

# The **hackthefootline** package

<https://github.com/SFr682k/hackthefootline>

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*Dedicated to all the  $\text{\LaTeX}$  beamer users ...  
...who load two different themes in the same presentation  
or redefine commands to obtain the desired footnote ...  
...and the other guys just using `\setbeamertemplate`*

## Abstract

**Arbitrary footnote selection and configuration for  $\text{\LaTeX}$  beamer's standard themes.**  
hackthefootline is a package taking over, defining and redefining different foot-  
lines, so they can be configured using key-value syntax.  
The basic layout of the two- and three-column footnote is based on the original  $\text{\LaTeX}$   
beamer split and infolines outer themes written by Till Tantau.

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## Dependencies and other requirements

- beamer Since `hackthefootline` is designed to modify beamer's footlines, it is incompatible to any other document class. Therefore, load this package only in beamer documents!
- pgfkeys `hackthefootline` heavily depends on the `pgfkeys` package for handling the whole key-value stuff.

Also, additional sophisticated features require the following packages:

- appendixnumber-beamer **Only required when using beamer version 3.48 and older.** This package is only required when using beamer version 3.48 or older. If you are using beamer version 3.49 or later<sup>1</sup>, `hackthefootline` will rely on beamer's internal appendix frame numbering mechanisms.
- etoolbox Provides access on  $\epsilon$ -TeX primitives
- calc Required for basic calculations
- numprint Prints out numbers, counters and lengths

However, the four latter dependencies can be removed by using some package options. See section 2.2 for further details.

## Notice: Behavior inside the presentation's appendix

By default, appendix frames are *not* counted into the total number of frames when using `hackthefootline`. Appendix frame numbers will be counted from 1 when using fraction frame numbers.

Also, frame numbers won't be displayed on footlines inside the appendix until this is changed using the means of the `\htfconfig` command.

This behavior can be suppressed by passing the `countappendixframes` option.

## License

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The latest version of this license is available at <http://www.latex-project.org/lppl.txt> and version 1.3c or later is part of all distributions of  $\LaTeX$  version 2008-05-04 or later.

This work has the LPPL maintenace status 'maintained'. The current maintainer of this work is Sebastian Friedl.

This work consists of the following files:

- `hackthefootline.sty`
- `hackthefootline-examples.tex` and
- `hackthefootline-doc.tex`

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<sup>1</sup>i. e.  $\TeX$ Live 2018 and later

## 1 Using the package

The `\usepackage[<Options>]{hackthefootline}` command loads the package<sup>2</sup>. A list of all available options can be found in section 2.

**Important note:** You *have* to pass the *footline’s number of columns* as an option to the package (available: `onecol`, `twocol` or `threecol`). If you don’t do so, the footline gets removed completely.

See section 5.1 for some examples.

## 2 Package options

### 2.1 Options influencing the footline’s configuration

These options determine the number of columns being used for the footline.

You *have* to pass one of these options when loading `hackthefootline`; otherwise the footline will be removed completely.

<code>onecol</code>	The “initial footline hack” produces a one–column footline
<code>twocol</code>	The “initial footline hack” produces a two–column footline
<code>threecol</code>	The “initial footline hack” produces a three–column footline

### 2.2 Options influencing the package’s behavior

These options can be passed to disable additional features and remove dependencies on other packages.

<code>countappendix-frames</code>	If the <code>countappendixframes</code> option is passed to the package, appendix frames are counted into the total number of frames. <i>Removes the following dependencies:</i> <code>appendixnumberbeamer</code> , <code>etoolbox</code>
<code>nofun</code>	Doesn’t support frame numbers being shown as “percent of presentation” <i>Removes the following dependencies:</i> <code>calc</code> , <code>numprint</code>

## 3 Configuring the footline

The internal mechanisms of `hackthefootline` are using templates for displaying the provided information. Each template is available in different styles, which can be switched using the provided key value syntax:

<code>\htfconfig</code>	Use <code>\htfconfig{key1=value1, key2=value2, ...}</code> to modify the current configuration of the footline. Changes apply instantly. See section 5.2 for examples.
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All available keys and values are listed below being depicted as follows:

key	<b><i>possible values</i></b> . . . . .
	Description of the values’ effects

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<sup>2</sup>To do so, the package has to be installed in a location where  $\text{\LaTeX}$  is able to find it

### Annotations:

- The default values of the keys depend on the number of columns chosen when loading the package. See section 4 for further details.
- *Templates not visible* in the default configuration have been hidden by setting the value of the according key to none. Apply another value to this key and the template will show up.  
*Templates visible* in the default configuration can be hidden by setting the value of the according key to none (there's only one exception: atsep).  
See section 5.2 for examples.

`cols` ***one, two, three, none*** . . . . .

The number of columns used for the footline:

**one** Use a footline consisting of a single column

**two** Use a footline consisting of two columns

**three** Use a footline consisting of three columns

**none** Remove the footline completely

Although the `cols` key's value changes, the other keys' values stay the same. **If you change the number of columns of a footline, the other keys should be adjusted as well.**

*Warning:* Changing this key's value too often might distract your audience.

