
Shonku Documentation

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Shonku is a static blog generator written in golang.

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History of the project

More than a year back I was introduced to [Nikola](#), a static blog/site generator written in Python. It completely changed my view about blogs. Blogging suddenly became simple again and I started spending more time in writing than thinking about formatting etc.

But I was having problem in maintaining my theme and dependencies between upgrades also increased (which is a good thing in one way as the upstream is adding a lot of features in Nikola).

I started shonku from there with a hope to keep it as simplified Nikola written in [golang](#). It works very fast too.

Installation

2.1 Install golang

Download golang from [here](#) , extract go directory under your home directory.

```
$ mkdir ~/gocode
```

Now write the following lines in your ~/.bashrc file.

```
export PATH=$PATH:~/go/bin
export GOPATH=~/gocode/
export GOROOT=~/go/
```

and then

```
$ source ~/.bashrc
```

2.2 Install the dependencies

After golang installation, get the dependent libraries.

```
$ go get github.com/russross/blackfriday
$ go get github.com/gorilla/feeds
  $ go get code.google.com/p/go.net/html
```

Get the latest Shonku code

Use git to clone the repository

```
$ git clone https://github.com/kushaldas/shonku.git
```

Building the source

```
$ make
```

This should create a binary called *shonku.bin*.

Rebuilding bindata for default theme

In case you make any changes to the default theme, you want those changes inside the binary file also. For that issue the following command before building the binary.

```
$ go-bindata assets/... templates/
```

Note: Remember to install go-bindata from [here](#).

Usage

Note: We support only [Markdown](#) format. You can learn it very fast and use any text editor to edit.

6.1 Creating new site

First go to an empty directory and run the following command.

```
$ ./shonku.bin -new_site
```

This will create the required files and directories for shonku to run.

6.2 Writing a new post

To write a new blog post do the following command.

```
$ ./shonku.bin -new
Enter the title of the post: Hello World
Your new post is ready at ./posts/hello-world.md
```

As the output shows your first blog post is ready. Make the changes as you want in that file.

Note: Remember to keep a blank line at the end of each post or page.

6.3 Building your post

Just run the following command.

```
$ ./shonku.bin
{SITE AUTHOR SITE TITLE http://localhost/ Copyright 2014 yourdisqus author@email Description of the s
Building post: ./posts/hello-world.md
```

You can check the output directory for the finished blog post.

6.4 Force rebuild of the whole site

```
$ ./shonku.bin -force
```

The above command will rebuild the whole site. You may want to use this command when you make any change to your theme or configuration file.

6.5 Details of each post

When you create a new post it will contain something similar to the details below

```
<!--  
.. title: Hello World  
.. slug: hello-world  
.. date: 2014-05-19T12:15:41+05:30  
.. tags: Blog  
.. link:  
.. description:  
.. type: text  
-->
```

Write your post here.

You can add more tags to the post, they are comma separated. This post format is same of Nikola v7.x, that means it is interchangeable between these two blog engines.

6.6 Individual author per post

We can have individual author for each post. Just add the following line in any of the post where you want a different author (do it in the comments as show in above).

```
.. author: AUTHOR NAME
```

Configuration

Shonku works based on a JSON configuration file based on the primary directory. It is *conf.json*. Various values of the file is explained below.

- “Author” - is the site author’s name.
- “Title” - is the title of the blog.
- “URL” - is the url of the blog. Remember to give the trailing slash in the url.
- “Description” - long description of the site.
- “Logo” - Url of the logo for the blog.
- “Content_footer” - footer text
- “Email” - Author’s email.
- “Disqus” - your disqus name for dynamic comments.
- “Links” - For the links in the header of each page.

Contributors

Names are not in any particular order.

- Bibhas : Wrote the patch for the slug creation.
- Siddhesh : Contributor to many different parts of the codebase.

Theming

We have a very simple them in Shonku and one can easily modify the theme.

The primary directory to keep in mind is *templates*. This is where all template files are. If you make any changes to the templates remember to do a force build of the site.

All static files required for the current theme are located in the *assets* directory. You can add any static file there.

9.1 Secondary Themes

We are slowly building a list of secondary themes. Most of these themes are following Nikola themes only.

- [Shankoplast](#)

You can [download](#) the latest version of these themes from github. Feel free to submit your own theme.

Indices and tables

- `genindex`
- `modindex`
- `search`