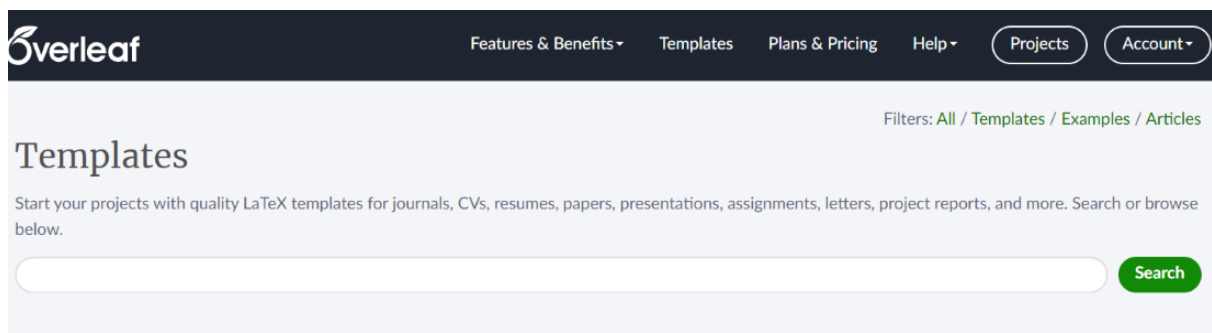# Building a resume from scratch

Creating a polished and well-structured resume is a critical step in any job search. LaTeX, a typesetting system known for its superior document formatting capabilities, can help us design an elegant and professional-looking resume. In this step-by-step guide, we will walk you through the process of building a resume from a template present in LaTeX.

STEP-1 Set Up Your LaTeX Environment

Before diving in, ensure we have LaTeX installed on our computer. Choose a LaTeX editor such as TeXShop, Overleaf, or Visual Studio Code with a LaTeX extension. Open our preferred editor to begin. We can download it from the official LaTeX website (https://www.latex-project.org/get/).

STEP-2 Choose a Resume Template

There are various LaTeX resume templates available online. For this guide, we'll use a simple template to get us started. Copy the template code into our LaTeX editor to begin customizing it.

LaTeX Templates

STEP-3 Customize the Headers

After all the packages and styling there is the main header section. The header is the first thing employers will see, so make it count. Replace the placeholder "Our Name" with your actual name. Replace the placeholder information with our own address, phone number, and email address. We can also add images and icons for the phone and address.

```
\begin{center}
```

```
\textbf{\LARGE Our Name} \

\textit{Your Address} | Our City, State, Zip Code \

Our Email | Our Phone Number | LinkedIn Profile | GitHub Profile

\end{center}
```

Step 4: Add Your Resume Sections

Use \section*{Section Name} to create different sections in our resume. Common sections include Education, Experience, Skills, Projects, Certifications, Awards, and Languages.

```
\section*{Education}

% Add our educational details here

\section*{Experience}

% Add our work experience here

\section*{Skills}

% List our skills

\section*{Projects}

% Describe our projects
```

STEP 5: Fill your information

Replace the placeholders with our actual educational background, work experience, skills, projects, certifications, awards, and language proficiency levels.

STEP 6: Compile your Resume

Compile the LaTeX document using our chosen editor. Check for any errors or formatting issues, and make adjustments as needed. Most LaTeX editors have a dedicated button for compilation.

STEP 7: Save and Export

Save our resume in PDF format for easy sharing and printing and export in your local computer.

By following these steps and customizing the template to our needs, we'll have a standout resume that showcases our qualifications and skills effectively.