`title` ***short, long, none*** . . . . .

Sets the title type displayed in the footline:

**short** Show the short title given in the square braces of the `\title` command.  
When no short title is given, the long title will be used.

**long** Show the long title given in the curly braces of the `\title` command.

**none** Don't show any title inside the footline

`authinst` ***onlyauthor, onlyinst, instpths, authpths, both, none*** . . . . .

Influences the way author and institute are displayed:

**onlyauthor** Show only the author's name

**onlyinst** Show only the institute's name

**instpths** Show both, author and institute, but put the institute into parentheses

**authpths** Show both, author and institute, but put the author into parentheses

**both** Show both and separate them using a comma

**none** Show neither author, nor institute

All templates use the values specified for short author / short institute.

date	<b><i>short, long, none</i></b> . . . . .
	The date displayed in the footline:
	<b>short</b> Show the short date
	<b>long</b> Show the long date
	<b>none</b> Do not show any date
framenrs	<b><i>counter, fraction, percent, none</i></b> . . . . .
	Controls the type of frame number shown in the footline:
	<b>counter</b> Only show the number of the current frame
	<b>fraction</b> Show the number of the current frame as well as the total number of frames
	<b>percent</b> Display the current progress of the presentation displayed as a percent value When setting this value, make sure that you didn't pass the <code>nofun</code> option when loading the package, otherwise an error message will be thrown.
	<b>none</b> Do not show frame numbers
atsep	<b><i>colon, comma, space</i></b> . . . . .
	Sets the character used to separate author and title when using the <code>onecol</code> footline:
	<b>colon</b> Use a colon as separator
	<b>comma</b> Use a comma as separator
	<b>space</b> Use a space as separator

## 4 Default configurations

Depending on the selected number of columns, the default configuration of the footlines is as follows:

### One-column footline

```
\htfconfig{%
  title=short, authinst=both,
  date=none, framenrs=fraction, atsep=colon}
```

Short author, Short institute: Short title

1 / 1

### Two-column footline

```
\htfconfig{%
  title=short, authinst=onlyauthor,
  date=none, framenrs=none}
```

Short author

Short title

## Three-column footline

```
\htfconfig{%  
  title=short, authinst=instpths,  
  date=short, framenrs=fraction}
```

Short author (Short institute)	Short title	Short date	1 / 1
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## 5 Examples

### 5.1 Setting up hackthefootline

**Example 1:** `\usepackage[onecol]{hackthefootline}`

*Effect:* A one-column footline

Short author, Short institute:	Short title	1 / 1
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**Example 2:** `\usepackage[twocol]{hackthefootline}`

*Effect:* A two-column footline

Short author	Short title
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**Example 3:** `\usepackage[threecol]{hackthefootline}`

*Effect:* A three-column footline

Short author (Short institute)	Short title	Short date	1 / 1
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**Example 4:** `\usepackage{hackthefootline}`

*Effect:* The footline gets removed

### 5.2 Switching templates

This section assumes, that the `\usepackage[twocol]{hackthefootline}` command was used to load the hackthefootline package.

The preamble contains the following commands for setting the information about title, author, institute and date:

```
\title[Short Introduction]{%  
  A short introduction on \texttt{hackthefootline}'s facilities}  
\author[S. Friedl]{Sebastian Friedl}  
\institute[Some Institute]{Some Institute far, far away}  
\date[2018/01/15]{January 15, 2018}
```

We will start with step 1 and continue further on, each step is changing the result of the last one.

**Initial style:**

S. Friedl	Short Introduction
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**Step 1:** Show fraction frame numbers

*Command:* \htfconfig{framenrs=fraction}

*Effect:*

	S. Friedl	Short Introduction	1 / 1
--	-----------	--------------------	-------

**Step 2:** Show the short version of the date

*Command:* \htfconfig{date=short}

*Effect:*

2018/01/15	S. Friedl	Short Introduction	1 / 1
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**Step 3:** In addition to the author, show the institute in parentheses

*Command:* \htfconfig{authinst=instpths}

*Effect:*

2018/01/15	S. Friedl (Some Institute)	Short Introduction	1 / 1
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**Step 4:** Show the long, full title

*Command:* \htfconfig{title=long}

*Effect:*

2018/01/15	S. Friedl (Some Institute)	A short introduction on hackthefootline's facilities	1 / 1
------------	----------------------------	--	-------

**Step 5:** The right column is too full now. Remove the frame numbers

*Command:* \htfconfig{framenrs=none}

*Effect:*

2018/01/15	S. Friedl (Some Institute)	A short introduction on hackthefootline's facilities	
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**Step 6:** Switch to a one-column footline and remove the date

*Command:* \htfconfig{cols=one, date=none}

*Effect:*

S. Friedl (Some Institute): A short introduction on hackthefootline's facilities			
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**Step 7:** Remove the footline

*Command:* \htfconfig{cols=none}

*Effect:* No footline will be shown (but a space above the frame's bottom ...)