

Structural Design Essentials editing guide

The aim of this one-page document is to help you get started on editing Structural Design Essentials (SDE). SDE has been created in the year 2024 and has been funded by the Open Education Simulation Fund in a project lead by Roel Schipper. Mainly Teaching Assistants Niels van Vliet, Guus Meinema and Minke van den Boogaard have been involved in creating the book, while being advised by Sander Pasterkamp, Ate Snijder, Marco Schuurman and Geert Ravenshorst. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to them.

TeachBooks

Teachbooks (<https://teachbooks.tudelft.nl/>) is a project led by Tom Woudenberg and Robert Lanzafame assisted by Teaching Assistants. Their aim is to assist teachers in building open education books such as the SDE. The book was created from a GitHub template from TeachBooks, which can be found at: <https://teachbooks.io/manual/external/template/README.html>. After getting started with the template, you can make changes yourself in GitHub.



GitHub

GitHub is a platform for developers to collaborate, share, and manage code using Git version control. It hosts repositories where teams track changes, review code, and manage projects. GitHub enables branching, merging, and issue tracking, fostering efficient teamwork. It's widely used for open-source and private software development worldwide. A repository is a folder in which you can build a book. When you use the template from Teachbooks, you create your own repository. How to make changes can be seen in <https://teachbooks.io/manual/workflows/collaboration.html>, which is a chapter of the TeachBooks Manual.



Jupyter{book}

The book is organised in a folder structure in GitHub, the repository. In the repository you have a file called `TOC.yml` (<https://jupyterbook.org/en/stable/structure/toc.html#>), which is the table of content file. In this file you link all the folders and files in the repository together to build the book. New pages can be edited or created using the TeachBooks Manual (<https://teachbooks.io/manual/intro.html>) or Jupyter{book} (<https://jupyterbook.org/en/stable/intro.html>) website. The new pages can exist out of markdown (extension: .md) or jupyter notebooks (extension: .ipynb) files. You could see them as the chapters. Markdown files are the easiest to edit. It is recommended to use additional software such as Visual Studio Code to do so.



Although getting started might seem like a difficult task, it will get easier quickly. After installing Visual Studio Code and cloning the repository to your computer, you can make changes. I highly recommend to first read about TeachBooks, GitHub and JupyterBook and try it yourself. Reach out to TeachBooks if you face issues when getting started. After your first changes, you will see things will get easier quickly. Start with editing some text, then add a header or a figure. Soon you will be able to embed other things in the jupyterbook such as YouTube video's or GraspLe quizzes. Learn by trying and let yourself be assisted by ChatGPT or Copilot, when you face errors. *"Wisdom is not a product of schooling but of the lifelong attempt to acquire it" - Albert Einstein*