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# **yamllint**

***Release 1.3.2***

June 28, 2016



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A linter for YAML files.

yamllint does not only check for syntax validity, but for weirdnesses like key repetition and cosmetic problems such as lines length, trailing spaces, indentation, etc.



## Screenshot

```
> ~ > yamllint file.yml other-file.yml
file.yml
 1:4      error    trailing spaces (trailing-spaces)
 4:4      error    wrong indentation: expected 4 but found 3 (indentation)
 5:4      error    duplication of key "id-00042" in mapping (key-duplicates)
 6:6      warning   comment not indented like content (comments-indentation)
12:6      error    too many spaces after hyphen (hyphens)
15:12     error    too many spaces before comma (commas)

other-file.yml
 1:1      warning   missing document start "---" (document-start)
 6:81     error    line too long (87 > 80 characters) (line-length)
10:1      error    too many blank lines (4 > 2) (empty-lines)
11:4      error    too many spaces inside braces (braces)
```

**Note:** The default output format is inspired by [eslint](#), a great linting tool for Javascript.





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## 2.1 Quickstart

### 2.1.1 Installing yamllint

On Fedora / CentOS:

```
sudo dnf install yamllint
```

On Debian 9+ / Ubuntu 16.04+:

```
sudo apt-get install yamllint
```

On older Debian / Ubuntu versions:

```
sudo add-apt-repository -y ppa:adrienverge/ppa && sudo apt-get update
sudo apt-get install yamllint
```

Alternatively using pip, the Python package manager:

```
sudo pip install yamllint
```

If you prefer installing from source, you can run, from the source directory:

```
python setup.py sdist
sudo pip install dist/yamllint-*.tar.gz
```

### 2.1.2 Running yamllint

Basic usage:

```
yamllint file.yml other-file.yml
```

You can also lint all YAML files in a whole directory:

```
yamllint .
```

The output will look like (colors are not displayed here):

```
file.yml
 1:4      error    trailing spaces (trailing-spaces)
 4:4      error    wrong indentation: expected 4 but found 3 (indentation)
 5:4      error    duplication of key "id-00042" in mapping (key-duplicates)
```

```
6:6      warning  comment not indented like content  (comments-indentation)
12:6     error    too many spaces after hyphen      (hyphens)
15:12    error    too many spaces before comma      (commas)

other-file.yaml
1:1      warning  missing document start "---"      (document-start)
6:81    error    line too long (87 > 80 characters) (line-length)
10:1    error    too many blank lines (4 > 2)      (empty-lines)
11:4    error    too many spaces inside braces      (braces)
```

Add the `-f` parsable arguments if you need an output format parsable by a machine (for instance for [syntax highlighting in text editors](#)). The output will then look like:

```
file.yaml:6:2: [warning] missing starting space in comment (comments)
file.yaml:57:1: [error] trailing spaces (trailing-spaces)
file.yaml:60:3: [error] wrong indentation: expected 4 but found 2 (indentation)
```

If you have a custom linting configuration file (see [how to configure yamllint](#)), it can be passed to yamllint using the `-c` option:

```
yamllint -c ~/myconfig file.yaml
```

---

**Note:** If you have a `.yamllint` file in your working directory, it will be automatically loaded as configuration by yamllint.

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## 2.2 Configuration

yamllint uses a set of [rules](#) to check source files for problems. Each rule is independent from the others, and can be enabled, disabled or tweaked. All these settings can be gathered in a configuration file.

To use a custom configuration file, use the `-c` option:

```
yamllint -c /path/to/myconfig file-to-lint.yaml
```

If `-c` is not provided, yamllint will look for a configuration file in the following locations (by order of preference):

- `.yamllint` in the current working directory
- `$XDG_CONFIG_HOME/yamllint/config`
- `~/.config/yamllint/config`

Finally if no config file is found, the default configuration is applied.

### 2.2.1 Default configuration

Unless told otherwise, yamllint uses its default configuration:

```
---
rules:
  braces:
    min-spaces-inside: 0
    max-spaces-inside: 0
  brackets:
```

```

min-spaces-inside: 0
max-spaces-inside: 0
colons:
  max-spaces-before: 0
  max-spaces-after: 1
commas:
  max-spaces-before: 0
  min-spaces-after: 1
  max-spaces-after: 1
comments:
  level: warning
  require-starting-space: yes
  min-spaces-from-content: 2
comments-indentation:
  level: warning
document-end: disable
document-start:
  level: warning
  present: yes
empty-lines:
  max: 2
  max-start: 0
  max-end: 0
hyphens:
  max-spaces-after: 1
indentation:
  spaces: consistent
  indent-sequences: yes
  check-multi-line-strings: no
key-duplicates: enable
line-length:
  max: 80
  allow-non-breakable-words: yes
new-line-at-end-of-file: enable
new-lines:
  type: unix
trailing-spaces: enable

```

Details on rules can be found on [the rules page](#).

