

# The mensa-tex class

<https://github.com/SFr682k/mensa-tex>

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*“I can’t go to a restaurant and order food  
because I keep looking at the fonts on the menu”*

— DONALD E. KNUTH —

## Abstract

A  $\text{\LaTeX}$  class for typesetting school cafeteria menus consisting of two lunches (with dessert) and dinner

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## Dependencies and other requirements

The `mensa-tex` class requires  $\text{\LaTeX}$  2 $\epsilon$  and the following packages:

<code>array</code>	<code>datetime2-calc</code>	<code>lmodern</code>
<code>colortbl</code>	<code>geometry</code>	<code>textcomp</code>
<code>datetime2</code>	<code>graphicx</code>	<code>xcolor</code>

## 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  $\text{\LaTeX}$  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:

- `mensa-tex.cls` and
- `mensa-tex-doc.tex`

## Call for cooperation

Please report bugs and other problems as well as suggestions for improvements using the issue tracker on GitHub or sending an email ([sfr682k@t-online.de](mailto:sfr682k@t-online.de)).

	normal layout	app layout
width	.50\textwidth ≈ 9.0cm	.58\textwidth ≈ 4.9cm
height	.15\textheight ≈ 4.0cm	.15\textheight ≈ 1.9cm

Table 1: Available space for the header image

## 1 Using the `\documentclass` command

Using this class is as easy as using the `\documentclass{mensa-tex}` command.

Following class options are available:

`app` Use a layout optimized for small screens using DIN/ISO A6 paper

`en-GB` Use an English localisation, British variant (*default*)

`en-US` Use an English localisation, American variant

`german` Use a German localisation

## 2 Creating a menu

The following section deals with creating a menu using `mensa-tex`.

All the *commands are to be used inside the preamble* since the menu gets created instantly when using `\begin{document}`.

### 2.1 Setting up the basic information

The basic information consists of the name of the cafeteria, the institute (or school) it is located at and the image used on the single pages.

It can be set by using the following commands:

- `\mensaname` This command is used to declare the name of the cafeteria – maybe something like `\mensaname{Food Corner}` (*default is the plain old boring “Mensa”*).  
You may want to change the font size by using arbitrary  $\TeX$  font size commands.
- `\institute` Sets the name of the institute the cafeteria is located at – for example, you can insert `\institute{University of LOL}` in your preamble if your cafeteria is located at some institute called the “University of LOL”.  
Note that information about the institute is only printed when using the normal layout.
- `\setimage` Add an image to your diet plans using this command.  
Note that you *have* to declare the image by using the `\includegraphics` inside `\setimage` (e.g. `\setimage{\includegraphics[width=\linewidth]{path/to/picture}}`).  
The space available for the image depends on the used layout (see table 1).

## 2.2 Adding food

For adding information about the food, the following six commands are provided.

<code>\startdate</code>	This command defines the “start date”, the date of the first entry ( <i>the start date’s week-day happens to be a Monday</i> ). The start date has to be present in YYYY-MM-DD format, e. g. <code>\startdate{2007-01-01}</code> ( <i>Default is 2001-01-01</i> ).
<code>\monday</code>	Use these five commands to insert food into the empty diet.
<code>\tuesday</code>	Every single command requires the same four arguments:
<code>\wednesday</code>	
<code>\thursday</code>	1. Menu I                      2. Menu II                      3. Dessert                      4. Lunch
<code>\friday</code>	

For example, to obtain Monday’s menu consisting of

Menu I:	Fish and chips	Dessert:	Chocolate fudge
Menu II:	Crispy fried chicken	Lunch:	DIY hamburgers

you have to write

```
\monday{Fish and chips}%           <-- % is required for line breaks
      {Crispy fried chicken}%
      {Chocolate fudge}%
      {DIY hamburgers}
```

It is possible to insert the command listed above without line breaks, however, doing so will result in the source being less human-readable.

Due to the menu being implemented in a tabular environment, you have to use `\newline` instead of `\\` to produce additional lines.

Possible, additional hyphenations not found by  $\TeX$  can be marked by manually inserting discretionary hyphens (`\-`) (e. g. `hyphen\-`ation).

## 2.3 Adding additional information

## 2.4 Using fancy colours

# 3 Adding support for other languages