

# LaTeX Output, Table Borders, and `hhline`

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When rendering to `LATEX` output, `pixiedust` offers two styles of table borders. Borders may be drawn using either the facilities of the `xcolor` and `arydshln` packages, or using the `hhline` packages (Note: these are `LATEX` packages). By default, `pixiedust` uses `xcolor` and `arydshln`.

## Comparison of Styles

Feature	<code>xcolor</code>	<code>hhline</code>
Dashed borders	Yes	No
Colored borders	Yes	No
Double borders	No	Yes
Works with background colors	No	Yes

Before getting started, please note that the YAML front matter for this documents is as follows:

```
---
title: "LaTeX Output, Table Borders, and `hhline`"
author: "Benjamin Nutter"
date: "2016-04-08"
output: pdf_document
header-includes:
- \usepackage{amssymb}
- \usepackage{arydshln}
- \usepackage{caption}
- \usepackage{graphicx}
- \usepackage{hhline}
- \usepackage{longtable}
- \usepackage{multirow}
- \usepackage[dvipsnames,table]{xcolor}
- \makeatletter
- \newcommand*\vdashline{\rotatebox[origin=c]{90}{\dabar@dabar@dabar@$}}
- \makeatother
---
```

For these illustrations, we will use our usual example linear model. We will also apply `medley_model` to the table before applying any other customizations.

```
library(pixiedust)
options(pixiedust_print_method = "latex")

fit <- lm(mpg ~ wt + qsec + factor(am),
         data = mtcars)
```

## A Common Shortcoming

In both styles, vertical borders can become thicker than expected when adjoining cells have the adjoining borders defined. For example, if column 2 has a right border and column 3 has a left border, the adjoining borders appear as one thick border.

```
dust(fit,
     caption = "Table borders using xcolor",
     hhline = FALSE,
     float = FALSE) %>%
  medley_model() %>%
  sprinkle(border = "all")
```

Table 2: Table borders using xcolor

term	estimate	std.error	statistic	p.value
(Intercept)	9.62	6.96	1.38	0.18
wt	-3.92	0.71	-5.51	< 0.001
qsec	1.23	0.29	4.25	< 0.001
factor(am)1	2.94	1.41	2.08	0.047

```
dust(fit,
     caption = "Table borders using hhline",
     hhline = TRUE,
     float = FALSE) %>%
  medley_model() %>%
  sprinkle(border = "all")
```

Table 3: Table borders using hhline

term	estimate	std.error	statistic	p.value
(Intercept)	9.62	6.96	1.38	0.18
wt	-3.92	0.71	-5.51	< 0.001
qsec	1.23	0.29	4.25	< 0.001
factor(am)1	2.94	1.41	2.08	0.047

This can be avoided by only assigning one vertical border.

```
dust(fit,
     caption = "Table borders using xcolor",
     hhline = FALSE,
     float = FALSE) %>%
  medley_model() %>%
  ## Left border on all columns
  sprinkle(cols = 1:5,
```

```

border = c("left", "top", "bottom")) %>%
## Right border on last column
sprinkle(cols = 5,
         border = "right")

```

Table 4: Table borders using xcolor

term	estimate	std.error	statistic	p.value
(Intercept)	9.62	6.96	1.38	0.18
wt	-3.92	0.71	-5.51	< 0.001
qsec	1.23	0.29	4.25	< 0.001
factor(am)1	2.94	1.41	2.08	0.047

pixiedust provides a medley (`medley_all_borders`) that performs this task for you.

```

dust(fit,
     caption = "Table borders using the all borders medley",
     hhline = FALSE,
     float = FALSE) %>%
medley_model() %>%
medley_all_borders()

```

Table 5: Table borders using the all borders medley

term	estimate	std.error	statistic	p.value
(Intercept)	9.62	6.96	1.38	0.18
wt	-3.92	0.71	-5.51	< 0.001
qsec	1.23	0.29	4.25	< 0.001
factor(am)1	2.94	1.41	2.08	0.047

**Dashed Borders**

**Colored Borders**

**Double Borders**

**Background Colors**