

The `essaykit` package*

[Swifterhtmler]
[RKTuotanto@icloud.com]

January 4, 2026

1 Introduction

The `essaykit` package provides a comprehensive set of commands for creating styled boxes, titles, quotes, and bibliographic references in L^AT_EX documents. It is particularly designed for academic and scientific documents requiring consistent styling and professional presentation.

2 Usage

2.1 Styled Boxes

`\rbox` The `\rbox` command creates customizable colored boxes:

```
\rbox[<options>]{<content>}
```

Options: `title`, `color`, `textcolor`, `width`. Multiple options are separated by commas.

2.2 Main Titles

`\maintitle` The `\maintitle` command creates large, styled titles:

```
\maintitle[<options>]{<title text>}
```

Options: `titlecolor`, `titlesize`, `titlespacing`.

2.3 Quotes

`\quoter` The `\quoter` command creates formatted quotations:

```
\quoter[<options>]{<quote text>}{<author>}
```

Options: `authorcolor`, `quotesize`, `quotespacing`.

2.4 Rules and Sources

`\rrule` The `\rrule` command creates horizontal rules.

`\sources` The `\sources` command creates formatted bibliography sections:

```
\sources{<comma-separated list>}
```

*This document corresponds to `essaykit` v2.0, dated 2026/01/02.

2.5 Image Commands

\logo The \logo command inserts an image without caption:

```
\logo{<filename>}{<width>}
```

\fig The \fig command creates a captioned figure:

```
\fig{<filename>}{<caption>}{<width>}
```

2.6 Positioning Commands

\placeleft The \placeleft command positions content at absolute coordinates from the left margin:

```
\placeleft{<distance>}{<content>}{<width>}
```

\placeright The \placeright command positions content at absolute coordinates from the right margin:

```
\placeright{<distance>}{<content>}{<width>}
```

3 Examples

3.1 Box Examples

Basic box:

```
% \rbox{This is a simple box}  
%
```

Box with title and custom colors:

```
% \rbox[title=Important Note, color=softblue,  
%       textcolor=darkgray]{Content here}  
%
```

3.2 Quote Examples

```
% \quoter[authorcolor=darkgray, quotesize=\Large]{  
%   The important thing is not to stop questioning.  
% }{Albert Einstein}  
%
```

3.3 Image Command Examples

Basic logo insertion:

```
% \logo{image.png}{5cm}  
%
```

Logo with positioning:

```
% \placeleft{2cm}{\logo{company-logo.png}{3cm}}{8cm}  
%
```

Basic figure with caption:

```
% \fig{chart.png}{Monthly sales data}{0.7\textwidth}
%
```

Smaller figure:

```
% \fig{diagram.png}{System architecture}{0.5\textwidth}
%
```

3.4 Positioning Command Examples

These commands position content at absolute locations without affecting text flow.

Place content from left margin:

```
% \placeleft{3cm}{\logo{sidebar.png}{4cm}}{10cm}
%
```

Place content from right margin:

```
% \placeright{2cm}{\rbox[color=softblue]{Note}}{8cm}
%
```

4 Predefined Colors

Available colors: `greycolor`, `marooncolor`, `bluecolor`, `lightgray`, `softgray`, `boxcolor`, `darkgray`, `softblue`.

5 Customizable Options

- **Content:** `title`
- **Colors:** `color`, `textcolor`, `titlecolor`, `authorcolor`
- **Sizing:** `width`, `titlesize`, `quotesize`
- **Spacing:** `titlespacing`, `quotespacing`

Note: Positioned content floats above text and doesn't affect document flow.

6 Implementation

1 `(*package)`

6.1 Package Dependencies

```
2 %
3 % new packages added
4 \RequirePackage{enumitem}
5 \RequirePackage{graphicx}
6 \RequirePackage{textpos}
7
8 % old packages
```

```

9 \RequirePackage{imakeidx}
10 \RequirePackage{amsmath}
11 \RequirePackage{caption}
12 \RequirePackage{wrapfig}
13 \RequirePackage{tcolorbox}
14 \RequirePackage{tikz}
15 \RequirePackage{chemfig}
16 \RequirePackage{xstring}
17 \RequirePackage{xcolor}
18 \RequirePackage{keyval}
19 \RequirePackage{xkeyval}
20 \RequirePackage[pdftex,
21 hidelinks,
22 breaklinks=true,
23 pdfpagemode=UseNone,
24 pdfstartview=FitH
25 ]{hyperref}

```

6.2 Color Definitions

```

26 \definecolor{greycolor}{HTML}{525252}
27 \definecolor{marooncolor}{HTML}{882B21}
28 \definecolor{bluecolor}{HTML}{394773}
29 \def\essaykit@family{ek}
30 \definecolor{lightgray}{rgb}{0.9, 0.9, 0.9}
31 \definecolor{softgray}{rgb}{0.7, 0.7, 0.7}
32 \definecolor{boxcolor}{rgb}{0.65, 0.8, 0.85}
33 \definecolor{darkgray}{rgb}{0.2, 0.2, 0.2}
34 \definecolor{softblue}{RGB}{70, 130, 180}

