

LuaTeX-CN Documentation

— High-Quality Classical Chinese Typesetting —

Auto-generated from GitHub Wiki

Table of Contents

[LuaTeX-CN Wiki](#)

[Installation Guide](#)

[Quick Start](#)

[Templates and Customization](#)

[Examples](#)

[Features Overview](#)

[Interlinear & Side Notes](#)

[Annotations & Marginal Notes](#)

[Seals](#)

[Judou \(Punctuation\)](#)

[Fonts](#)

[Textbox](#)

[Correction & Decoration](#)

[Debug Mode](#)

Changelog

Release Process




Development Documentation

LuaTeX-CN Wiki

Welcome to the LuaTeX-CN Wiki. This site provides comprehensive documentation for users and developers to help you create high-quality classic Chinese typesettings using LuaTeX-CN.

Current Version: [v0.2.5](#) | **CTAN:** [v0.1.1](#)

Quick Access

-  [Quick Start](#) - Get started with your first project in 5 minutes
-  [Installation](#) - Install LuaTeX-CN on your system
-  [Examples](#) - Explore "Records of the Grand Historian" (Shiji) and "Dream of the Red Chamber"

Documentation

1. Fundamentals

- [Templates & Format](#) - Understand the "Banxin" (Page Center) concept
- [Font Setup](#) - Config Chinese fonts and fallback chains
- [Layout Control](#) - Chapters, TOC entries, and fine-grained layout control

2. Specialized Commands

- [Interlinear & Side Notes](#) - Detailed usage of jiazhu and side notes
- [Annotations & Marginal Notes](#) - Floating annotations and marginal notes (MeiPi)
- [Punctuation](#) - Traditional Chinese punctuation (Judou)
- [Decorations](#) - Underlines, book titles, and correction marks

3. Advanced Features

- [Text Boxes](#) - Absolute positioning and adaptive containers

- [Seals](#) - Adding and positioning electronic seals
 - [Debugging](#) - Grid visualization and layout debugging
-

Developers

For information on contributing or understanding the internal architecture:

- [Development Guide](#)
 - [Release Process](#)
-

Contact

- **Contact:** Sheldon Li
- **Email:** sheldonli.dev@gmail.com

Installation Guide

This page describes how to install the `luatex-cn` package.

Method 1: Via CTAN/Package Manager (Recommended)

Install using your TeX distribution's package manager:

```
# TeX Live (Windows/Linux)
tlmgr install luatex-cn

# MiKTeX
# Open MiKTeX Console → Packages → Search for luatex-cn
```

⚠ **Note:** The CTAN version may lag behind GitHub. We recommend using GitHub Release.

Method 2: Manual Installation from GitHub Release

1. **Download:** Go to [GitHub Releases](#) and download the latest `luatex-cn-tex-v*.zip`

2. **Locate texmf directory:**

- **Windows:** `C:\Users\<username>\texmf`
- **macOS/Linux:** `~/texmf`

3. **Place files:** Put the contents of `tex/` into:

```
texmf/tex/latex/luatex-cn/
```

4. **Refresh database:**

```
texhash
```

Method 3: Direct Usage

Place the contents of `tex/` in the same directory as your `.tex` file and compile directly.

Verify Installation

Create a test file `test.tex`:

```
\documentclass[四库全书]{ltx-guji}
\begin{document}
\begin{正文}
天地玄黄，宇宙洪荒。
\end{正文}
\end{document}
```

Run:

```
lualatex test.tex
```

If compilation succeeds, installation is complete.

System Requirements

- LuaTeX (TeX Live 2024+ recommended)
- `luaotfload` and `fontspec`

Font Requirements

We recommend installing these fonts for best results:

- Noto Serif CJK SC (Source Han Serif)
- FangSong or KaiTi (for traditional book effects)

Quick Start

This page helps you quickly get started with `luatex-cn` for traditional Chinese book typesetting.

Basic Template

```
\documentclass[四库全书]{ltc-guji}
% Optional: specify font
% \setmainfont{Noto Serif SC}

\title{钦定四库全书}
\chapter{史记\\卷一}

\begin{document}
\begin{正文}

This is sample vertical text for ancient book typesetting.

\end{正文}
\end{document}
```

Common Commands

Interlinear Notes (Double-line Small Text)

```
Main text\\夹注{This is interlinear note content, auto-balances}continued text.
```

Side Notes

```
Main text\\侧批[yoffset=10pt]{This is side note content}continued text.
```

Paragraph Indentation

```
\\begin{段落}[indent=2]
天地玄黄\\
```

```
宇宙洪荒  
\end{段落}
```

Spaces

```
Need\\空格[2]two spaces here.
```

Annotation Box

```
\\批注[x=5cm, y=2cm, height=6, color={1 0 0}]{Annotation content}
```

Seal

```
\\印章[page=1, xshift=2cm, yshift=5cm]{seal.png}
```

Force Column Break

```
End of this column\\\\  
Start of new column
```

Metadata Setup (vo.2.0+)

```
\title{Book Title}  
\publisher{Publisher Name}  
\ChapterMarker{Volume 1}
```

