a Project Name (e.g. ConvertMD)
- Click the OK button

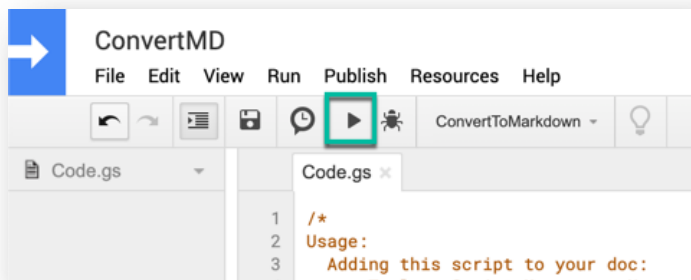


### 3.1.2 Run the Script

- Click the **Select function** dropdown
- Select the **ConvertToMarkdown** function from the dropdown

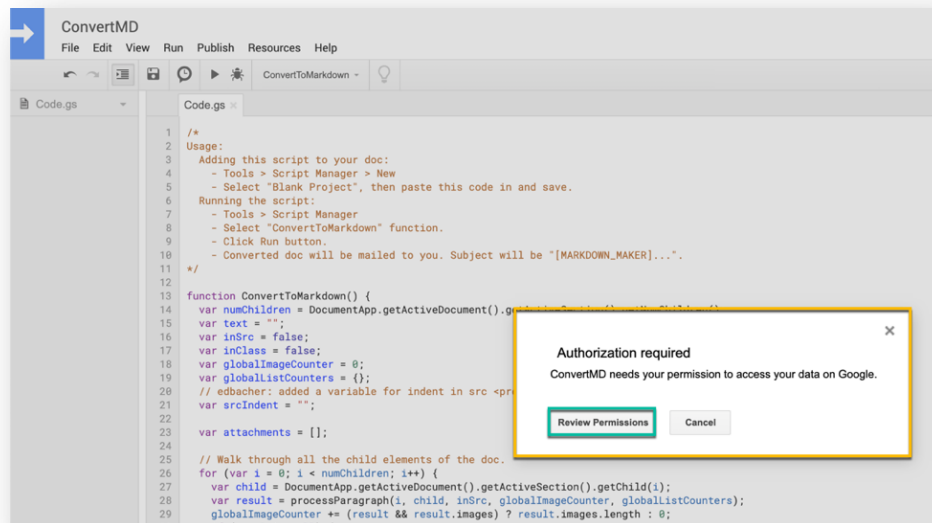


- Click the **Run** button

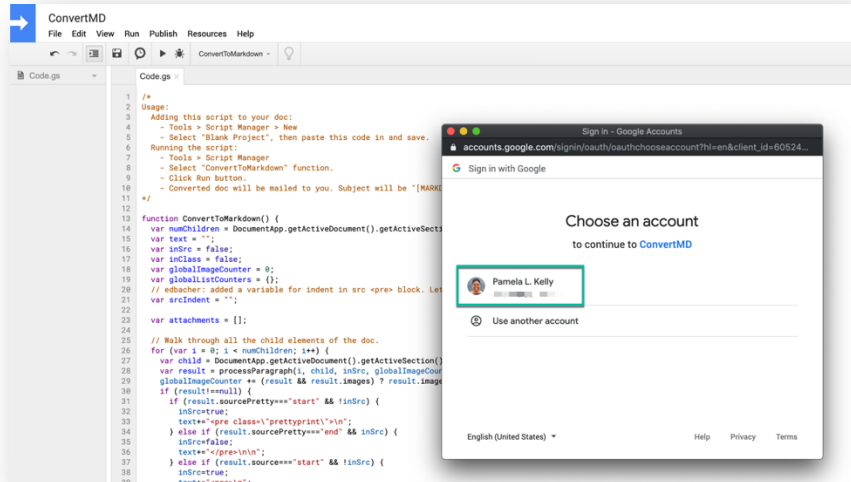


**Note:** On the first Run, you will be prompted to authorize the Script.

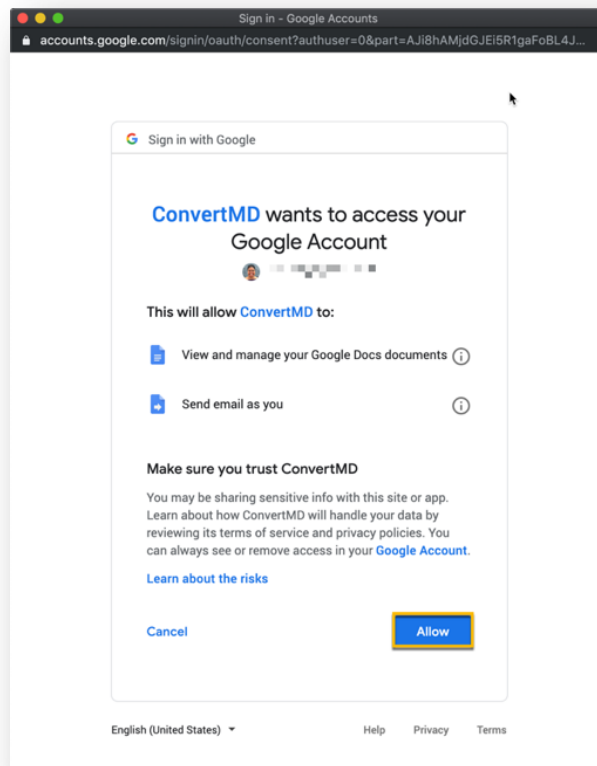
- Click the **Review Permissions** button



