

Org Beamer quick reference card

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Plan

Description

Welcome to **Org Beamer reference card**. It contains the reference documentation that describes how to **write presentations** based on:

- **Org mode 8** and
- the **L^AT_EX Beamer class**.

Those **free** tools allow you to easily produce **high quality PDF files** which are going to be displayed on *every* computer exactly the way they looked on *your* computer.

Features

Since they are **like any other Org mode document**, authoring presentations with Org Beamer is very easy, thanks to its **straightforward** syntax.

The obvious advantages of this approach are that:

- **you don't have to know \LaTeX** in order to **create Beamer presentations**.
- **you are more productive** when editing presentations:
 - ▶ you can expand and collapse slides,
 - ▶ you can switch quickly between slides by using navigation (speed) commands,
 - ▶ you can incorporate code blocks (in R or in many other languages) for illustration, and evaluate them to actually render output (including plots).

Requirements

- A working \LaTeX installation is required for exporting to PDF. If it is not yet installed on your system, install [T_EX Live](#) (for example).
- You must define a beamer class in `org-latex-export-classes`:

```
(eval-after-load "ox-latex"

  ;; update the list of LaTeX classes and associated header (encoding, etc.)
  ;; and structure
  '(add-to-list 'org-latex-classes
    `("beamer"
      , (concat "\\documentclass[presentation]{beamer}\\n"
        "[DEFAULT-PACKAGES]"
        "[PACKAGES]"
        "[EXTRA]\\n")
      ("\\section{%s}" . "\\section*{%s}")
      ("\\subsection{%s}" . "\\subsection*{%s}")
      ("\\subsubsection{%s}" . "\\subsubsection*{%s}")))))
```

Creating a title page I

The very first frame in a Beamer presentation is the **title page**. By default, it will automatically be displayed with the following elements:

- the document **title**

```
#+TITLE: Document title
```

(file name, if none specified)

- the **author(s)**'s name

```
#+AUTHOR: John Doe
```

(Emacs Lisp variable `user-full-name`, if none specified)

- a **date**

```
#+DATE: 2014-06-11
```

(\LaTeX macro `\today`, if none specified)

Creating a title page II

The author's email can be included with:

```
#+AUTHOR:      \href{mailto:email@example.com}{John Doe}  
#+AUTHOR:      \texorpdfstring{John Doe\newline\url{email@example.com}}{John Doe} % D  
#+BEAMER_HEADER: \author{\texorpdfstring{John Doe\newline\url{email@example.com}}{J
```

Other elements:

- the document **subtitle**,
- their affiliation (**institute**), and
- a **title graphic**

can be included with the following commands:

```
#+BEAMER_HEADER: \subtitle{Document subtitle}  
#+BEAMER_HEADER: \institute[INST]{Institute\\url{http://www.institute.edu}}  
#+BEAMER_HEADER: \titlegraphic{\includegraphics[height=1.5cm]{InstLogo}}
```

XXX Why do I have to use :eval no (in Org blocks)?

The **inner theme** dictates how the title page is rendered.

```
#+BEAMER_HEADER: \logo{\includegraphics[height=.9cm]{InstLogo}}
```

Structure basics

Org mode presentations contain headings at different levels. By default,

- Headings at the **first** outline level will become **titles** of the different slides (called **frames** in Beamer).

```
* A title
```

- **Deeper** levels will be used as **structural environments**.

```
* A title
```

```
** Block
```

```
This is a block.
```

- The **table of contents** frame is created but is blank (you'll understand later).
You can remove it by setting the `toc` option (default: `t`) from the `#+OPTIONS:` keyword to `nil`:

```
#+OPTIONS: toc:nil
```


Creating a simple frame

To create a frame with bullets, you simply use standard Org mode bullets:

```
* Frame 1
  #+BEAMER: \framesubtitle{A subtitle}

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

Content within frames is formatted using standard Org mode syntax.

The optional **subtitle** does not have an Org syntax because it's specific to the Beamer back-end only.

Creating a table of contents (H:2)

If you set the H option from the `#+OPTIONS:` keyword such as:

```
#+OPTIONS: H:2
```

then:

- **First**-level headlines become **sections** listed in the table of contents¹, and
- **Second**-level headlines become the **frames**.

¹The items in the TOC are clickable and take you to specific frames in the presentation.

Creating a table of contents (H:3)

If you set the H option such as:

```
#+OPTIONS: H:3
```

then:

- **First**- and **second**-level headlines become **sections** and **subsections** listed in the table of contents, and
- **Third**-level headlines become the **frames**.

In many themes, sections (and subsections, when H:3) appear in the sidebar or headline.

Present a bibliography

Create a handout

You can distribute your presentation in the form of handouts. Presentations saved in this manner are entirely animation-free: overlays are removed and just the last “slide” of each frame is printed.

