

# Exercise 1 - Running L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Editing & Compiling L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X Documents

UGC ‘L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X: An Introduction (Part 1)’ Training Course

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The USB drive you have been given contains a portable distribution of MiKTeX for Windows, which can be run directly from the USB drive with no installation required.  
*Please return the drive at the end of the day, it is needed for another course!*

In order to run MiKTeX, open the folder on the USB drive entitled **Miktex** and run (double click) on the file named **miktex-portable.cmd**. This will place a MiKTeX icon in the system notification tray, as in Figure 1. From this icon you can set MiKTeX options, open a command prompt to compile L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X files from the command line, or start TeXworks – the text editor provided with MiKTeX for editing L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.

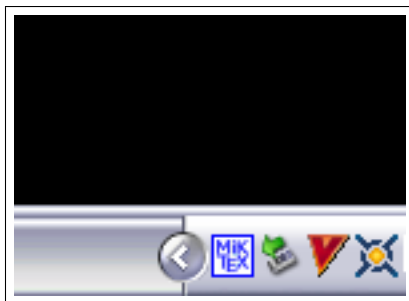


Figure 1: MiKTeX icon in System Tray

1. Right-click on the MiKTeX tray icon and select ‘TeXworks’. After a short time, the TeXworks editor should open as in Figure 2.

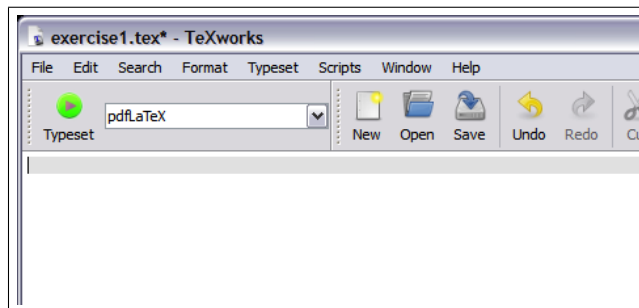


Figure 2: TeXworks window

The green icon in the top-left corner of the window will compile and display your L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X files. The drop-down box next to it allows you to select the L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X compilation method you wish to use. We are creating simple L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X documents, so there is no need to run `makeindex` or `bibtex` when compiling our documents.

2. If it is not already selected, choose ‘`pdflatex`’ in the drop down box.
3. Save your file somewhere in your filesystem with a suitable name (something like `exercise1.tex` perhaps?).

We are now ready to start creating our first L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X document.

4. Enter the L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X code below:

```
1 \documentclass{article}
2 \begin{document}
3   Hello World!
4 \end{document}
```

5. Click the green arrow to compile your document. The console output window will show you the process of L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X compilation, then the resulting `.pdf` file will be displayed. Hopefully, it should look like Figure 3

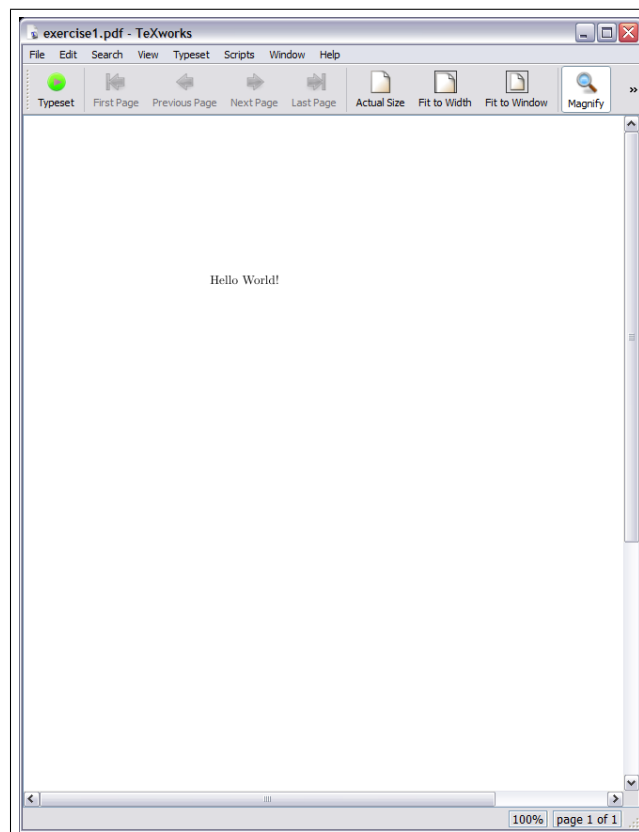


Figure 3: Completed Output

Congratulations! You just edited and compiled your first L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X document!