There is another pre-defined configuration named `relaxed`. As its name suggests, it is more tolerant.

It can be chosen using:

```
yamllint -d relaxed file.yml
```

## 2.2.2 Extending the default configuration

When writing a custom configuration file, you don't need to redefine every rule. Just extend the default configuration (or any already-existing configuration file).

For instance, if you just want to disable the `comments-indentation` rule, your file could look like this:

```

# This is my first, very own configuration file for yamllint!
# It extends the default conf by adjusting some options.

extends: default

```

```
rules:
  comments-indentation: disable # don't bother me with this rule
```

Similarly, if you want to set the `line-length` rule as a warning and be less strict on block sequences indentation:

```
extends: default

rules:
  # 80 chars should be enough, but don't fail if a line is longer
  line-length:
    max: 80
    level: warning

  # accept both      key:
  #                  - item
  #
  # and              key:
  #                  - item
  indentation:
    indent-sequences: whatever
```

### 2.2.3 Custom configuration without a config file

It is possible – although not recommended – to pass custom configuration options to yamllint with the `-d` (short for `--config-data`) option.

Its content can either be the name of a pre-defined conf (example: `default` or `relaxed`) or a serialized YAML object describing the configuration.

For instance:

```
yamllint -d "{extends: relaxed, rules: {line-length: {max: 120}}}" file.yaml
```

### 2.2.4 Errors and warnings

Problems detected by yamllint can be raised either as errors or as warnings.

In both cases, the script will output them (with different colors when using the `standard` output format), but the exit code can be different. More precisely, the script will exit with a failure code *only when* there is one or more error(s).

## 2.3 Rules

When linting a document with yamllint, a series of rules (such as `line-length`, `trailing-spaces`, etc.) are checked against.

A [configuration file](#) can be used to enable or disable these rules, to set their level (*error* or *warning*), but also to tweak their options.

This page describes the rules and their options.

**List of rules**

- *braces*
- *brackets*
- *colons*
- *commas*
- *comments*
- *comments-indentation*
- *document-end*
- *document-start*
- *empty-lines*
- *hyphens*
- *indentation*
- *key-duplicates*
- *line-length*
- *new-line-at-end-of-file*
- *new-lines*
- *trailing-spaces*

**2.3.1 braces**

Use this rule to control the number of spaces inside braces (`{` and `}`).

**Options**

- `min-spaces-inside` defines the minimal number of spaces required inside braces.
- `max-spaces-inside` defines the maximal number of spaces allowed inside braces.

**Examples**

1. With `braces: {min-spaces-inside: 0, max-spaces-inside: 0}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
object: {key1: 4, key2: 8}
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
object: { key1: 4, key2: 8 }
```

2. With `braces: {min-spaces-inside: 1, max-spaces-inside: 3}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
object: { key1: 4, key2: 8 }
```

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
object: { key1: 4, key2: 8 }
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
object: {  key1: 4, key2: 8  }
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
object: {key1: 4, key2: 8 }
```

### 2.3.2 brackets

Use this rule to control the number of spaces inside brackets ([ and ]).

#### Options

- `min-spaces-inside` defines the minimal number of spaces required inside brackets.
- `max-spaces-inside` defines the maximal number of spaces allowed inside brackets.

#### Examples

1. With `brackets: {min-spaces-inside: 0, max-spaces-inside: 0}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
object: [1, 2, abc]
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
object: [ 1, 2, abc ]
```

2. With `brackets: {min-spaces-inside: 1, max-spaces-inside: 3}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
object: [ 1, 2, abc ]
```

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
object: [ 1, 2, abc  ]
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
object: [  1, 2, abc  ]
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
object: [1, 2, abc ]
```

### 2.3.3 colons

Use this rule to control the number of spaces before and after colons (:).

#### Options

- `max-spaces-before` defines the maximal number of spaces allowed before colons (use `-1` to disable).
- `max-spaces-after` defines the maximal number of spaces allowed after colons (use `-1` to disable).