```
#+LATEX_CLASS_OPTIONS: [handout]

#+LaTeX_HEADER: \usepackage{pgfpages}
#+LaTeX_HEADER: \mode<handout>
#+LaTeX_HEADER: {
#+LaTeX_HEADER:   ... see below ...
#+LaTeX_HEADER: }
```

- with **one frame** per page (page size extended to A4)

```
#+LaTeX_HEADER: \pgfpagesuselayout{resize to}[a4paper,landscape]
```

- with **two frames** per A4 page

```
#+LaTeX_HEADER: \pgfpagesuselayout{2 on 1}[a4paper,border shrink=5mm]
```

- with **four frames** per A4 page

```
#+LaTeX_HEADER: \pgfpagesuselayout{4 on 1}[a4paper,border shrink=5mm,%
```

Draw a border around the frames

Add a rectangle around each frame in the handout:

```
#+LaTeX_HEADER: \setbeamertemplate{background canvas}{  
#+LaTeX_HEADER:   \tikz \draw (current page.north west) rectangle  
#+LaTeX_HEADER:                        (current page.south east);  
#+LaTeX_HEADER: }
```

Show speaker notes

Show reminders about what to say during each part of your presentation.

Your laptop monitor and your projector should have the same resolution.

[http://freakazoid.teamblind.de/2011/03/30/
latex-presentations-with-notes-on-windows-7/](http://freakazoid.teamblind.de/2011/03/30/latex-presentations-with-notes-on-windows-7/)

Print handout with speaker notes

XXX

```
#+LaTeX_HEADER: \usepackage{handoutWithNotes}  
#+LaTeX_HEADER: \pgfpagesuselayout{3 on 1 with notes}[a4paper,border shrink=5mm]
```



```
#+LATEX_CLASS: beamer  
#+LATEX_CLASS_OPTIONS:
```

Common options:

- 8pt, 9pt, 10pt, 11pt, 12pt, 14pt, 17pt, 20pt
- draft: no graphics, footlines,...
- handout: no overlays

,*#+L^AT_EX_CLASS_options*: [bigger,allowframebreaks]

L^AT_EX preamble

Append any line of code in the L^AT_EX preamble with:

```
#+LaTeX_HEADER: \usepackage{...}  
#+LaTeX_HEADER_EXTRA: \usepackage{...}  
#+BEAMER_HEADER: \institute[short name]{Institute}
```

It will go (in that order) in the [EXTRA] placeholder of the header associated to the beamer L^AT_EX class (see [org-latex-classes](#)).

Affiliated keywords

The Beamer back-end reads both

- `#+ATTR_LATEX:` and
- `#+ATTR_BEAMER:`

affiliated keywords.

Appearance of the presentation

```
#+BEAMER_THEME: Boadilla
```

is equivalent (for Boadilla) to:

```
#+BEAMER_COLOR_THEME: dolphin  
#+BEAMER_FONT_THEME: default  
#+BEAMER_INNER_THEME: [shadow]rounded  
#+BEAMER_OUTER_THEME: infolines
```

Beamer back-end (for Org export engine)

Type:

```
M-x load-library RET ox-beamer RET
```

to load the Beamer back-end library, and to obtain **extra commands** in the \LaTeX export menu:

C-c C-e 1 B Export as \LaTeX buffer (Beamer).

C-c C-e 1 b Export as \LaTeX file (Beamer).

C-c C-e 1 P **Export as PDF file** (Beamer).

C-c C-e 1 0 Export as PDF file and open (Beamer).

Structure editing support

Type:

```
M-x org-beamer-mode RET
```

to load the minor mode `org-beamer-mode` **easing the edition** of the **document structure** (through the key binding `C-c C-b`, which offers fast selection of a **Beamer environment**). You can also turn it on with:

```
#+STARTUP: beamer
```

in your document.

Column view

For a column view of options and configurations for the individual frames