Or using the setup command:

```
\metadataSetup{  
  title = Book Title,  
  publisher = Publisher Name  
}
```

Debug Mode (vo.2.2+)

```
\LtcDebugOn   % Enable debug ruler, shows grid coordinates  
\LtcDebugOff  % Disable debug mode
```

Preset Styles

Choose preset styles via document class options:

Option	Description
四库全书	Qing Dynasty Siku Quanshu style, single fishtail
红楼梦甲戌本	Manuscript style, no fishtail

```
\\documentclass[四库全书]{ltx-guji}  
% or  
\\documentclass[红楼梦甲戌本]{ltx-guji}
```

Next Steps

- See [Examples](#) for more complex usage
- Read [Changelog](#) for latest features

Templates and Customization

`luatex-cn` provides a flexible template system with built-in and custom templates.

Built-in Templates

Template Name	Document Class	Description
四库全书	<code>ltc-guji</code>	Classic official book style (B&W)
四库全书彩色	<code>ltc-guji</code>	Classic official book style (Color)
红楼梦甲戌本	<code>ltc-guji</code>	Manuscript style with side/top notes
default	<code>ltc-book</code>	Default modern vertical style

Using Templates

Specify the template name in document class options:

```
% Use colored Siku Quanshu template
\documentclass[四库全书彩色]{ltc-guji}

% Use Hong Lou Meng Jiaxu edition template
\documentclass[红楼梦甲戌本]{ltc-guji}
```

Custom Templates

Method 1: Create Configuration File

Create a `luatex-cn-guji-<template-name>.cfg` file in the `configs/` directory:

```
% luatex-cn-guji-MyTemplate.cfg

% Can inherit from existing template
\gujiSetup{ template = default }

% Page setup
\pageSetup{
```

```

    paper-width = 1077.2pt,
    paper-height = 1077.2pt,
    margin-top = 226.8pt,
    margin-bottom = 113.4pt,
    margin-left = 25.5pt,
    margin-right = 25.5pt,
}

% Content setup
\contentSetup{
    n-column = 12,
    font-size = 30pt,
    line-spacing = 45pt,
    n-char-per-col = 18,
    border = true,
}

% Banxin setup
\banxinSetup{
    banxin-upper-ratio = 0.18,
    banxin-middle-ratio = 0.38,
    upper-yuwei = true,
    lower-yuwei = true,
}

\endinput

```

Method 2: Direct Configuration in Document

```

\documentclass{lrc-guji}

\gujiSetup{
    book-name = My Book Title,
    chapter-title = Chapter One,
}

\contentSetup{
    n-column = 10,
    font-size = 24pt,
    border = true,
}

\begin{document}
% ...
\end{document}

```

Method 3: Define Template with defineGujiTemplate

```

\defineGujiTemplate{MyTemplate}{
    book-name = Default Title,
    n-column = 10,
    border = true,
}

```

```

}

% Use custom template
\gujiSetup{ template = MyTemplate }

```

Configuration Reference Table

Command	Parameter	Description	Default
\gujiSetup	book-name	Book name	-
	chapter-title	Chapter title	-
	template	Template name	default
\contentSetup	n-column	Columns per half page	12
	font-size	Font size	30pt
	line-spacing	Line spacing	45pt
	n-char-per-col	Characters per column	18
	border	Show border	true
	font-color	Font color (RGB)	{0,0,0}
	border-color	Border color (RGB)	{0,0,0}
\pageSetup	paper-width	Paper width	-
	paper-height	Paper height	-
	margin-*	Margins	-
\banxinSetup	banxin-upper-ratio	Upper section ratio	0.18
	upper-yuwei	Upper fish tail	true
	lower-yuwei	Lower fish tail	true

🔗 Next: See [Debug Mode](#) or [Features](#)

Examples

This directory contains multiple usage examples for the `luatex-cn` package, demonstrating different features from traditional ancient book typesetting to modern vertical layouts.

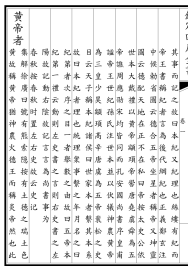
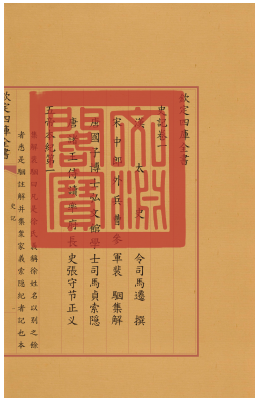
Example List

1. Records of the Grand Historian - Basic Annals of the Five Emperors

Features: Demonstrates highly complex ancient book typesetting.

Capabilities:

- Absolutely positioned red seals (overlying text)
- Customized page center text with single fishtail
- Complex interlinear note typesetting
- Traditional black silk frame and indentation

Black & White	Color Preview
	

 [View Source](#)

2. Records of the Grand Historian - Table of Contents

Features: Following Qing Dynasty "Siku Quanshu" Northern Pavilion style.

