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COVER IMAGE

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Preface

This is an example of “frontmatter”, which comes before the main text of the book.

Chapter 1

The first chapter

This is the first paragraph of the Softcover Markdown template produced with the `softcover` command-line interface. It shows how to write a document in Markdown, a lightweight markup language, augmented with the [kramdown](#) converter and some custom extensions, including support for embedded PolyTeX, a subset of the powerful L^AT_EX typesetting system.¹ For more information, see *The Softcover Book*. To learn how to easily publish (and optionally sell) documents produced with Softcover, visit [Softcover.io](#).

This is the *second* paragraph, showing how to emphasize text.² You can also make text **bold** or *emphasize a second way*. Via embedded PolyTeX, Softcover also supports colored text, such as **red**, **cornflower blue**, and **arbitrary HTML colors**.

1.1 A section

This is a section. You can refer to it using the L^AT_EX cross-reference syntax, like so: [Section 1.1](#).

¹Pronunciations of “LaTeX” differ, but *lay*-tech is the one I prefer.

²This is a footnote. It is numbered automatically.

1.1.1 Source code

This is a subsection.

You can typeset code samples and other verbatim text using four spaces of indentation:

```
def hello
  puts "hello, world"
end
```

Softcover also comes with full support for syntax-highlighted source code using kramdown’s default syntax, which combines the language name with indentation:

```
def hello
  puts "hello, world"
end
```

Softcover’s Markdown mode also extends kramdown to support so-called “code fencing” from GitHub-flavored Markdown:

```
def hello
  puts "hello, world!"
end
```

The last of these can be combined with PolyT_EX’s `codelisting` environment to make code listings with linked cross-references ([Listing 1.1](#)).

Listing 1.1: Hello, world.

```
def hello
  puts "hello, world!"
end
```

1.1.2 Mathematics

Softcover's Markdown mode supports mathematical typesetting using \LaTeX syntax, including inline math, such as $\phi^2 - \phi - 1 = 0$, and centered math, such as

$$\phi = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}.$$

It also supports centered equations with linked cross-reference via embedded Poly \TeX (Eq. (1.1)).

$$\phi = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \tag{1.1}$$

Softcover also supports an alternate math syntax, such as $\phi^2 - \phi - 1 = 0$, and centered math, such as

$$\phi = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}.$$

The \LaTeX syntax is strongly preferred, but the alternate syntax is included for maximum compatibility with other systems.

1.2 Images and tables

This is the second section.

Softcover supports the inclusion of images, like this:



Using \LaTeX labels, you can also include a caption (as in [Figure 1.1](#)) or just a figure number (as in [Figure 1.2](#)).



Figure 1.1: Some dude.



Figure 1.2

1.2.1 Tables

Softcover supports raw tables via a simple table syntax:

HTTP request	URL	Action	Purpose
GET	/users	index	page to list all users

GET	/users/1	show	page to show user with id 1
GET	/users/new	new	page to make a new user
POST	/users	create	create a new user
GET	/users/1/edit	edit	page to edit user with id 1
PATCH	/users/1	update	update user with id 1
DELETE	/users/1	destroy	delete user with id 1

See *The Softcover Book* to learn how to make more complicated tables.

1.3 Command-line interface

Softcover comes with a command-line interface called **softcover**. To get more information, just run **softcover help**:

```
$ softcover help
Commands:
  softcover build, build:all      # Build all formats
  softcover build:epub           # Build EPUB
  softcover build:html           # Build HTML
  softcover build:mobi           # Build MOBI
  softcover build:pdf            # Build PDF
  softcover build:preview        # Build book preview in all formats
  .
  .
  .
```

You can run **softcover help <command>** to get additional help on a given command:

```
$ softcover help build
Usage:
  softcover build, build:all

Options:
  -q, [--quiet]  # Quiet output
  -s, [--silent] # Silent output

Build all formats
```

1.4 Miscellanea

This is the end of the template—apart from two mostly empty chapters. In fact, lets include the last chapter in its entirety, just to see how mostly empty it is:

```
# Yet *another* chapter  
*This chapter left intentionally blank*
```

Visit [The Softcover Book](#) to learn more about what Softcover can do.

Chapter 2

Another chapter

This is another chapter.¹ It also includes a little code fencing, mainly to test an edge case for the sake of the Softcover test suite:²

```
$ find . \( -name \*.gemspec -or -name \*.jpg \) -type f
```

¹Footnotes are numbered on a per-chapter basis.

²The test suite uses the template files to stress-test the build system. In this case, there used to be a bug when math syntax appeared in a non-math context. Including the code fencing as above ensures that any regressions will cause the test suite to fail.

Chapter 3

***Yet another* chapter**

This chapter left intentionally blank