LaTeX Template Documentation

A Comprehensive Guide to Use the Template from https://github.com/novoid/LaTeX-KOMA-template

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1 How to use this LaTeX document template

This LATEX document template from LATEX@TUG¹ is based on koma script². You don't need any special koma knowledge (but it woun't hurt either). It provides an easy to use and easy to modify template. All settings are documented and many references to additional information sources are given. In general, there should not be any reason to modify a file in the template folder. All important settings are accessible in the main folder, mostly in the main. tex file. This way, it is easy to get what you need and you can update the template independent of the content of the document. The absolute minimum you should read is listed below and marked with the hand symbol:

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- Section 1.1: basic configuration of this template.
- Section 1.3: how to generate the PDF file
- Section 2.4: using biblatex (instead of bibtex)

In order to get a perfect resulting document and to get an exciting experience with this template, you should definitely consider reading following sections which are also marked with the pencil symbol:



- Section 1.5: extend the template with your own usepackages, newcommands, and so forth
- Section 3: pre-defined commands to make your life easier (e.g., including graphics)
- Section 4.4: how to do acronyms (like ACME) beautifully
- Section 4.8: how to "quote" text and use parentheses correctly

The other sections describe all other settings for the sake of completeness. This is interesting for learning more about LATEX and modifying this template to a higher level of detail.

http://LaTeX.TUGraz.at

²http://komascript.de/

1.1 Six Steps to Customize Your Document

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This template is optimized to get to the first draft of your thesis very quickly. Follow these instructions and you get most of your customizing done in a few minutes:

- 1. Modify settings in main.tex to meet your requirements:
 - Basic settings
 - Paper size, languages, font size, citation style, title page, and so forth
 - Document metadata
 - Preferences like myauthor, mytitle, and so forth
- 2. Replace figures/institution.pdf with the logo of your institution in either PDF or PNG format.³
- 3. Further down in main.tex:
 - Create your desired structure for the chapters (\include{introduction}, \include{evaluation},...)
- 4. Create the TEX files and fill your content into these files you defined in the previous step.
- 5. Optionally: Modify colophon.tex to meet your situation.
 - Please spend a couple of minutes and think about putting your work under an open license⁴ in order to follow the spirit of Open Science⁵.
- 6. In case you are using GNU make⁶: Put your desired PDF file name in the second line of file Makefile
 - replace "Projectname" with your filename
 - do not use any file extension like .tex or .pdf

³Avoid JPEG format for computer-generated (pixcel-oriented) graphics like logos or screenshots in general. The JEPG format is for photographs *only*.

⁴https://creativecommons.org/licenses/

⁵https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_science

⁶If you don't know, what GNU make is, you are not using it (yet).

1.2 License

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This template is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported (CC BY-SA 3.0) license⁷:

- You can share (to copy, distribute and transmit) this template.
- You can remix (adapt) this template.
- You can make commercial use of the template.
- In case you modify this template and share the derived template: You must attribute the template such that you do not remove (co-)authorship of Karl Voit and you must not remove the URL to the original repository on github⁸.
- If you alter, transform, or build a new template upon this template, you may distribute the resulting template only under the same or similar license to this one.
- There are *no restrictions* of any kind, however, related to the resulting (PDF) document!
- You may remove the colophon (but it's not recommended).

1.3 How to compile this document



I assume that compiling LATEX documents within your software environment is something you have already learned. This template is almost like any other LATEX document except it uses state-of-the-art tools for generating things like the list of references using biblatex/biber (see Section 2.4 for details). Unfortunately, some LATEX editors do not support this much better way of working with bibliography references yet. This section describes how to compile this template.

1.3.1 Compiling Using a LATEX Editor

Please do select main.tex as the "main project file" or make sure to compile/run only main.tex (and not introduction.tex or other TEX files of

⁷https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/

⁸https://github.com/novoid/LaTeX-KOMA-template

this template). Choose biber for generating the references. Modern LaTeX environments offer this option. Older tools might not be that up to date yet.