## Examples

1. With colons: {max-spaces-before: 0, max-spaces-after: 1}

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
object:
  - a
  - b
key: value
```

2. With colons: {max-spaces-before: 1}

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
object :
  - a
  - b
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
object  :
  - a
  - b
```

3. With colons: {max-spaces-after: 2}

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
first: 1
second: 2
third: 3
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
first: 1
2nd: 2
third: 3
```

## 2.3.4 commas

Use this rule to control the number of spaces before and after commas (,).

### Options

- `max-spaces-before` defines the maximal number of spaces allowed before commas (use `-1` to disable).
- `min-spaces-after` defines the minimal number of spaces required after commas.
- `max-spaces-after` defines the maximal number of spaces allowed after commas (use `-1` to disable).

### Examples

1. With commas: {max-spaces-before: 0}

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
strange var:
  [10, 20, 30, {x: 1, y: 2}]
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
strange var:
  [10, 20 , 30, {x: 1, y: 2}]
```

2. With commas: {max-spaces-before: 2}

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
strange var:
  [10 , 20 , 30, {x: 1 , y: 2}]
```

3. With commas: {max-spaces-before: -1}

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
strange var:
  [10,
    20  , 30
    , {x: 1, y: 2}]
```

4. With commas: {min-spaces-after: 1, max-spaces-after: 1}

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
strange var:
  [10, 20,30, {x: 1, y: 2}]
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
strange var:
  [10, 20,30, {x: 1, y: 2}]
```

5. With commas: {min-spaces-after: 1, max-spaces-after: 3}

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
strange var:
  [10, 20, 30, {x: 1, y: 2}]
```

6. With commas: {min-spaces-after: 0, max-spaces-after: 1}

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
strange var:
  [10, 20,30, {x: 1, y: 2}]
```

### 2.3.5 comments

Use this rule to control the position and formatting of comments.

#### Options

- Use `require-starting-space` to require a space character right after the #. Set to `yes` to enable, `no` to disable.



- `min-spaces-from-content` is used to visually separate inline comments from content. It defines the minimal required number of spaces between a comment and its preceding content.

### Examples

1. With `comments: {require-starting-space: yes}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
# This sentence
# is a block comment
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
#This sentence
#is a block comment
```

2. With `comments: {min-spaces-from-content: 2}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
x = 2 ^ 127 - 1 # Mersenne prime number
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
x = 2 ^ 127 - 1 # Mersenne prime number
```

## 2.3.6 comments-indentation

Use this rule to force comments to be indented like content.

### Examples

1. With `comments-indentation: {}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
# Fibonacci
[0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5]
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
# Fibonacci
[0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5]
```

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
list:
  - 2
  - 3
  # - 4
  - 5
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
list:
  - 2
  - 3
#   - 4
  - 5
```

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
# This is the first object
obj1:
  - item A
  # - item B
# This is the second object
obj2: []
```

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
# This sentence
# is a block comment
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
# This sentence
# is a block comment
```

## 2.3.7 document-end

Use this rule to require or forbid the use of document end marker (. . .).

### Options

- Set `present` to `yes` when the document end marker is required, or to `no` when it is forbidden.

### Examples

1. With `document-end: {present: yes}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
---
this:
  is: [a, document]
...
---
- this
- is: another one
...
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
---
this:
  is: [a, document]
---
- this
- is: another one
...
```

2. With `document-end: {present: no}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
---
this:
  is: [a, document]
---
- this
- is: another one
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
---
this:
  is: [a, document]
...
---
- this
- is: another one
```

### 2.3.8 document-start

Use this rule to require or forbid the use of document start marker (---).

#### Options

- Set `present` to `yes` when the document start marker is required, or to `no` when it is forbidden.

#### Examples

1. With `document-start: {present: yes}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
---
this:
  is: [a, document]
---
- this
- is: another one
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
this:
  is: [a, document]
---
- this
- is: another one
```

2. With `document-start: {present: no}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
this:
  is: [a, document]
...
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
---
this:
  is: [a, document]
...
```

### 2.3.9 empty-lines

Use this rule to set a maximal number of allowed consecutive blank lines.

#### Options

- `max` defines the maximal number of empty lines allowed in the document.
- `max-start` defines the maximal number of empty lines allowed at the beginning of the file. This option takes precedence over `max`.
- `max-end` defines the maximal number of empty lines allowed at the end of the file. This option takes precedence over `max`.

#### Examples

1. With `empty-lines: {max: 1}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
- foo:
  - 1
  - 2

- bar: [3, 4]
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
- foo:
  - 1
  - 2

- bar: [3, 4]
```

### 2.3.10 hyphens

Use this rule to control the number of spaces after hyphens (-).