```

6.3 Key-Value System

```

35 \define@key{ek}{color}[lightgray]{\def\ek@color{\#1}}
36 \define@key{ek}{textcolor}[black]{\def\ek@textcolor{\#1}}
37 \define@key{ek}{title}[]{\def\ek@title{\#1}}
38 \define@key{ek}{width}[\textwidth]{\def\ek@width{\#1}}
39 \setkeys{ek}{color, textcolor, title, width}

```

\rbox The main box command with customizable options.

```

40 \newcommand{\rbox}[2][]{%
41 \def\ek@title{}%
42 \setkeys{ek}{\#1}%
43 \ifx\ek@title\empty%
44 \begin{tcolorbox}[%
45 colback=\ek@color!10,
46 colframe=\ek@color,
47 width=\ek@width,
48 arc=3.5mm,
49 boxrule=1pt
50 ]%
51 \color{\ek@textcolor}\#2
52 \end{tcolorbox}%
53 \else
54 \begin{tcolorbox}[%
55 colback=\ek@color!10,
56 colframe=\ek@color,

```

```

57 coltitle=\ek@textcolor,
58 colbacktitle=\ek@color,
59 title=\ek@title,
60 width=\ek@width,
61 arc=3.5mm,
62 boxrule=1pt,
63 fonttitle=\bfseries
64 ]%
65 \color{\ek@textcolor}#2
66 \end{tcolorbox}%
67 \fi
68 }

```

6.4 Title Commands

```

69 \define@key{ek}{titlecolor}[black]{\def\ek@titlecolor{#1}}
70 \define@key{ek}{titlesize}[\Huge]{\def\ek@titlesize{#1}}
71 \define@key{ek}{titlespacing}[0.5cm]{\def\ek@titlespacing{#1}}
72 \setkeys{ek}{color, textcolor, title, width, titlecolor, titlesize, titlespacing}

```

\maintitle Creates styled main titles.

```

73 \newcommand{\maintitle}[2][]{%
74 \setkeys{ek}{titlecolor, titlesize, titlespacing}%
75 \setkeys{ek}{#1}%
76 {\ek@titlesize \bfseries \textcolor{\ek@titlecolor}{#2}}\\[\ek@titlespacing]%
77 }

```

6.5 Quote Commands

```

78 \define@key{ek}{authorcolor}[gray]{\def\ek@authorcolor{#1}}
79 \define@key{ek}{quotesize}[\large]{\def\ek@quotesize{#1}}
80 \define@key{ek}{quotespacing}[1em]{\def\ek@quotespacing{#1}}
81 \setkeys{ek}{color, textcolor, title, width, titlecolor, titlesize, titlespacing, authorcolor, quotesize, quotespacing}

```

\quoter Creates formatted quotes with author attribution.

```

82 \newcommand{\quoter}[3][]{%
83 \setkeys{ek}{authorcolor, quotesize, quotespacing}%
84 \setkeys{ek}{#1}%
85 \begin{center}%
86 \ek@quotesize \textit{#2}\\[\ek@quotespacing]%
87 \normalsize \color{\ek@authorcolor} -- #3 %name of the author
88 \end{center}%
89 }

```

6.6 divider commands

\rrule Simple horizontal rule command.

```

90 \newcommand{\rrule}{}%
91 \par\noindent\rule{\textwidth}{0.22pt}%
92 }

```

\sources Bibliography/sources command with hyperlink support.

```

93 \makeatletter
94 \newcommand{\sources}[1]{%

```

```

95 \begin{tcolorbox}[colback=white, colframe=black!90, title=\section{Lähteet}, fonttitle=\bfseries]
96 \begin{itemize}
97 \@for\source:=#1\do{%
98 \item\source %
99 }%
100 \end{itemize}
101 \end{tcolorbox}
102 }
103 \makeatother

```

6.7 image commands

\logo adds logo of choosen width to the page

```

104 \newcommand{\logo}[2]{
105   \includegraphics[width=#2]{#1}
106 }

```

\fig adds figure to page

```

107 \newcommand{\fig}[3]{
108   \begin{figure}[h]
109     \centering
110     \includegraphics[width=#3]{#1}
111     \caption{#2}
112   \end{figure}
113 }
114 %   \end{macrocode}
115 % \end{macro}
116 %
117 %
118 %
119
120 % \begin{macro}{\placerright}
121 % Position from right margin: \placerright{distance}{content}
122 %   \begin{macrocode}
123 \newcommand{\placerright}[3]{
124   \begin{textblock*}{#3}(\dimexpr\paperwidth-#1-#3\relax,2cm)
125     #2
126   \end{textblock*}
127 }

```

\placeleft Position from left margin: distancecontentwidth

```

128 \newcommand{\placeleft}[3]{
129   \begin{textblock*}{#3}(\dimexpr\paperwidth-#1-#3\relax,2cm)
130     #2
131   \end{textblock*}
132 }

```

```
133 
```