1.3.2 Activating biber in the LATEX editor TeXworks

The TeXworks editor is a very basic (but fine) LATEX editor to start with. It is included in MiKTeX and MiKTeX portable and supports syntax highlighting and SyncTeX to synchronize PDF output and LATEX source code. Unfortunately, TeXworks shipped with MiKTeX does not support compiling using biber (biblatex) out of the box. Here is a solution to this issue. Go to TeXworks: Edit \rightarrow Preferences ... \rightarrow Typesetting \rightarrow Processing tools and add a new entry (using the plus icon):

Name: pdflatex+biber

Program: find the template/pdflatex+biber.bat file from your disk

Arguments: \$fullname \$basename

Activate the "View PDF after running" option. Close the preferences dialog and you will now have an additional choice in the drop down list for compiling your document. Choose the new entry called pdflatex+biber and start a happier life with biber. In case your TeXworks has a German user interface, here the key aspects in German as well: Bearbeiten \rightarrow Einstellungen ... \rightarrow Textsatz \rightarrow Verarbeitungsprogramme \rightarrow + (neues Verarbeitungsprogramm):

Name: pdflatex+biber

Befehl/Datei: die template/pdflatex+biber.bat im Laufwerk suchen

Argumente: \$fullname

\$basename

»PDF nach Beendigung anzeigen« aktivieren.

1.3.3 Compiling Using gnu make

With GNU make⁹ it is just simple as that: make pdf Several other targets are available. You can check them out by executing: make help In case you are using TeXLive (instead of MiKTeX as I do), you might want to modify the line PDFLATEX_CMD = pdflatex within the file Makefile to: PDFLATEX_CMD = pdflatex -synctex=1 -undump=pdflatex

1.3.4 Compiling in a Text-Shell

To generate a document using Biber, you can stick to following example:

```
pdflatex main.tex
biber main
pdflatex main.tex
pdflatex main.tex
```

Users of TeXLive with Microsoft Windows might want to try the following script¹⁰ which could be stored as, e.g., compile.bat:

```
REM call pdflatex using parameters suitable for TeXLive:
pdflatex.exe "main.tex"

REM generate the references metadata for biblatex (using biber):
biber.exe "main"

REM call pdflatex twice to compile the references and finalize PDF:
pdflatex.exe "main.tex"
pdflatex.exe -synctex=-1 -interaction=nonstopmode "main.tex"
```

1.4 How to get rid of the template documentation

Simply remove the files Template_Documentation.pdf and Template_Documentation.tex (if it exists) in the main folder of this template.

⁹https://secure.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/wiki/Make_%28software%29

¹⁰Thanks to Florian Brucker for provinding this script.

1.5 What about modifying or extending the template?

This template provides an easy to start LATEX document template with sound default settings. You can modify each setting any time. It is recommended that you are familiar with the documentation of the command whose settings you want to modify. It is recommended that for *adding* things to the preambel (newcommands, setting variables, defining headers, ...) you should use the file main.tex. There are comment lines which help you find the right spot. This way you still have the chance to update your template folder from the template repository without losing your own added things. The following sections describe the settings and commands of this template and give a short overview of its features.

1.6 How to change the title page

This template comes with a variety of title pages. They are located in the folder template. You can switch to a specific title page by including the corresponding title page file in the file main.tex. Please note that you may not need to modify any title page document by yourself since all relevant information is defined in the file main.tex.

2 preamble.tex — Main preamble file

In the file preamble/preamble.tex you will find the basic definitions related to your document. This template uses the KOMA script extension package of LATEX. There are comments added to the \documentclass{} definitions. Please refer to the great documentation of KOMA¹¹ for further details.

What should I do with this file? For standard purposes you might use the default values it provides. You must not remove its include command in main.tex since it contains important definitions. This file contains settings

¹¹scrguide.pdf for German users

which are documented well and can be modified according to your needs. It is recommended that you fully understand each setting you modify in order to get a good document result. However, you can set basic values in the main.tex file: font size, paper size, paragraph separation mode, draft mode, binding correction, and whether your document will be a one sided document or you are planning to create a document which is printed on both, left side and right side.

2.1 inputenc: UTF8 as input charset

You are able and should use UTF8 character settings for writing these TEXfiles.

2.2 babel: Language settings

The default setting of the language is American. Please change settings for additional or alternative languages used in main.tex. Please note that the default language of the document is the *last* language which is added to the package options. To set only parts of your document in a different language as the rest, use for example

\foreignlanguage{ngerman}{Beispieltext in deutscher Sprache} For using foreign language quotes, please refer to the \foreignquote, \foreigntextquote, or \foreignblockquote provided by csquotes (see Section 4.8).

2.3 scrpage2: Headers and footers

Since this template is based on KOMA script it uses its great scrpage2 package for defining header and footer information. Please refer to the KOMA script documentation how to use this package.