#### Options

- `max-spaces-after` defines the maximal number of spaces allowed after hyphens.

## Examples

1. With hyphens: `{max-spaces-after: 1}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
- first list:
  - a
  - b
- - 1
  - 2
  - 3
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
- first list:
  - a
  - b
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
- - 1
  - 2
  - 3
```

2. With hyphens: `{max-spaces-after: 3}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
- key
- key2
- key42
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
- key
- key2
- key42
```

### 2.3.11 indentation

Use this rule to control the indentation.

#### Options

- `spaces` defines the indentation width, in spaces. Set either to an integer (e.g. 2 or 4, representing the number of spaces in an indentation level) or to `consistent` to allow any number, as long as it remains the same within the file.
- `indent-sequences` defines whether block sequences should be indented or not (when in a mapping, this indentation is not mandatory – some people perceive the `-` as part of the indentation). Possible values: `yes`, `no`, `whatever` and `consistent`. `consistent` requires either all block sequences to be indented, or none to be. `whatever` means either indenting or not indenting individual block sequences is OK.
- `check-multi-line-strings` defines whether to lint indentation in multi-line strings. Set to `yes` to enable, `no` to disable.

## Examples

1. With indentation: {spaces: 1}

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
history:
  - name: Unix
    date: 1969
  - name: Linux
    date: 1991
nest:
  recurse:
    - haystack:
      needle
```

2. With indentation: {spaces: 4}

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
history:
    - name: Unix
      date: 1969
    - name: Linux
      date: 1991
nest:
    recurse:
        - haystack:
            needle
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
history:
  - name: Unix
    date: 1969
  - name: Linux
    date: 1991
nest:
  recurse:
    - haystack:
      needle
```

3. With indentation: {spaces: consistent}

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
history:
  - name: Unix
    date: 1969
  - name: Linux
    date: 1991
nest:
  recurse:
    - haystack:
      needle
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
some:
  Russian:
    dolls
```

4. With indentation: {spaces: 2, indent-sequences: no}

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
list:
- flying
- spaghetti
- monster
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
list:
  - flying
  - spaghetti
  - monster
```

5. With indentation: {spaces: 2, indent-sequences: whatever}

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
list:
- flying:
  - spaghetti
  - monster
- not flying:
  - spaghetti
  - sauce
```

6. With indentation: {spaces: 2, indent-sequences: consistent}

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
- flying:
  - spaghetti
  - monster
- not flying:
  - spaghetti
  - sauce
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
- flying:
  - spaghetti
  - monster
- not flying:
  - spaghetti
  - sauce
```

7. With indentation: {spaces: 4, check-multi-line-strings: yes}

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
Blaise Pascal:
  Je vous écris une longue lettre parce que
  je n'ai pas le temps d'en écrire une courte.
```

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
Blaise Pascal: Je vous écris une longue lettre parce que
                je n'ai pas le temps d'en écrire une courte.
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

Blaise Pascal: Je vous écris une longue lettre parce que  
je n'ai pas le temps d'en écrire une courte.

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
C code:
void main() {
    printf("foo");
}
```

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
C code:
void main() {
    printf("bar");
}
```

### 2.3.12 key-duplicates

Use this rule to prevent multiple entries with the same key in mappings.

#### Examples

1. With `key-duplicates: {}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
- key 1: v
  key 2: val
  key 3: value
- {a: 1, b: 2, c: 3}
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
- key 1: v
  key 2: val
  key 1: value
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
- {a: 1, b: 2, b: 3}
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
duplicated key: 1
"duplicated key": 2

other duplication: 1
? >-
  other
  duplication
: 2
```

### 2.3.13 line-length

Use this rule to set a limit to lines length.



## Options

- `max` defines the maximal (inclusive) length of lines.
- `allow-non-breakable-words` is used to allow non breakable words (without spaces inside) to overflow the limit. This is useful for long URLs, for instance. Use `yes` to allow, `no` to forbid.

