

Quill: L^AT_EXfor Authors

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Quill is a document preparation system that allows authors to typeset their work. It is a L^AT_EXpreprocessor which allows authors to use the power of L^AT_EXwithout needing to concern themselves with syntax in all but the strangest cases.

Many of its features work just like L^AT_EX. For instance, paragraphs can be a single line or multiple lines, and are separated by a blank line. The document header is standard L^AT_EX, and all standard L^AT_EXcommands can be used. There are also several other things you can do. Here is a syntax summary:

Bold (using <code>\textbf</code>)	surround words with <code>*</code>	Bold
Italic (using <code>\emph</code>)	surround words with <code>_</code>	<i>Italic</i>
Percent signs	One can type, e.g., <code>57%</code> and not have it turned into a comment, however, a <code>%</code> not preceded by a number is still a comment	32%
Dollar signs	Generally, Quill will figure out if you want a formula or not. If you are concerned, you can put whitespace after dollar signs to ensure that they are not converted. If you use formulae and dollar signs in the same line, Quill may become confused. Using the <code>-no-dollar</code> option turns all of this behavior off.	\$500 $\frac{10}{14}$
Chapter headings	Three or more <code>#</code> at the start of a line generates a new chapter heading. The section heading used is <code>\chapter</code> or the heading specified by <code>-chapter=</code> (no backslash needed)	
Quotes	Straight single (<code>'</code>) and double (<code>"</code>) quotes are made curly	“double” ‘single’
Excluding Quill	If you don’t want Quill to process a line, simply place <code>:noquill</code> at the end of that line (it can be in a comment or not, it will be removed from the final output). There may be no non-whitespace characters after it.	$\frac{45}{10}$ 450 Quill would mangle this very odd line.
Chapters	To start a new chapter, start a line with 3 or more <code>#</code> signs, followed by the name of the chapter. By default, this generates chapter commands, however, passing in <code>-chapter=section</code> will generate section commands, &c.	