2.4 References

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This template is using biblatex and Biber instead of BIBTEX. This has the following advantages:

- better documentation
- Unicode-support like German umlauts (ö, ä, ü, ß) for references
- flexible definition of citation styles
- multiple bibliographies e. g. for printed and online resources
- cleaner reference definition e.g. inheriting information from Proceedings to all related InProceedings
- modern implementation

In short, biblatex is able to handle your bib-files and offers additional features. To get the most out of biblatex, you should read the very good package documentation. Be warned: you'll probably never want to change back to BibTeX again. Take a look at the files references-bibtex.bib and references-biblatex.bib: they contain the three references tagstore, Voit2009, and Voit2011. The second file is optimized for biblatex and takes advantage of some features that are not possible with BibTeX. This template is ready to use biblatex with Biber as reference compiler. You should make sure that you have installed an up to date binary of Biber from its homepage¹². In main.tex you can define several general biblatex options: citation style, whether or not multiple occurrences of authors are replaced with dashes, or if backward references (from references to citations) should be added. If you are using the LaTeX editor TeXworks, please make sure that you have read Section 1.3.2 in order to use biber.

2.4.1 Example citation commands

This section demonstrates some example citations using the style authoryear. You can change the citation style in main.tex (mybiblatexstyle).

- cite Eijkhout, 2008 and cite Bringhurst, 1993; Eijkhout, 2008.
- citet Eijkhout (2008) and citet Bringhurst (1993) and Eijkhout (2008).
- autocite (Eijkhout, 2008) and autocite (Bringhurst, 1993; Eijkhout, 2008).

¹²http://biblatex-biber.sourceforge.net/

- autocites (Eijkhout, 2008) and autocites (Bringhurst, 1993; Eijkhout, 2008).
- citeauthor Eijkhout and citeauthor Bringhurst; Eijkhout.
- citetitle *T_EX* by *Topic*, a *T_EXnician's* Reference and citetitle *The Elements of Typographic Style*; *T_EX* by *Topic*, a *T_EXnician's* Reference.
- citeyear 2008 and citeyear 1993; 2008.
- textcite Eijkhout (2008) and textcite Bringhurst (1993) and Eijkhout (2008).
- smartcite¹³ and smartcite¹⁴.
- footcite¹⁵ and footcite¹⁶.
- footcite with page¹⁷ and footcite with page¹⁸.
- fullcite Victor Eijkhout (2008). *T_EX by Topic, a T_EXnician's Reference*. document revision 1.2. URL: http://www.eijkhout.net/texbytopic/texbytopic.html and fullcite Robert Bringhurst (1993). *The Elements of Typographic Style*. first edition. Hartley and Marks Publishers; Victor Eijkhout (2008). *T_EX by Topic, a T_EXnician's Reference*. document revision 1.2. URL: http://www.eijkhout.net/texbytopic/texbytopic.html.

Please note that the citation style as well as the bibliography style can be changed very easily. Refer to the settings in main.tex as well as the very good documentation of biblatex.

2.4.2 Using this template with apa style

First, you have to have the APA biblatex style installed. Modern LATEX distributions do come with biblatex and APA style. If so, you will find the files biblatex-apa.pdf (style documentation) and biblatex-apa-test.pdf (file with citation examples) on your hard disk.

Change the style according to \newcommand{\mybiblatexstyle}{apa}

¹³Eijkhout, 2008.

¹⁴Bringhurst, 1993; Eijkhout, 2008.

¹⁵Eijkhout, 2008.

¹⁶Bringhurst, 1993; Eijkhout, 2008.

¹⁷Eijkhout, 2008, p.42.

¹⁸compare Eijkhout, 2008, p. 42.

2. Add \DeclareLanguageMapping{american}{american-apa} or \DeclareLanguageMapping{german}{german-apa} to your preamble¹⁹

These steps change the biblatex style to APA style

2.4.3 Using this template with BibTFX

If you do not want to use Biber and biblatex, you have to change several things:

- in preamble/preamble.tex
 - remove the usepackage command of biblatex
 - remove the \addbibresource{...} command
- in main.tex
 - replace \printbibliography with the usual \bibliographystyle{yourstyle}
 and \bibliography{yourbibfile}
- if you are using GNU make: modify Makefile
 - replace BIBTEX_CMD = biber with BIBTEX_CMD = bibtex
- Use the reference file references-bibtex.bib instead of references-biblatex.bib

