



Minimal Books

Manual

Simple and complete books without introducing new syntax.

typst

min-book

1.2.0

MIT

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Quick Start

```
#import "@preview/min-book:1.2.0": book
#show: book.with(
  title: "Book Title",
  subtitle: "Book subtitle, not more than two lines long",
  authors: "Book Author",
)
```

Description

Generate complete and complex books, without any annoying new commands or syntax, just good old pure Typst. This package manipulates the standard Typst elements as much as possible, adapting them to the needs of a book structure in a way that there's no need to learn a whole new semantic just because of *min-book*.

For some fancy book features there is no existing compatible Typst element to re-work and adapt; in those cases, this package do provide additional commands that are completely optional, for the sake of completeness.

This package comes with some thoughtful ready-to-use defaults but also allows you to play with highly customizable options if you need them, so it's really up to you: customize it your way or ride along the defaults — both ways are possible and encouraged.

Options

These are all the options and its defaults used by *min-book*:

```
#show: book.with(
  title: none,
  subtitle: none,
  edition: 0,
  volume: 0,
  authors: none,
  date: datetime.today(),
  cover: auto,
  titlepage: auto,
  catalog: none,
  errata: none,
  dedication: none,
```

```

    acknowledgements: none,
    epigraph: none,
    toc: true,
    part: auto,
    chapter: auto,
    cfg: auto,
    body
)

```

title: string content (required)

Main title.

subtitle: string content none

Subtitle, generally two lines long or less.

edition: int

Publication number, used when the content is changed or updated in a new release after the original publication.

volume: int

Series volume number, used when one extensive story is told through multiple books, in order.

authors: string array of strings

(required)

Author or authors.

date: datetime array dictionary

(year, month, day)

Publication date — if a index/key is omitted, fallback to the current one.

cover: auto content image none

Cover — generated automatically when auto.

titlepage: auto content none

Title page, shown after cover — generated automatically when auto.

catalog: dictionary yaml toml

Cataloging-in-publication board, used for library data (see “Cataloging in Publication”).

errata: content string

A text that corrects errors from previous book editions.

dedication: content string

A brief text that dedicates the book in honor or in memorian of someone important; can accompany a small message directed to the person.

acknowledgements: content string

A brief text to recognize everyone who helped directly or indirectly in the process of book creation and their importance in the project.

epigraph: quote content

A short citation or excerpt from other works used to introduce the main theme of the book; can suggest a reflection, a mood, or idea related to the text.

toc: boolean content

Generate a table of contents on the right place.

part: string none auto

Name of the main divisions of the book — if not set, fallback to the word “Part” in book language.

chapter: string none

The name of the sections of the book — if not set, fallback to the word “Chapter” in book language.

cfg: dictionary

Custom advanced configurations, used to fine-tune some aspects of the book (see “Advanced Configurations”).

body content

The book content.

Advanced Configurations

```
#let cfg = (
  numbering: auto,
  page: "a5",
  lang: text.lang,
  transl: read("l10n/" + cfg.lang + ".ftl"),
  justify: true,
  line-space: 0.5em,
  line-indentfirst: 1em,
  par-margin: 0.65em,
  margin: (x: 15%, y: 14%),
```

```

font-usedefaults: false,
heading-weight: auto,
cover-bgcolor: rgb("#3E210B"),
cover-txtcolor: luma(200),
cover-fonts: ("Cinzel", "Alice"),
cover-back: true,
toc-stdindent: true,
toc-bold: true,
chapter-numrestart: false,
two-sided: true,
paper-links: true,
)

```

These `#book(cfg)` configurations allows to modify certain aspects of the book and manage its appearance and structure. Built with some thoughtful ready-to-use defaults that make its use optional, so that beginners and casual writers can safely ignore it and *just write*.

numbering: string array of strings none

Custom heading numbering — a standard numbering or a *numbly*¹ numbering.

page: dictionary string

Page configuration — directly set `#page(..cfg.page)` arguments or only `#page(paper: cfg.page)` when string.

lang: string

Book language.

transl: string read

Fluent translation file — defaults to the standard translation file for book language, if supported (see files inside `/src/l10n/` directory), or `#panic`.

justify: boolean

Text justification.

line-space: length

Space between each line in a paragraph.

line-indentfirst: length

indentation of the first line of each paragraph in a sequence, except the first one.

par-margin: length

Space after each paragraph.