```
#+COLUMNS: %45ITEM %10BEAMER_env(Env) %10BEAMER_act(Act) %4BEAMER_col(Col) %8BEAMER...  
#+COLUMNS: %20ITEM %13BEAMER_env(Env) %6BEAMER_envargs(Args) %4BEAMER_col(Col) %7BE...
```


Environment specification (`BEAMER_env` property)

XXX Put = around `BEAMER_env` in title...

- This becomes visible through the `B_frame` tag (visual aid only).

- Headlines become frames when their level is equal to `org-beamer-frame-level` (or `H` value in the `OPTIONS` line).
- Though, if a headline in the current tree has a `BEAMER_env` property set to either `frame` or `fullframe`, its level overrides the variable, giving you some flexibility in deciding **what is** and what isn't **a frame**.

```
* Section 1

** Frame

* Section 2

** Subsection 2.1

*** Frame                                                    :B_frame:
  :PROPERTIES:
  :BEAMER_env: frame
  :END:
```

This becomes a frame, instead of a block!

- A frame automatically display its title unless it is specified as a `fullframe`.
- `fullframe` is the same as the `frame` specification, but with an ignored title (`frametitle` is set to the empty string).

Blocks

Environment specification (BEAMER_env property)

XXX Use \sim or $=$ in title

Use a different **block type** for the current “block”
environment (default: block).

structureenv environment

- For highlighting text.
- To help the audience see the structure of your presentation.

Paragraph Heading.

block environment

Answered Questions

How many primes are there?

Blocks

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Special cases

You can add an appendix (frames that you do not intend to show during your talk, but which might be useful to answer a question) by inserting such a **level 1 headline** after the last regular slide of your actual presentation:

```
* Appendix material follows                                :B_appendix:
:PROPERTIES:
:BEAMER_env: appendix
:END:

# Backup slides
```

Ignoring page number in backup slides can be achieved by setting the option `noframenumbering` on all “backup” slides.

noteNH

Note with its title ignored.

againframe

You can “continue” frames that you previously started

overprint

> What may not be easy or possible is to use the directive, which is > what I used in my previous response to you.

You can always use the only environment. <https://github.com/suvayu/.emacs.d/blob/master/org-mode-config.el#L215>

That said, I think overlays with only is not as smooth as with simple overlay specifications to regular environments or macros like `\includegraphics`, `\item`, etc.

As for an `:overlay` specification, I believe it is already supported but only for lists (`ox-beamer.el:725`). I would love to have that for images too!

Overlay specification (BEAMER_act property)

Set **overlay** specifications in current block to **create dynamic effects** (*multiple slides*, called *overlays*, for a single frame)
= old BEAMER_envargs property.

Headlines support the BEAMER_act property:

```
* Headline
:PROPERTIES:
:BEAMER_act: [+~]
:END:

# Diff with [<+~>]?

- Item
- Item
```

It is translated as:

- an overlay/action specification, or

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* Headline
:PROPERTIES:
:BEAMER_act: [+~]
:END:

# Diff with [<+~>]?

- Item
- Item
```

It is translated as:

- an overlay/action specification, or
- a default overlay specification when enclosed within square brackets.

The Queen's old armchair

- Princess Anne
- Prince Charles
- corgis

Question on ML

```
\begin{figure}  
  \begin{center}  
    \includegraphics<1>[width=.7\textwidth]{figure1}  
    \includegraphics<2>[width=.7\textwidth]{figure2}  
    \includegraphics<3->[width=.7\textwidth]{figure3}  
  \end{center}  
\end{figure}
```

The following works for me:

```
#+beamer: \only<1>{  
  [[file:figure1.png]]  
#+beamer: }\only<2>{  
  [[file:figure2.png]]  
#+beamer: }\only<3->{  
  [[file:figures3.png]]  
#+beamer: }
```

There is the BEAMER_act property that can be used to apply overlay information on blocks but I don't think it's possible on individual figures. Of course, you could put each figure in a separate block. The following/attached will match what you had originally.

Option specification (BEAMER_opt property)

Insert **optional arguments for the current frame environment** using the BEAMER_OPT property.

XXX or block? See

<http://orgmode.org/manual/Beamer-export.html>.

I'd still like to see something more like a “for-dummies” explanation of passing options and arguments to \LaTeX entities. I'm not saying the documentation is woefully inadequate (hardly that – Suvayu's page got me rather far, and I got stuck on a couple of details). My experience was: it never would have occurred to me on my own to use the headline text for \LaTeX code, and if there was a hint anywhere in the docs to suggest that this would be the way to go, I didn't find it. That's a conceptual leap that passed me by.