- Select your Google account in the modal

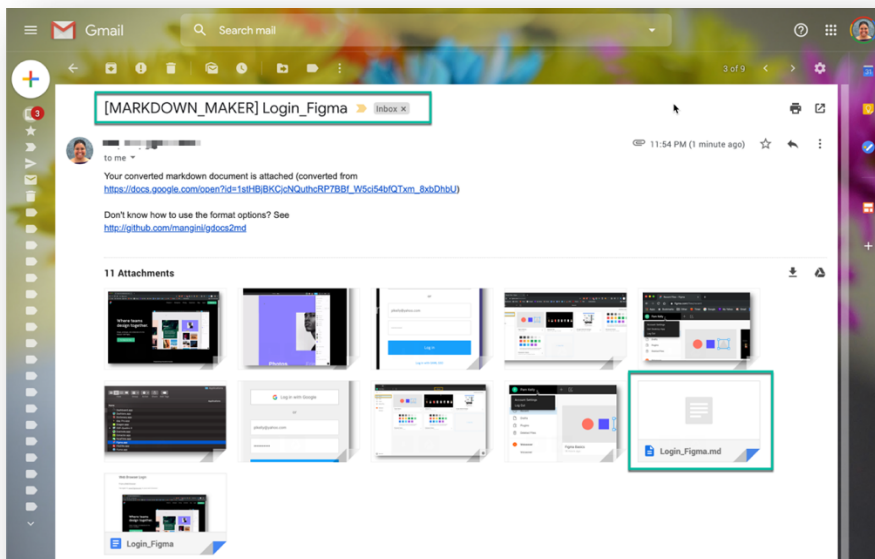


- Click the **Allow** button

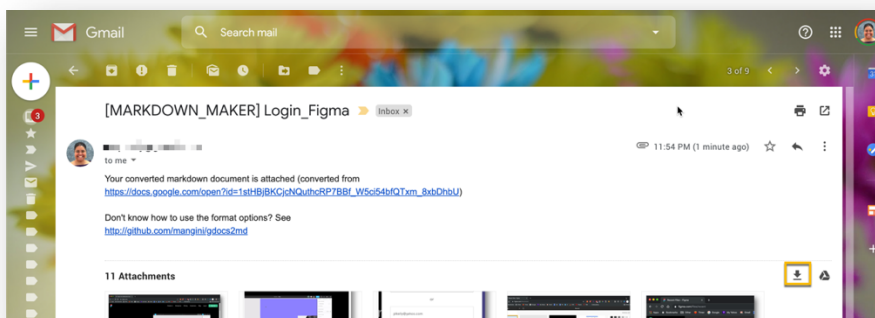


### 3.1.3 Download Your Converted Files

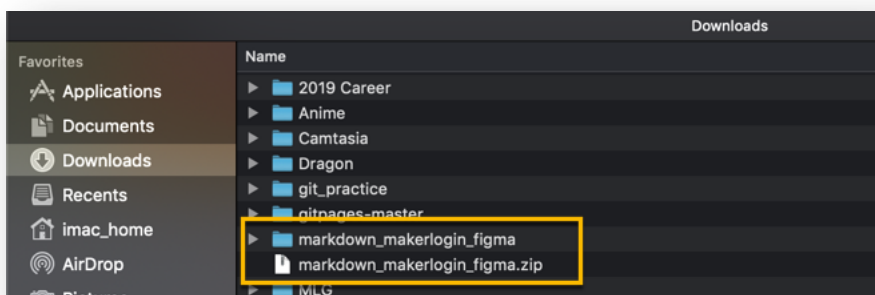
- Check your Gmail inbox for an email, with a subject that includes the text "[MARKDOWN\_MAKER]"



- Download all files attached to the email (they will download as a compressed file)



- Expand the resulting compressed zip file into a folder and note its location



See next: 4 Uploading Your Images to a CDN.