## Examples

1. With `line-length: {max: 70}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
long sentence:
  Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do
  eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
long sentence:
  Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod
  tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua.
```

2. With `line-length: {max: 60, allow-non-breakable-words: yes}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
this:
  is:
    - a:
        http://localhost/very/very/very/very/very/very/very/very/long/url

# this comment is too long,
# but hard to split:
# http://localhost/another/very/very/very/very/very/very/very/very/long/url
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
- this line is waaaaaaaaaaaaaay too long but could be easily split...
```

3. With `line-length: {max: 60, allow-non-breakable-words: no}`

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
this:
  is:
    - a:
        http://localhost/very/very/very/very/very/very/very/very/long/url
```

### 2.3.14 new-line-at-end-of-file

Use this rule to require a new line character (`\n`) at the end of files.

The POSIX standard [requires the last line to end with a new line character](#). All UNIX tools expect a new line at the end of files. Most text editors use this convention too.

### 2.3.15 new-lines

Use this rule to force the type of new line characters.

#### Options

- Set `type` to `unix` to use UNIX-typed new line characters (`\n`), or `dos` to use DOS-typed new line characters (`\r\n`).

### 2.3.16 trailing-spaces

Use this rule to forbid trailing spaces at the end of lines.

#### Examples

1. With `trailing-spaces: {}`

the following code snippet would **PASS**:

```
this document doesn't contain
any trailing
spaces
```

the following code snippet would **FAIL**:

```
this document contains
trailing spaces
on lines 1 and 3
```

## 2.4 Disable with comments

### 2.4.1 Disabling checks for a specific line

To prevent yamllint from reporting problems for a specific line, add a directive comment (`# yamllint disable-line ...`) on that line, or on the line above. For instance:

```
# The following mapping contains the same key twice,
# but I know what I'm doing:
key: value 1
key: value 2 # yamllint disable-line rule:key-duplicates

- This line is waaaaaaaaaay too long but yamllint will not report anything about it. # yamllint dis
  This line will be checked by yamllint.
```

or:

```
# The following mapping contains the same key twice,
# but I know what I'm doing:
key: value 1
# yamllint disable-line rule:key-duplicates
key: value 2

# yamllint disable-line rule:line-length
```

```
- This line is waaaaaaaaay too long but yamllint will not report anything about it.
  This line will be checked by yamllint.
```

It is possible, although not recommended, to disable **all** rules for a specific line:

```
# yamllint disable-line
- {    all : rules ,are disabled    for this line}
```

If you need to disable multiple rules, it is allowed to chain rules like this: `# yamllint disable-line rule:hyphens rule:commas rule:indentation`.

## 2.4.2 Disabling checks for all (or part of) the file

To prevent yamllint from reporting problems for the whole file, or for a block of lines within the file, use `# yamllint disable ...` and `# yamllint enable ...` directive comments. For instance:

```
# yamllint disable rule:colons
- Lorem      : ipsum
  dolor      : sit amet,
  consectetur : adipiscing elit
# yamllint enable rule:colons
- rest of the document...
```

It is possible, although not recommended, to disable **all** rules:

```
# yamllint disable
- Lorem      :
  ipsum:
    dolor : [ sit, amet]
-          consectetur : adipiscing elit
# yamllint enable
```

If you need to disable multiple rules, it is allowed to chain rules like this: `# yamllint disable rule:hyphens rule:commas rule:indentation`.

## 2.5 Development

yamllint provides both a script and a Python module. The latter can be used to write your own linting tools:

**class** `yamllint.linter.LintProblem` (*line*, *column*, *desc*= '<no description>', *rule*=None)

Represents a linting problem found by yamllint.

**column** = None

Column on which the problem was found (starting at 1)

**desc** = None

Human-readable description of the problem

**line** = None

Line on which the problem was found (starting at 1)

**rule** = None

Identifier of the rule that detected the problem

`yamllint.linter.run` (*input*, *conf*)

Lints a YAML source.

Returns a generator of LintProblem objects.

**Parameters**

- **input** – buffer, string or stream to read from
- **conf** – yamllint configuration object

## 2.6 Integration with text editors

Most text editors support syntax checking and highlighting, to visually report syntax errors and warnings to the user. yamllint can be used to syntax-check YAML source, but a bit of configuration is required depending on your favorite text editor.

### 2.6.1 Vim

Assuming that the [syntastic](#) plugin is installed, add to your `.vimrc`:

```
let g:syntastic_yaml_checkers = ['yamllint']
```

### 2.6.2 Neovim

Assuming that the [neomake](#) plugin is installed, yamllint is supported by default. It is automatically enabled when editing YAML files.

### 2.6.3 Other text editors

**Help wanted!**

Your favorite text editor is not listed here? Help us improve by adding a section (by opening a pull-request or issue on GitHub).

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