Inkra

User Manual

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Inkra

User Manual — Version 1.0

Inkra is a native Markdown editor for macOS built with SwiftUI and AppKit. Write in Markdown with real-time syntax highlighting, see a live preview with KaTeX formulas, Mermaid diagrams and code blocks, and use the built-in AI assistant for writing tasks like proofreading, shortening or translating. Inkra supports 20+ languages. Inkra for Mac costs EUR 29.99 as a one-time purchase; Inkra Pro (EUR 7.99 per month or EUR 79.99 per year) additionally includes Inkra KI, the MCP server and the REST API. The Inkra app for iPad and iPhone is free; with Inkra Pro, Inkra KI works there too.

Key Features

- **Native editor** — NSTextView with TextKit 2 and AST-based syntax highlighting
- **Live preview** — WKWebView with KaTeX, Mermaid and highlight.js
- **AI assistant** — Chat panel with Claude, OpenAI, Ollama and Inkra KI (Inkra Pro)
- **Writing actions** — Proofread, shorten, expand, translate and more
- **File management** — Sidebar with file tree and document outline
- **Export** — HTML and PDF with full formatting
- **MCP server** — External automation via inkra-mcp-server (Inkra Pro)

Getting Started

Installation

Download the DMG file from the product page and drag Inkra to your Applications folder. Alternatively, Inkra is available on the Mac App Store.

System requirements: macOS 14.0 (Sonoma) or later, Apple Silicon or Intel.

iPad and iPhone: The Inkra app for iPad and iPhone is available free of charge from the App Store and needs no licence (iPadOS or iOS 17.0 or later). The Inkra purchase and the Inkra Pro subscription apply to the Mac. With Inkra Pro you can use Inkra KI on iPad and iPhone too by entering the same licence key there.

First Launch

On first launch, Inkra opens an empty document. The interface has three areas:

- **Sidebar** (left) — file tree or document outline
- **Editor** (center) — Markdown text editor with syntax highlighting
- **Preview / Chat** (right) — live preview or AI chat panel

The status bar at the bottom shows word count, character count and document status.

Your First Document

1. Write Markdown text in the editor
2. Open the preview to see the rendered result
3. Save with **Cmd+S** or via the menu

Inkra detects changes automatically and shows the status in the title bar.

Editor

Syntax Highlighting

The editor is built on a native NSTextView with TextKit 2. Markdown syntax is highlighted in real time — headings, bold, italic, links, code blocks and lists each receive distinct formatting. Highlighting is performed via an AST walk using the swift-markdown framework.

Focus Mode

Focus mode dims everything except the current paragraph. Inactive paragraphs are faded so you can concentrate on the text you are writing. Enable it via **View** → **Focus Mode** or the toolbar.

Wide Mode

By default, text width is limited to a comfortable reading column. Wide mode uses the full window width — useful for tables or long code blocks.

Supported Markdown Syntax

Element	Syntax
Headings	`# H1` through `###### H6`
Bold	`**text**`
Italic	`*text*`
Inline code	`` `code` ``
Code block	```` ```language ````
Link	`[Text](URL)`
Image	`![Alt](URL)`
List	`- Item` or `1. Item`
Blockquote	`> Text`
Table	`| A | B |`
Horizontal rule	`---`
Task list	`- [ ] Task`
KaTeX formula	`$formula$` or `$$formula$$`
Mermaid diagram	```` ```mermaid ````

Preview

Live Preview

The preview renders your Markdown text as HTML in real time. It runs inside a WKWebView and updates on every editor change via incremental DOM updates through JavaScript injection — no full page reload.

KaTeX Formulas

Mathematical formulas are rendered with KaTeX. Inline formulas with `$E = mc^2$`, block formulas with `$$...$$`. KaTeX supports a large subset of LaTeX syntax.

Mermaid Diagrams

Code blocks with the language `mermaid` are rendered as diagrams. Flowcharts, sequence diagrams, Gantt charts, class diagrams and other Mermaid diagram types are supported.

Code Highlighting

Code blocks in the preview receive syntax highlighting via highlight.js. Language detection uses the identifier after the triple backticks (e.g. ```` ```swift ````). Many programming languages are supported.

AI Assistant

Chat Panel

The AI chat panel opens to the right of the editor. You can ask questions, get text suggestions or request revisions. Responses are streamed — you see the text as it is generated.

Providers

Provider	API Key	Description
Inkra KI	No (Inkra Pro)	AI service without your own API key, part of Inkra Pro (EUR 7.99/month or EUR 79.99/year)
Claude	Yes	Anthropic's Claude models
OpenAI	Yes	GPT-4o and other models
Ollama	No	Local LLMs, all data stays on your Mac

With Inkra, you use AI with your own API key (Claude, OpenAI) or locally with Ollama. Inkra KI is part of Inkra Pro; with the same licence key you can also use it in the free Inkra app for iPad and iPhone.

Select the provider under **Settings** → **AI**. API keys are stored securely in the macOS Keychain.

Writing Actions

Select text in the editor and choose an action from the context menu or toolbar:

Action	Description
Proofread	Check spelling and grammar
Shorten	Reduce text to essentials
Expand	Elaborate on the text
Translate	Translate into another language
Summarize	Extract key points
Change tone	Make more formal or informal

The result appears in the chat panel. From there you can insert it directly into the editor.