- This is for frames, and for environments within a frame
- It specifies options for the current frame or block, and

Column specification (BEAMER_COL property)

Splitting a frame into multiple columns

To get multiple columns in a frame:

- 1 Press `C-c C-b | (BMCOL)` on the headlines (inside the frame) which will become columns
The headline of column environments won't be outputted in the PDF file.
- 2 Specify the **column width** as a **percentage** of `\textwidth`
!CAUTION! No absolute width, such as `4cm`, which wouldn't be correctly translated...

Instead of `block`, those structural environments will become `column` (with the width parameter as a factor of `\textwidth`). Consecutive `column` environments will be put in a `columns` environment.

First column

Two
lines.

The arithmetic mean is

Second column

One line (but aligned).

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

column

You can change the percent space of each column.
If you want like one column to take 70% and the other to take 30%, you can change that as follows:
XXX

Frame structure (Explicit page breaking) I

If the text does not fit on a single slide, all you have to do to automatically break up the frame into several frames, is set the option `allowframebreaks`.

- For allowing frame breaks on a **frame by frame** basis²


```
** A very long "frame" with breaks
:PROPERTIES:
:BEAMER_opt: allowframebreaks,label=
:END:
```

XXX This property shouldn't be interpreted for the current slide!

- For allowing frame breaks for the **whole** document³

```
#+BIND: org-beamer-frame-default-options "allowframebreaks"
```

²Until the Beamer [issue #265](#) is solved, we need to unset the `framelabel` as shown above (`label=`).

³Till Tantau (author of Beamer) was really not keen on the idea of setting the auto-breaking frames option globally. 

Vertical alignment

You can specify *top* **vertical alignment** globally by the `t` class option:

```
#+LaTeX_CLASS_OPTIONS: [t]
```

For single frames, you can use the same option locally:

```
* Vertically top-aligned
:PROPERTIES:
:BEAMER_opt: t
:END:

...
```

You can add that **special property** by editing the `Opt` column within the “column view” (first press `C-c C-x C-c`) .

Result of an evaluation on two columns

Balancing text in columns.

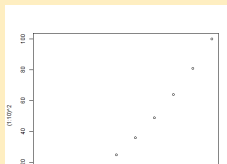
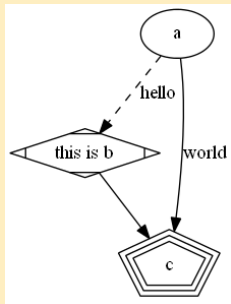
... a fancy verbatim block ea commodo consequat.

...

Using graphics

How to center pictures horizontally?

Figures



Absolute positioning

You can also place the logo on an absolute position of the titlepage using `tikz` or `textpos`.

Note – `textpos` is incompatible to `pgfpages`, even though it is mentioned in the beamer userguide as the way to go for absolute positioning.

Here an example using `tikz`:

```
\XXXbegin{frame}
  \tikz [remember picture,overlay]
    \node at
      ([yshift=3cm]current page.south)
      %or: (current page.center)
      {\includegraphics[width=\textwidth,height=.5\textheight]{someimage}};
  \titlepage
\XXXend{frame}
```

Changing the slide font

Fonts must be present on the system you're presenting on or it will go back to a fallback font.

Font Risque.

More on Org: Exporting a subtree

Skip proof
nil

Summary

For further reading



A. Salomaa.

Formal Languages.

Academic Press, 1973.

For further reading



A. Salomaa.

Formal Languages.

Academic Press, 1973.



E. Dijkstra.

Smoothsort, an alternative for sorting in situ.

Science of Computer Programming, 1(3):223–233, 1982.

For further reading



A. Salomaa.

Formal Languages.

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E. Feldman and J. Owings, Jr.

A class of universal linear bounded automata.

Information Sciences, 6:187–190, 1973.

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E. Feldman and J. Owings, Jr.

A class of universal linear bounded automata.

Information Sciences, 6:187–190, 1973.



P. Jančar, F. Mráz, M. Plátek, and J. Vogel.

Restarting automata.

FCT Conference 1995, LNCS 985, pages 282–292. 1995.

Proof details

Text omitted in main talk.

More details

Even more additional material.

Abbreviations