¹<https://typst.app/universe/package/numbly>

margin: length

Page margin.

font-usedefaults: boolean

Use default Typst fonts when no custom font is set.

heading-weight: "regular" "bold" auto

Heading font weight (thickness) — defaults to regular only in levels 1–5, and then bold headings.

cover-bgcolor: colorCover background color when `#book(cover: auto)`.**cover-txtcolor:** colorCover text color when `#book(cover: auto)`.**cover-fonts:** array of strings

(title, text)

Cover font for main title and other texts when `#book(cover: auto)`.**cover-back:** booleanGenerate a back cover at the end of the document when `#book(cover: auto)`.**toc-stdindent:** boolean

Use min-book standard indentation: 1.5em for level 1 and 0em for levels 2+.

toc-bold: boolean

Allows bold fonts in table of contents entries.

chapter-numrestart: boolean

Make chapter numbering restart after each book part.

two-sided: boolean

Optimizes the content to be printed on both sides of the page (front and back), with important elements always starting at the next front side (oddly numbered) — inserts blank pages in between, if needed.

paper-links: boolean

Enable paper-readable links, which inserts the clickable link alongside a footnote to its URL.

Advanced Numbering

The book headings can be numbered two ways: using a *standard*² numbering string or a *numbly*³ numbering array. Strings are more simple and easy to use, while arrays are more complete and customizable.

By default, *min-book* uses slightly different numbering when `#book(part)` is enabled or disabled, that's why *parts* and *chapters* appear to have independent numbering when used. The `#book(cfg.numbering)` option allow to set a custom numbering used whether `#book(part)` is enabled or disabled.

Book Parts

```
#show: book.with(
  part: "Act",
)
= This is a part! // Act 1
```

Some larger books are internally divided into multiple *parts*. This structure allows to better organize and understand a text with multiple sequential plots, or tales, or time jumps, or anything that internally differentiate parts of the story. Each book can set different names for them, like parts, subjects, books, acts, units, modules, etc; by default, *min-book* tries to get the word for “Part” in book language as its name.

When a value is set, all level 1 headings become *parts*: they occupy the entire page and are aligned at its middle; some decorative frame also appear when `#book(cover: auto)`.

Book Chapters

<pre>#show: book.with(chapter: "Scene",) == <u>This is a chapter!</u> // Scene 1</pre>	<pre>#show: book.with(part: none, chapter: "Scene",) = <u>This is a chapter!</u> // Scene 1</pre>
--	---

In most cases, books are divided into smaller sections called chapters. Generally, each chapter contains a single minor story, or event, or scene, or any type of subtle

²<https://typst.app/docs/reference/model/numbering/>

³<https://typst.app/universe/package/numbly>

plot change. Each book can set different names for them, like chapters, sections, articles, scenes, etc; by default, *min-book* tries to get the word for “Chapter” in book language as its name.

Chapters are smart: when a value is set, if `#book(parts: none)` all level 1 headings become chapters; otherwise, all level 2 headings become chapters — since the level 1 ones are parts.

Book cover

By default, *min-book* automatically generates a book cover if `#book(cover)` is not set, it's also possible to set a custom cover image or create one using Typst code — the default automatic cover (see `/src/components/cover.typ`) can be a good start as a base to create a custom version.

Cataloging in Publication

```
#let catalog = (
  id: none,
  place: none,
  publisher: none,
  isbn: none,
  subjects: (),
  access: (),
  ddc: none,
  udc: none,
  before: none,
  after: none,
  ..catalog,
)
```

These `#book(catalog)` options set the data used to create the “cataloging in publication” board. Other needed information are automatically retrieved from the book data, but at least one of these options must be explicitly set to generate the board; otherwise it will be just ignored.

id: string content

A Cutter-Sanborn identification code,⁴ used to identify the book author.