File Management

Sidebar

The sidebar offers two views via tabs at the top:

- **Files** — file tree of the opened folder with Markdown files
- **Outline** — document outline based on headings in the current file

Clicking an outline entry scrolls the editor to the corresponding heading.

File Tree

Open a folder via **File** → **Open Folder**. The file tree shows all Markdown files in the folder and its subfolders. Click a file to open it in the editor.

Document Status

The status bar shows the current document state:

- **Word count** — total number of words in the document
- **Character count** — total number of characters
- **Modified** — whether the document has unsaved changes

Export

HTML Export

Via **File** → **Export** → **HTML**, the document is exported as a self-contained HTML file. KaTeX formulas, Mermaid diagrams and code highlighting are included in the exported file.

PDF Export

Via **File** → **Export** → **PDF**, the document is exported as a PDF file. The layout matches the preview — including formulas, diagrams and code blocks.

Settings

Editor

- **Font** — Choose the editor font
- **Font size** — Adjust the editor font size
- **Theme** — Light or dark mode for the editor
- **Focus mode** — Dim inactive paragraphs
- **Wide mode** — Full window width for the text area

AI

- **Provider** — Inkra KI (Inkra Pro), Claude, OpenAI or Ollama
- **API key** — Key for the selected provider
- **Endpoint** — Custom endpoint for OpenAI-compatible APIs
- **License key** — For Inkra KI (part of Inkra Pro)

Debug API

Under advanced settings you can enable the debug server. This starts a local TCP server with token authentication for external automation.

- **Port** — TCP port for the debug server
- **Token** — Authentication token for access

API & MCP

The debug server (REST API) and the MCP server are part of Inkra Pro (EUR 7.99 per month or EUR 79.99 per year) and are only included in the version from our store, not in the one from the Mac App Store.

Debug Server

The debug server is a local TCP server (NWListener) that can be enabled in settings. It provides a JSON-based API for external automation.

Authentication: Every request must include the configured token in the `Authorization: Bearer <token>` header.

Endpoint	Description
`GET /health`	Check server availability
`GET /document`	Get current document
`POST /document`	Set document content
`GET /status`	Editor status (word count, file, etc.)

MCP Server

The MCP server (`inkra-mcp-server`) ships as a standalone CLI tool inside the app bundle. It implements the Model Context Protocol and communicates with the main app via XPC. AI assistants like Claude Code can access the editor through it.

Configuration is done through the MCP settings of the respective AI client. The server starts automatically when a client connects.

Automation

External scripts and tools can access the editor via the debug server. Typical use cases:

- Read and write document content programmatically
- Query editor status (open file, word count)
- Integration into CI/CD pipelines or documentation workflows

- Control by AI assistants via MCP

FAQ

Which file formats does Inkra support?

Inkra works with Markdown files (.md). HTML and PDF are available for export. The preview renders KaTeX formulas, Mermaid diagrams and syntax highlighting for many programming languages.

How much does Inkra cost?

Inkra for Mac costs EUR 29.99 incl. VAT as a one-time purchase, no subscription; the purchase includes updates for Inkra 1.x. You can try Inkra free for 14 days first. Inkra Pro costs EUR 7.99 per month or EUR 79.99 per year (incl. VAT) and additionally includes Inkra KI, the MCP server and the REST API.

Is Inkra available for iPad and iPhone?

Yes, the Inkra app for iPad and iPhone is available free of charge from the App Store and needs no licence (iPadOS or iOS 17.0 or later). The Inkra purchase and the Inkra Pro subscription apply to the Mac. With Inkra Pro you can use Inkra KI on iPad and iPhone too: enter the same licence key there.

Is my text sent to a server?

Your documents are stored as files on your Mac. Text only goes to the chosen AI provider when you use the AI assistant; with Ollama, the AI stays local too. Only if you set up syncing between your devices are your documents transmitted via our sync server. For activation and licence checks, Inkra connects to our licence server.

What is Inkra KI?

Inkra KI is the Inkra AI service that needs no API key of your own: AI features are available immediately, within a usage allowance. Inkra KI is part of Inkra Pro (EUR 7.99 per month or EUR 79.99 per year) and, with the same licence key, can also be used in the free app for iPad and iPhone. With Inkra, AI works with your own API key or locally with Ollama.

Can I use my own AI providers?

Yes, Inkra supports Claude, OpenAI, Ollama and any OpenAI-compatible endpoint. API keys are stored in the macOS Keychain.

Does Inkra need an internet connection?

Yes, for activation and licence checks: Inkra needs an internet connection at least every 40 days. Syncing between your devices and AI services on the internet need one too.

How does the MCP integration work?

The MCP server (inkra-mcp-server) ships as a standalone process inside the app bundle and communicates with the main app via XPC. AI assistants like Claude Code can access the editor through it. The MCP server and the REST API are part of Inkra Pro and are only included in the version from our store, not in the one from the Mac App Store.

Contact & Support

For questions or issues, please contact support at: info@juergenkoller.software

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