

Documentation Tools Cheat Sheet

Antora 3.2.1 · Docusaurus 3.10.2 · Zensical 0.0.72 (alpha) · DocFX 2.81.0
Versions checked 2026-10-26 · Pocket Units running example

WHICH TOOL?

Antora	Many repos and versions, AsciiDoc, big product docs, custom UI bundle.
Docusaurus	Docs + blog + i18n + React components; Markdown/MDX; large plugin ecosystem.
Zensical	Fast Markdown site, Python projects, move off Material for MkDocs (alpha).
DocFX	.NET API reference from assemblies and XML comments, plus Markdown and REST (OpenAPI) pages.

MINI FEATURE MATRIX

	Antora	Docusaurus	Zensical	DocFX
Input	AsciiDoc	MD, MDX	Markdown	MD, YAML, C#
Multi-repo	yes	no	no	no
Versions	built in	built in	mike fork	manual
i18n	manual	built in	UI only	manual
Blog	no	yes	plugin	no
API docs	no	OpenAPI plugin	mkdocstrings	.NET, REST
Runtime	Node ≥ 20	Node ≥ 20	Python ≥ 3.11	.NET SDK ≥ 8

Antora3.2.1 · AsciiDoc	
Install	npm i -D -E antora@3.2.1
Build	npx antora antora-playbook.yml → build/site; --fetch refreshes remote branches; serve with npx http-server build/site
Config	antora-playbook.yml: site.title, content.sources[].url/branches/start_path, ui.bundle.url; antora.yml: name, version, nav
Layout	docs/antora.yml, modules/ROOT/{pages,partials,examples,images,attachments,nav.adoc}
Links	xref:version@component:module:page.adoc[text]; image::x.svg[alt]; include::partial\$x.adoc[]
Admonitions	NOTE: TIP: WARNING: or [IMPORTANT] + ==== block
Diagrams, math	Asciidoctor extensions (asciidoc.extensions): Mermaid, MathJax, Kroki
Versioning	one branch or tag per version; prerelease, display_version; latest_version_segment
Search	@antora/lunr-extension (1.0.0-alpha.13) writes search-index.js; Pagefind or DocSearch as alternatives
Theming	UI bundle (ui.bundle.url, snapshot: true), ui.supplemental_files
GitHub Pages	build, add .nojekyll, deploy build/site (actions/deploy-pages or gh-pages branch)

Docusaurus3.10.2 · Markdown / MDX	
Install	npx create-docusaurus@latest my-website classic --typescript
Build	npm run start (dev), npm run build → build/, npx docusaurus serve, docusaurus clear
Config	docusaurus.config.ts: title, url, baseUrl, presets, themeConfig; sidebars.ts
Layout	docs/, blog/, src/pages/, src/css/custom.css, static/, versioned_docs/, i18n/
Links	[text](./other.md) relative file links; front matter id, slug, sidebar_position
Admonitions	:::note[Title] ... ::: (also tip, info, warning, danger)
Diagrams, math	@docusaurus/theme-mermaid + markdown.mermaid: true; KaTeX via remark-math / rehype-katex
Versioning	npx docusaurus docs:version 1.0.0 → versioned_docs/; i18n: write-translations
Search	Algolia DocSearch (themeConfig.algolia) or community local search plugin
Theming	src/css/custom.css (Infima variables), docusaurus swizzle <theme> <Component> --wrap --eject
GitHub Pages	set url, baseUrl, organizationName; workflow: build, upload-pages-artifact, deploy-pages

Zensical0.0.72 · Markdown · alpha	
Install	pip install zensical==0.0.72 or uv add --dev zensical
Build	zensical new ., zensical serve (local preview), zensical build --clean → site/
Config	zensical.toml [project]: site_name, site_url, nav, docs_dir, site_dir; reads mkdocs.yml too
Layout	zensical.toml, docs/index.md, overrides/, docs/stylesheets/
Links	relative Markdown links [text](page.md#anchor); validated at build
Admonitions	!!! note "Title" + indented body; ??? tip collapsible
Diagrams, math	SuperFences mermaid fence; pymdownx.arithmatex with MathJax or KaTeX
Versioning	transitional mike fork + extra.version; content i18n on the roadmap
Search	built-in client-side search, tuned under [project.plugins.search]
Theming	[project.theme] (variant, palette, features), extra_css, custom_dir overrides
GitHub Pages	workflow: setup-python, pip install zensical, zensical build --clean, upload-pages-artifact, deploy-pages

DocFX2.81.0 · Markdown + .NET	
Install	dotnet tool install -g docfx --version 2.81.0
Build	docfx init -y, docfx metadata, docfx build → _site/; docfx docfx.json --serve
Config	docfx.json: metadata[], src/dest, build.content, build.resource, build.template, build.globalMetadata
Layout	docfx.json, toc.yml, index.md, docs/, api/ (generated YAML)
Links	[text](xref:Uid), <xref:Uid>, @Uid; ~/ paths; uid: in front matter
Admonitions	> [!NOTE] / [!TIP] / [!WARNING] block quotes
Diagrams, math	Mermaid fences (modern template); KaTeX math with \$... \$
Versioning	no built-in switcher; publish one site per version
Search	built-in client-side search in the modern template
Theming	docfx template export modern, then build.template: ["default", "modern", "custom"] search path
GitHub Pages	setup-dotnet, dotnet tool install -g docfx, docfx docfx.json, upload-pages-artifact _site, deploy-pages

ANTORA UI BUNDLE

- Anatomy:** css/, js/ (+ js/vendor/), helpers/, layouts/default.hbs (the only required template; 404.hbs when site.url is set), partials/, img/, font/, optional ui.yml; output folder _.
- Default UI project:** git clone antora-ui-default, npm ci; npx gulp preview (live reload on :5252), preview:build, lint, bundle → build/ui-bundle.zip, bundle:pack.

- Consume:** ui.bundle.url (ZIP; local path may be a ZIP or folder), start_path, output_dir, default_layout. A remote URL is cached: use snapshot: true with --fetch.
- Extend:** ui.supplemental_files overlays files without rebuilding. **Lunr contract:** search field #search-input, search-ui.js, data-facet-filter="component:<name>" .

CHANGED RECENTLY

- Antora 3.2:** Node 20 minimum; exit code 2 when the log failure level is hit; versionSegment in output paths; git.fetch_depth, worktrees, commits filter; new UI helper resolveResource.
- Docusaurus 3.10:** last 3.x minor; Faster (Rspack) via future.faster, future.v4 flags prepare for v4 (canary only); :::note[Title] .

- Zensical:** Material for MkDocs 9.8.0 is in maintenance mode (critical fixes until 2027-05-05); Zensical is its successor, 0.1.0 announced for 2026-11-05.
- DocFX:** community-maintained under the .NET Foundation; 2.81.0 current; template customisation limits of the modern template.