⁴<http://www.cutternumber.com/>

place: string content

The city or region where the book was published.

publisher: string content

The organization or person responsible for releasing the book.

isbn: string content

The *International Standard Book Number*, used to identify the book.

subjects: array of strings

A list of subjects related to the book.

access: array of strings

A list of access points used to find the book in catalogues, like by "Title" or "Series".

ddc: string content

A *Dewey Decimal Classification*⁵ number, which corresponds to the specific category of the book.

udc: string content

An *Universal Decimal Classification*⁶ number, which corresponds to the specific category if the book.

before: content

Content showed before (above) the cataloging in publication board; generally shows editorial data like publisher, editors, reviewers, copyrights, etc.

after: content

Content showed after (below) the cataloging in publication board; generally shows additional information that complements the board data.

Additional Commands

These commands are provided as a way to access some fancy book features that cannot be implemented by re-working and adapting existing Typst elements. They are completely optional, and is perfectly possible to write an entire book without using them.

⁵<https://www.oclc.org/content/dam/oclc/dewey/ddc23-summaries.pdf>

⁶<https://udcsummary.info/php/index.php>

Note Command

```
#note(
  numbering: auto,
  content,
)
```

Adds an end note, an alternative for footnotes but placed inside of the page instead of its margins. End notes appear at its own page at the end of the current section, right before the next heading.

numbering: auto string

Custom note numbering — a standard numbering string.

content content

(required)

The content of the end note.

Appendices Command

```
#appendices(
  type: "appendix",
  title: auto,
  numbering: (
    "",
    "{2:A}.\n",
    "{2:A}.{3:1}. ",
    "{2:A}.{3:1}.{4:1}. ",
    "{2:A}.{3:1}.{4:1}.{5:1}. ",
    "{2:A}.{3:1}.{4:1}.{5:1}.{6:a}. ",
  ),
  body
)
```

Creates an special ambient to write or include multiple appendices. An appendix is any important additional data left out of the main document for some reason, but directly referenced or needed by it. Inside this ambient, all level 1 heading is a new appendix.

title: array of strings auto

(singular, plural) Appendix singular and plural names — if not set, fallback to “Appendix” and “Appendices” in book language.

numbering: array of strings string

Custom appendices numbering — a standard numbering or a *numbly*⁷ numbering.

body content

The appendices content.

Annexes Command

```
#annexes(
  type: "annex",
  title: auto,
  numbering: (
    "",
    "{2:A}.\n",
    "{2:A}.{3:1}. ",
    "{2:A}.{3:1}.{4:1}. ",
    "{2:A}.{3:1}.{4:1}.{5:1}. ",
    "{2:A}.{3:1}.{4:1}.{5:1}.{6:a}. ",
  ),
  body
)
```

Creates an special ambient to write or include multiple annexes. An annex is any important third-party data directly cited or referenced in the main document. Inside this ambient, all level 1 heading is a new annex.

title: auto array

Annex singular and plural names — if not set, fallback to “Annex” and “Annexes” in book language.

numbering: array of strings string

Custom annexes numbering — a standard numbering, or a *numbly*⁸ numbering.

body contents

The annexes content.

Horizontal Rule Command

```
#horizontalrule(
  symbol: [#sym.ast.op #sym.ast.op #sym.ast.op],
```

⁷<https://typst.app/universe/package/numbly>

⁸<https://typst.app/universe/package/numbly>

```
spacing: 1em,
line-size: 15%,
)
```

Adds a horizontal rule, visual separators used to distinguish subtle changes of subject in extensive texts.

symbol: content

Decoration in the middle of the horizontal rule — defaults to 3 asterisks.

spacing: length

Vertical space before and after the horizontal rule.

The `#horizontalrule` command is also available as the smaller `#hr` alias.

Block Quote Command

```
#blockquote(by: none, ..args)
```

Adds a block of quotation, a simple alias to `#quote(block: true)`, with a smaller and more semantic `#quote(attribution)` option as `#blockquote(by)`.

Translation

Currently, *min-book* supports automatic translation for all languages represented by a file in `/src/l10n/` directory. When using other languages, just create a custom Fluent translation file and set it as `#book(cfg.transl)`. If no translation file is found or set for the language used, *min-book* will `#panic`.

Also consider contributing to the *min-book* project by submitting a translation pull request or even opening an issue — since most of the supported languages were originally translated by IA and may contain errors.

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