2.5 Miscellaneous packages

There are several packages included by default. You might want to activate or deactivate them according to your requirements:

```
graphicx The widely used package to use graphical images within a LATEX document.
```

pifont For additional special characters available by \ding{}

ifthen For using if/then/else statements for example in macros

eurosym Using the character for Euro with \officialeuro{}

xspace This package is required for intelligent spacing after commands

¹⁹You might want to use section "MISC self-defined commands and settings" for this.

xcolor This package defines basic colors. If you want to get rid of colored links and headings please change corresponding value in main.tex to {0,0,0}.

ulem This package offers strikethrough command \sout{foobar}.

framed Create framed, shaded, or differently highlighted regions that can break across pages. The environments defined are

- framed: ordinary frame box (\fbox) with edge at margin
- shaded: shaded background (\colorbox) bleeding into margin
- snugshade: similar
- leftbar: thick vertical line in left margin

eso-pic For example on title pages you might want to have a logo on the upper right corner of the first page (only). The package eso-pic is able to place things on absolute and relative positions on the whole page.

enumitem This package replaces the built-in definitions for enumerate, itemize and description. With enumitem the user has more control over the layout of those environments.

This packages is *very* handy to add notes²⁰. Using for example \todo{check} results in something like this in the document. Do read the great package documentation for usage of other very helpful commands such as \missingfigure{} and \listoftodos. The latter one creates an index of all open todos which is very useful for getting an overview of open issues. The package todonotes require the packages ifthen, xkeyval, xcolor, tikz, calc, and graphicx. Activate and configure \listoftodos in main.tex.

units For setting correctly typesetted units and nice fractions with \unit[42]{m}
and \unitfrac[100]{km}{h}.

3 mycommands.tex — various definitions

(2)

In file template/mycommands.tex many useful commands are being defined.

²⁰todonotes replaced the fixxme-command which previously was defined in the preamble_mycommands.tex file.

What should I do with this file? Please take a look at its content to get the most out of your document.

One of the best advantages of LATEX compared to wysiwyg software products is the possibility to define and use macros within text. This empowers the user to a great extend. Many things can be defined using \newcommand{} automates repeating tasks. It is recommended to use macros not only for repetitive tasks but also for separating form from content such as css does for XHTML. Think of including graphics in your document: after writing your book, you might want to change all captions to the upper side of each figure. In this case you either have to modify all includegraphics commands or you were clever enough to define something like \myfig²¹. Using a macro for including graphics enables you to modify the position caption on only *one* place: at the definition of the macro.

The following section describes some macros that came with this document template from LATEX@TUG and you are welcome to modify or extend them or to create your own macros!

3.1 myfig — including graphics made easy

The classic: you can easily add graphics to your document with \myfig:

```
\myfig{flower}%% filename w/o extension in the folder figures
     {width=0.7\textwidth}%% maximum width/height, aspect ratio will be kept
     {This flower was photographed at my home town in 2010}%% caption
     {Home town flower}%% optional (short) caption for list of figures
     {fig:flower}%% label
```

There are many advantages of this command (compared to manual figure environments and includegraphics commands:

- consistent style throughout the whole document
- easy to change; for example move caption on top
- much less characters to type (faster, error prone)
- less visual clutter in the TFX-files

²¹See below for a detailed description

3.2 myclone — repeat things!

Using \myclone [42] {foobar} results the text "foobar" printed 42 times. But you can not only repeat text output with myclone. Default argument for the optional parameter "number of times" (like "42" in the example above) is set to two.

4 typographic_settings.tex — Typographic finetuning

The settings of file template/typographic_settings.tex contain typographic finetuning related to things mentioned in literature. The settings in this file relates to personal taste and most of all: typographic experience.

What should I do with this file? You might as well skip the whole file by excluding the \input{template/typographic_settings.tex} command in main.tex. For standard usage it is recommended to stay with the default settings.

Some basic microtypographic settings are provided by the microtype package²². This template uses the rather conservative package parameters: protrusion=true,factor=900.

4.1 French spacing

Why? see Bringhurst (1993, p. 28, p. 30): '2.1.4 Use a single word space between sentences.'

How? see Eijkhout (2008, p. 185):

\frenchspacing \%\% Macro to switch off extra space after punctuation. Note: This setting might be default for KOMA script.

²²http://ctan.org/pkg/microtype

4.2 Font

This template is using the Palatino font (package mathpazo) which results in a legible document and matching mathematical fonts for printout.

It is highly recommended that you either stick to the Palatino font or use the LATEX default fonts (by removing the package mathpazo).

Chosing different fonts is not an easy task. Please leave this to people with good knowledge on this subject.

