

L^AT_EX Assignment 1

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January 13, 2023

Exercise 1

As shown on page 5 of the textbook, special characters such as \$, {, ~, and % are produced with a preceding backslash. Another way to produce these characters is to use the `\verb#stuff#` command, which typesets “stuff” verbatim (including spaces and special characters) in a typewriter font. The beginning and ending # delimiters can be replaced with other non-letter characters such as ^, \, 4, or !.

Only use `\verb` to display short strings verbatim. Do not use `\verb` to change the font. For that purpose there is the command `\textt{text}` which prints “text” in a typewriter font.

There are other commands which change the font: **bold**, sans serif, *slanted*, *italicized*, and SMALL CAPS are produced by `\textbf{}`, `\textsf{}`, `\textsl{}`, `\textit{}`, and `\textsc{}`. Within any of these fonts, words can be *emphasized* using `\emph{}`. For instance, **this is *special* bold text**. Text can also be underlined with `\underline{}`. Use special fonts sparingly, if at all!

The compiler tries to align the first and last characters in consecutive lines in a paragraph. As a result, the space between words can vary from line to line. Naïve L^AT_EXers sometimes try to change this spacing by forcing breaks with commands such as `\newline` or `\\`. Don’t do this!

Some users may try to change the spacing between paragraphs using commands such as `\\[4cm]` or `\vspace{1.1in}`. These last commands produce vertical spaces of 4 centimeters and 1.1 inches, respectively. Using these commands frequently is the hallmark of poor L^AT_EXer.

Exercise 2

Sometimes I worry when I reach in to take tofu out of the oven, that the midnight kitchen gremlins will shut me inside, and my last words will be something like “âääâääâää—” and I’ll melt into the 300°F and then the gremlins will eat all my tofu after midnight and kill my roommates in their sleep ...