## 4 Uploading Your Images to a CDN

**Note:** You will have a different CDN than the one used in these instructions (i.e. Cloudinary) and that is okay.

### 4.1.1 Upload Images to Your CDN

- Upload all of the image files in the folder from **Step 3** above to your CDN
- The CDN will assign each image a location and filename
- Make note of the CDN URL and file name for each uploaded image:

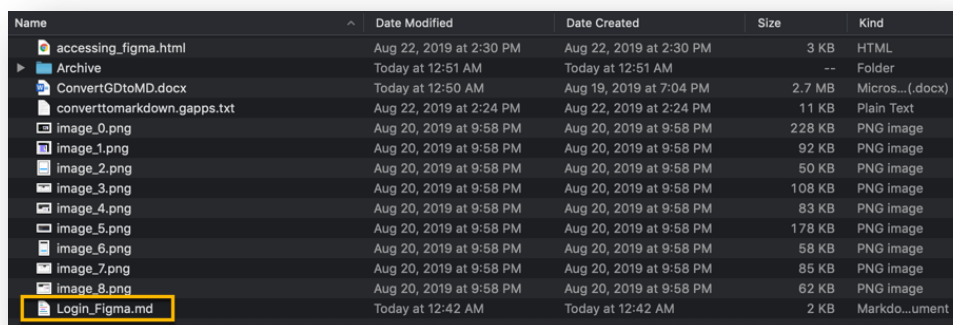
Image Name	CDN URL
image_0.png	https://res.cloudinary.com/damplk/image/upload/v1566363582/figma/image_0_vwvxtj.png
image_1.png	https://res.cloudinary.com/damplk/image/upload/v1566363582/figma/image_1_chqqbr.png
image_2.png	https://res.cloudinary.com/damplk/image/upload/v1566363582/figma/image_2_zrkgtm.png
image_3.png	https://res.cloudinary.com/damplk/image/upload/v1566363582/figma/image_3_zk5447.png
image_4.png	https://res.cloudinary.com/damplk/image/upload/v1566363582/figma/image_4_tkvqt9.png
image_5.png	https://res.cloudinary.com/damplk/image/upload/v1566363582/figma/image_5_gna0os.png
image_6.png	https://res.cloudinary.com/damplk/image/upload/v1566363583/figma/image_6_nt7dfi.png
image_7.png	https://res.cloudinary.com/damplk/image/upload/v1566363583/figma/image_7_ubanvn.png
image_8.png	https://res.cloudinary.com/damplk/image/upload/v1566363583/figma/image_8_zlidne.png

See next: [5 Add Image CDN URLs to the Markdown File](#).

## 5 Add Image CDN URLs to the Markdown File

### 5.1.1 Replace the Image Placeholders

- Open the Markdown file located in the folder from **Step 3** above –will have a **.md** extension



Name	Date Modified	Date Created	Size	Kind
accessing_figma.html	Aug 22, 2019 at 2:30 PM	Aug 22, 2019 at 2:30 PM	3 KB	HTML
Archive	Today at 12:51 AM	Today at 12:51 AM	--	Folder
ConvertGDtoMD.docx	Today at 12:50 AM	Aug 19, 2019 at 7:04 PM	2.7 MB	Micros...(docx)
converttomarkdown.gapps.txt	Aug 22, 2019 at 2:24 PM	Aug 22, 2019 at 2:24 PM	11 KB	Plain Text
image_0.png	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	228 KB	PNG image
image_1.png	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	92 KB	PNG image
image_2.png	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	50 KB	PNG image
image_3.png	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	108 KB	PNG image
image_4.png	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	83 KB	PNG image
image_5.png	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	178 KB	PNG image
image_6.png	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	58 KB	PNG image
image_7.png	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	85 KB	PNG image
image_8.png	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	Aug 20, 2019 at 9:58 PM	62 KB	PNG image
Login_Figma.md	Today at 12:42 AM	Today at 12:42 AM	2 KB	Markdo...ument

- Replace **each** image placeholder in the file with its corresponding CDN URL (e.g. referencing the table above, “image\_0.png” should be replaced with “https://res.cloudinary.com/damplk/image/upload/v1566363582/portal/image\_0\_wvcxtj.png”).

```

Login_Figma.md
# Accessing Figma
You can login to *Figma* from a web browser or *Figma's* desktop app.
In this article, we'll cover:
1. Logging into Figma in a Web Browser
2. Logging into Figma in the Desktop App
## Web Browser Login
### From a Web Browser
Navigate to [www.figma.com](http://www.figma.com) in your web browser.
![[image alt text](image_0.png)]
Click the Log in link at the top right side of the browser window.
![[image alt text](image_1.png)]
Enter your login credentials or authenticate with your Google Account or SAML SSO credentials.
Click the Log in button.
![[image alt text](image_2.png)]
*Figma* opens to the Recently Viewed page after log in.
![[image alt text](image_3.png)]
Click your name at the top left side of the browser window to open the account options dropdown. Select Account Settings to modify your account or Log Out to log out of *Figma.*
![[image alt text](image_4.png)]
## Desktop App Login
### From the Desktop App
Double-click the *Figma app* in your Applications folder.
![[image alt text](image_5.png)]
Enter your login credentials or authenticate with your Google Account or SAML SSO credentials.
Click the Log in button.
![[image alt text](image_6.png)]
The *Desktop app opens to the Recently Viewed screen after log in.
![[image alt text](image_7.png)]
Click your name at the top left side of the screen to open the account options dropdown. Select Account Settings to modify your account or Log Out to log out of *Figma.*
![[image alt text](image_8.png)]

```

- Save the changes made to the Markdown file.

You are now ready to copy all contents of the Markdown file to the desired page on the Developer Portal!