



## Overview

README files are one way of documenting a development project. READMEs play an especially important role in open-source software, as they give the reader valuable information about the code you created. There is no standard README format. Much of the format depends on the scope of the software or project, so it's really up to the developer what information should be included or provided. However, there are several elements that are part of good README files:

- A description of the **purpose of the project**
- A demonstration of **how it works** (its functional operations)
- An identification of the **tools used** and a **rationale** for why those tools were chosen
- An explanation of how to **reproduce** the project

In this assignment, you will explore and implement best practices for creating README files. This will help prepare you for the README files that you will need to create in Projects One and Two.

## Prompt

This assignment provides you with some sample README files to explore and a README template. After you have reviewed the required documentation for creating a README file, you will learn about and implement best practices for creating your own README files.

1. Explore the following example README files: [Zircon](#), [BigFoot Dash App](#), and [Plotly Dash](#). These READMEs come from a variety of different software projects and have different strengths and weaknesses. As you read, consider the following:
  - How clearly did each README file describe the **purpose** of their project?
  - What information did the README files include about the **functionality** of their project? What was helpful about this information? What could be improved?
  - What information did the README files include about the **tools** (software and libraries) that they used or how the user could **reproduce** the project?

Note: You do not need to submit anything related to this step. These are examples to guide your work in the next step.

2. After exploring the sample README files, begin creating your own README file for the CRUD Python module that you began creating in the Module Four milestone. Use the [README template Word Document](#) to get started. You must address each of the following:
  - **Describe the purpose of the project** by completing the About the Project and Motivation sections of the template.
  - **Demonstrate the project's functional operations** by completing the Usage section. Be sure to include examples of your code and screenshots that show how your module works.
  - **Document the tools used, identifying each tool and including your rationale for using these tools**, by completing the Installation section. "Tools" include any software applications as well as any libraries used to complete your work.
  - **Create instructions for reproducing the project** by completing the Getting Started section. Discuss what the user of this CRUD Python module would need to do to get started. Some points to address are:
    - Briefly describe the database and user authentication that you set up in the Module Three milestone.
    - Briefly describe how you created the C and R portions of your Python module, any challenges you encountered, and how you overcame them.

Note: In this assignment, you only need to focus on creating a README for the **create** and **read** functionality of your CRUD Python module. You will continue developing the **update** and **delete** functionality as a part of Project One, which is due in Module Five. You will also need to update your README file for that assignment.

## Guidelines for Submission

Your completed README file should be a 1- to 2-page Word document with double spacing, 11-point Calibri font, and one-inch margins. Use the provided README template to meet the expectations for this assignment.

Module Four Assignment Rubric

Criteria	Exemplary	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Not Evident	Value
<b>Project Purpose</b>	Exceeds proficiency in an exceptionally clear, insightful, sophisticated, or creative manner (100%)	Describes the purpose of the project by completing the appropriate sections of the given README template (85%)	Shows progress toward proficiency, but with errors or omissions; areas for improvement may include describing the project's purpose or use of the provided README file template (55%)	Does not attempt criterion (0%)	25
<b>Project Functionality and Screenshots</b>	N/A	Demonstrates the project's functional operations by completing the appropriate sections of the given README template and including relevant screenshots (100%)	Shows progress toward proficiency, but with errors or omissions; areas for improvement may include demonstration of the project's functional operations, use of the provided README file template, or inclusion of screenshots (55%)	Does not attempt criterion (0%)	35
<b>Documenting Tools and Rationale</b>	Exceeds proficiency in an exceptionally clear, insightful, sophisticated, or creative manner (100%)	Documents the tools used by identifying each tool and including rationale in the appropriate sections of the given README template (85%)	Shows progress toward proficiency, but with errors or omissions; areas for improvement may include identification of tools or rationale, or use of the provided README file template (55%)	Does not attempt criterion (0%)	20

Criteria	Exemplary	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Not Evident	Value
<b>Reproducing the Project</b>	Exceeds proficiency in an exceptionally clear, insightful, sophisticated, or creative manner (100%)	Creates instructions for reproducing the project by explaining steps that were taken to complete the project, any challenges that were encountered, and how those challenges were overcome (85%)	Shows progress toward proficiency, but with errors or omissions; areas for improvement may include instructions for reproducing the project or description of challenges (55%)	Does not attempt criterion (0%)	20
<b>Total:</b>					100%