One valid reason to change the default fonts is when your document is mainly read on a computer screen. In this case it is recommended to switch to a font which is sans-serif like this. This template contains several alternative font packages which can be activated in this file.

4.3 Text figures

... also called old style numbers such as 0123456789. (German: "Mediävalziffern²³")

Why? see Bringhurst (1993, p. 44f):

'3.2.1 If the font includes both text figures and titling figures, use titling figures only with full caps, and text figures in all other circumstances.'

How? Quoted from Wikibooks²⁴:

²³https://secure.wikimedia.org/wikibooks/de/wiki/LaTeX-W%C3%B6rterbuch: _Medi%C3%A4valziffern

²⁴https://secure.wikimedia.org/wikibooks/en/wiki/LaTeX/Formatting#Text_ figures_.28.22old_style.22_numerals.29

Some fonts do not have text figures built in; the textcomp package attempts to remedy this by effectively generating text figures from the currently-selected font. Put \usepackage{textcomp} in your preamble. textcomp also allows you to use decimal points, properly formatted dollar signs, etc. within \oldstylenums{}.

...but proposed LATEX method does not work out well. Instead use: \usepackage{hfoldsty} (enables text figures using additional font) or \usepackage[sc,osf]{mathpazo} (switches to Palatino font with small caps and old style figures enabled).

4.4 myacro — Abbrevations using small caps

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Why? see Bringhurst (1993, p. 45f): '3.2.2 For abbrevations and acronyms in the midst of normal text, use spaced small caps.'

How? Using the predefined macro \myacro{} for things like uno or unesco using \myacro{UNO} or \myacro{UNESCO}.

4.5 Colorized headings and links

This document template is able to generate an output that uses colorized headings, captions, page numbers, and links. The color named 'DispositionColor' used in this document is defined near the definition of package color in the preamble (see section 2.5). The changes required for headings, page numbers, and captions are defined here.

Settings for colored links are handled by the definitions of the hyperref package (see section 5).

4.6 No figures or tables below footnotes

LATEX places floating environments below footnotes if b (bottom) is used as (default) placement algorithm. This is certainly not appealing for most people and is deactivated in this template by using the package footmisc with its option bottom.

4.7 Spacings of list environments

By default, LATEX is using vertical spaces between items of enumerate, itemize and description environments. This is fine for multi-line items. Many times, the user does just write single-line items where the larger vertical space is inappropriate. The enumitem package provides replacements for the pre-defined list environments and offers many options to modify their appearances. This template is using the package option for noitemsep which mimimizes the vertical space between list items.

4.8 csquotes — Correct quotation marks

Never use quotation marks found on your keyboard. They end up in strange characters or false looking quotation marks.

In LATEX you are able to use typographically correct quotation marks. The package csquotes offers you with \enquote{foobar} a command to get correct quotation marks around "foobar". Please do check the package options in order to modify its settings according to the language used²⁵.

csquotes is also recommended by biblatex (see Section 2.4).

²⁵most of the time in combination with the language set in the options of the babel package

4.9 Line spread

If you have to enlarge the distance between two lines of text, you can increase it using the 1.0 command in main.tex. By default, it is deactivated (set to 100 percent). Modify only with caution since it influences the page layout and could lead to ugly looking documents.

4.10 Optional: Lines above and below the chapter head

This is not quite something typographic but rather a matter of taste. KOMA Script offers a method to add lines above and below chapter head which is disabled by default. If you want to enable this feature, remove corresponding comment characters from the settings.

4.11 Optional: Chapter thumbs

This is not quite something typographic but rather a matter of taste. KOMA Script offers a method to add chapter thumbs (in combination with the package scrpage2) which is disabled by default. If you want to enable this feature, remove corresponding comment characters from the settings.

5 pdf_settings.tex — Settings related to PDF output

The file template/pdf_settings.tex basically contains the definitions for the hyperref package including the graphicx package. Since these settings should be the last things of any LATEX preamble, they got their own TEX file which is included in main.tex.

What should I do with this file? The settings in this file are important for PDF output and including graphics. Do not exclude the related input command in main.tex. But you might want to modify some settings after you read the documentation of the hyperref package.

References

Bringhurst, Robert (1993). *The Elements of Typographic Style*. first edition. Hartley and Marks Publishers.

Eijkhout, Victor (2008). TeX by Topic, a TeXnician's Reference. document revision 1.2. URL: http://www.eijkhout.net/texbytopic/texbytopic.html.