

Imposter, a \LaTeX poster class for Imperial College London

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Getting started

You should use the file `example_mpecdt.tex` as a template. The easiest thing to do is to make a copy of this file.

If you have installed Imposter in accordance with the instructions then the template can be copied to the current directory as follows:

Ubuntu (installation using apt-get)

```
cp /usr/share/texmf/doc/latex/imposter/example_mpecdt.tex .
```

Other Mac or Linux systems

```
cp $(kpsewhich --var-value TEXMFHOME)/doc/latex/imposter/example_mpecdt.tex .
```

Don't forget the final full stop when copying!

Portrait or landscape

The first decision you need to make, since it will affect the rest of the layout, is whether the poster is to be portrait or landscape. Check the instructions provided by the conference at which you will present. The default is portrait; landscape can be selected by passing the optional parameter `landscape` to the class:

```
\documentclass[landscape]{imposter}
```

Positioning boxes

\LaTeX is in many respects not the ideal platform for posters. Posters are a visual medium in which the author will want to control the position of the contents. \LaTeX , on the other hand is based on the concept that the author describes the content and the layout is handled separately. The result of this is that you'll need to do a little more manual position of content than you would when writing a paper.

Imposter employs the \LaTeX package `pstricks` to enable fine-scale positioning. `Pstricks` provides commands which position a box relative to a `pstricks` picture environment, and Imposter provides some custom box commands for the common cases:

```
\leftbox{height}{contents}
```

A framed box on the left hand side of the poster whose top is `height` centimeters from the bottom of the poster area.

```
\rightbox{height}{contents}
```

A framed box on the right hand side of the poster whose top is `height` centimeters from the bottom of the text area.

In landscape mode, a third command is available:

```
\centrebox{height}{contents}
```

Which creates a box in the centre column.

In portrait mode, the top box in each column should start at a height of 96. In landscape mode, the start height is 61.

Don't use pdflatex!

Because Imposter uses `pstricks`, `pdflatex` won't correctly compile your poster. Instead, you need to use plain \LaTeX and `dvipdf`. For example:

```
latex example_mpecdt.tex
dvipdf example_mpecdt.dvi
```

eps graphics only

A consequence of using plain \LaTeX is that encapsulated postscript (eps) is the only supported format for graphics. Fortunately, other graphics formats can usually be losslessly converted to eps. For example, pdf graphics can be converted using `pdftops`.