The *OPEN* Everyday Symbols Library

Version 1.1.0.1

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This package is an *open* and continuously extended list of "everyday symbols" (i.e., not primarily of a mathematical or otherwise technical nature). I call it open because I ask *everybody* to contribute their own symbols to it. I hope that enough people consider creating their own symbols and contribute them to this package. (Note that creating such graphics isn't particularly hard or time-intense when getting assisted by generative AI such as ChatGPT. And if enough people do this, we'll get a decent package at some point.) For further details for contributing, please read the README.

Every command follows the structure:

`\everydaySymbol[`⟨*color-or-options*⟩`]{`⟨*main-category*⟩`}{`⟨*sub-identifier-number*⟩`}`

Here, `[`⟨*color-or-options*⟩`]` is optional. If no `=` is detected in the text of ⟨*color-or-options*⟩, the argument is treated as a color. The default color is black/white (all standard LaTeX colors are possible). Otherwise, if there is an equal sign, ⟨*color-or-options*⟩ is treated as options passed to the specific graphic you're using for further customization, for which available keys depend on the graphics used. If a symbol is too large (or small), simply scale it up or down using `\scalebox{`⟨*factor*⟩`}{`⟨*your-symbol*⟩`}`.

Caveat: If you specify an option in the first optional argument, you *must* do `color=` in front of the color, should you also want to specify a color. At least one usage of an option *must* include an equal sign in order for the optional argument to get recognized as an option list, and once recognized as an option list, all color specification must be prefixed with `color=`.

Note that the document is ordered by category, like doors, houses, etc. Note however that every main category can have multiple sub categories (the sub-identifier), where one sub category is by one author, meaning that for each main category you might find several further interpretations and variants of it.

The rule for the sub-categories' name is "descriptor–author–ID". ID is to enumerate over different symbols, whereas the author field allows multiple people to contribute their work without incurring a name clash.

More symbols required?

You might be here because you require some (non-mathematical) symbol... Thus, two pieces of advice:

- Check out `https://detexify.kirelabs.org/classify.html`: it allows you to draw a symbol in the browser, and text recognition recommends LaTeX commands and the packages in which they are found. This works better for mathematical and technical symbols.
- Other than that, one might only need this amazing PDF: `https://tug.ctan.org/info/symbols/comprehensive/symbols-a4.pdf`. It lists out dozens (or hundreds?) of packages and their symbols, including their commands and symbols. Their 500 page documentation is organized in useful sections, and lists out all commands (so even full-text search works well).

If you still don't find what you are after, please consider drawing variants of what you need yourself (possibly using ChatGPT) using Ti*k*Z, and "donate" your work into this package so that it grows. :)

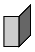
Version history at the very end.

1 Doors

In this section, you find multiple variants of doors.

1.1 floorplan–pascal

Author: package author (Pascal; using ChatGPT).

- `\everydaySymbol{door}{floorplan-pascal-01}`
- `\everydaySymbol{door}{floorplan-pascal-02}`
- `\everydaySymbol{door}{floorplan-pascal-03}` 
- `\everydaySymbol{door}{floorplan-pascal-04}`
- `\everydaySymbol{door}{floorplan-pascal-05}`
- `\everydaySymbol[color=red!66!yellow]{door}{floorplan--pascal-05}`
- `\everydaySymbol[blue]{door}{floorplan--pascal-05}`

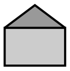
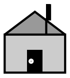
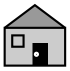
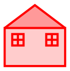
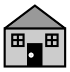
2 Houses

In this section, you find multiple variants of houses.

2.1 iconic–pascal

Author: package author (Pascal; using ChatGPT).

Note that here you have only one main command and use the config key to configure your graphic.

- `\everydaySymbol{house}{iconic-pascal}` 
- `\everydaySymbol[config={middleDoor,chimney}]{house}{iconic-pascal}` 
- `\everydaySymbol[config={rightDoor,leftWindow}]{house}{iconic-pascal}` 
- `\everydaySymbol[config=twoWindows,color=red]{house}{iconic-pascal}` 
- `\everydaySymbol[config={twoWindows,middleDoor}]{house}{iconic-pascal}` 

3 Snow

In this section, you find anything related to snow.

3.1 snowflake–john

Author: johnzhou721 (John; snowflake shape using ChatGPT, but significantly tweaked).

As always, you can specify colors using `color=`⟨*some-color*⟩, or by *only* providing a color as (optional) argument. Using `colorful=true` uses some default blue and purple color, made by the designer. With using `colorful=false` or not specifying this at all, draws the snowflake in black or the color specified. Note that the colors you specify are subject to opacity. The `colorful` switch overrides the colors you specify manually. In addition, note that you *must* specify `=true` or `=false` on `colorful`, else `colorful` is parsed as a (non-existent) color.

Also, unlike the symbols in other categories, symbols in this subcategory will automatically use the current font size, like this (❄) as opposed to this (❄) (notice the size of the flakes). In comparison, this symbol (|) is not scaled down according to the font size.

- `\everydaySymbol[colorful=true]{snow}{snowflake--john-01}` .... ❄
- `\everydaySymbol[colorful=false]{snow}{snowflake--john-01}` .... ❄
- `\everydaySymbol{snow}{snowflake--john-01}` .... ❄
- `\everydaySymbol[color=blue]{snow}{snowflake--john-01}` .... ❄
- `\everydaySymbol[color=red]{snow}{snowflake--john-01}` .... ❄
- `\everydaySymbol[purple]{snow}{snowflake--john-01}` .... ❄
- `\everydaySymbol[colorful=true,color=yellow]{snow}{snowflake--john-01}` .... ❄

Version History

Versions

- 2025/05/24, Version 1.1.0.1: by johnzhou721 (John)
  - Still same version of the package, but with minor improvements to the documentation source code.
- 2025/05/06, Version 1.1.0.1: by johnzhou721 (John)
  - Ti*k*Z options will no longer leak to other `tikzpictures` outside of the ones provided by this package (caught by @cfr42).
  - `snowflake--john-01` now uses `ex` instead of `em` for resizing to the current font size.
  - Documentation improved at various places.
  - Explanation on version numbers/pattern added (by Pascal).
- 2025/05/05, Version 1.1: by johnzhou721 (John)
  - One more category: Snow (snowflake–john)
  - Removed makeatletter in sty file (caught by @cfr42).
- 2025/04/20, Version 1.0: by Pascal (package author)
  - First version with just two categories: Door (floorplan–pascal) and House (iconic–pascal).

Minor improvements by the package author here and there (usually part of accepting pull requests) are not explicitly mentioned as “authorship”.

Explanations on Version Numbers

Versions follow the naming convention $x.y.z.k$, where:

- x is the main version. It’s increased for major changes in the functionality, possibly affecting all commands.
- y is increased whenever a major category (like “Doors”) is being added. If multiple main categories are added at once, the number still only increases once.
- z is increased whenever a subcategory (like “floorplan”) is added. If multiple subcategories are added at once, the number still only increases once.
- k This is for any minor improvement not reflected by any of the above, e.g., any sort of refactoring or improvement that’s not “major” enough (e.g., if no new functionality is added or downwards-compatibility is maintained).
- An increase of a number more to left sets all other numbers back to zero. E.g. adding a new main category after version 1.1.3.1 would create version 1.2.