Capabilities:

- Standard ancient book table of contents layout
- "Eight lines, twenty-one characters" format restriction
- Typical white mouth, double borders on all sides, single fishtail format

 [View Source](#)

3. Dream of the Red Chamber - Jiaxu Manuscript

Features: Simulates manuscript/annotated copy style.

Capabilities:

- **Side and marginal notes:** Edge annotations using the sidenote system
- **Double-column small text:** Double-line small annotations in main text
- No fishtail page center, bottom page numbers

Page 2 (Punctuation)	Page 1 (Marginal Notes)
<p>仙鄉有盡談道富覺之石骨 師裏補性却道人道但動事邊格 聽天帶濟世間恨自便後高不 畢享幾弟通榮子粗說快凡 齊年之况耀子想紅先神 怒自得材見蠱不要座是迎 笑道當入紅物繁得不中說 善永紅濟仙心已人榮些說 哉洪慶人形不能便間富雲笑 那萬富道之禮吐去享此華來 紅劫貴體之弟子人享此海至 塵不場如定非適向那二傳下 中忘發中溫一質聞那禁了玄 却二素點必粗位僧華不幻子</p>	<p>第一回 列位看官你聽我說這夢 荒唐細說則深不趣書從 時于大頑石三無稽原待 用四丈六千五百六十四 之便了三萬六千五百六 材不堪入選這因見一僧 正當嘆悖之際俄自嘆一 僧一日道遠而漸愧來生 得日</p>

 [View Source](#)

4. Modern Vertical Book

Features: Clean modern vertical layout style.

Capabilities:

- Demonstrates pure vertical text support without traditional book elements
- Suitable for modern literature or reports requiring vertical typesetting

✂ Modern vertical books are not currently the project focus; more features will be added later.

 [View Source](#)

Note: All ancient book examples are digital reconstructions based on historical document scans, intended to demonstrate `luatex-cn`'s adaptability to various complex vertical typesetting scenarios.

Features Overview

`luatex-cn` provides a rich set of features for ancient Chinese book typesetting, ranging from core vertical engines to various decorative elements.

1. Core Typesetting Engine

A grid-based layout system built on LuaTeX for high-precision vertical text flows.

- **RTT Direction:** Native support for top-to-bottom, right-to-left direction.
- **Grid Positioning:** Characters are precisely aligned to a defined grid.
- **Pagination & Column Flow:** Handles complex page splitting and column transitions automatically.

2. Traditional Book Elements

Full support for visual elements required by traditional binding:

- **Banxin & Yuwei:** Support for single/double fishtails, black silk frames, etc.
- **Split Page:** Support for electronic reading and traditional "tube page" binding.
- **Border System:** Double borders, inner borders, and customizable thickness.

3. Annotation & Revision System

Multiple ways to add comments to the text:

- **Interlinear Notes:** Double-line small text within main body with auto-balancing.
- **Side Notes:** Vertical annotations between text columns.
- **Annotations:** Floating annotation boxes placed anywhere on the page.
- **TOC Entries:** Added `\条目` (v0.2.5+) with hierarchical indentation for table of contents.

4. Layout Control & Commands

- **Force Column:** `\列` (or `\Column`) forces content to start in a new column.
- **Last Column:** `\末列` (or `\LastColumn`) places content in the last column of the current page.
- **Page Breaks:** Supports standard `\newpage` and `\clearpage`.

5. Decorations & Utilities

- **Seals:** Add collection or personal seals anywhere with opacity support.
- **Judou:** Traditional punctuation marks (circles and dots). Enhanced support for more Chinese punctuation since v0.2.1.
- **Fonts:** Auto-detection, font families, and fallback chains for rare characters. Supports simplified/traditional Chinese font names since v0.2.2.
- **Textbox:** Grid-based layout with auto-compression and filling.
- **Correction & Decoration:** Correction marks (`\fix`) and character decoration (`\decorate`).

5. Architecture & Debug Features (v0.2.0+)

- **Style Registry:** Phase 2 multi-attribute style storage (color, font_size, grid_height), supports cross-page style preservation.
- **Metadata System:** Centralized book metadata management (`\title`, `\publisher`, `\ChapterMarker`).
- **Debug Mode:** `\LtcDebugOn` displays page grid coordinates, `\LtcShowGrid` shows coordinate grid for layout debugging.
- **Plugin Architecture:** Standardized plugin API with unified initialize/layout/render three-phase interfaces.

6. Template System

Preset classical styles available out-of-the-box. See [Templates](#) for details.

- **四库全书** (Siku Quanshu): Qing Dynasty imperial style.
- **四库全书彩色**: Colored version of Siku Quanshu style.
- **红楼梦甲戌本**: Manuscript style with extensive annotations.

🔗 Next Steps: Check [Templates](#) | [Debug Mode](#) | [Examples](#)

Interlinear & Side Notes

`luatex-cn` offers a comprehensive annotation system, including in-text interlinear notes and marginal side notes.

Interlinear Notes (Jiazhu / 夹注)

Commonly seen in ancient books as double-line small characters between main body text.

Usage

```
Main text\\夹注{This is interlinear note content. If it is long, it will automatically split into two col
```

Key Features

- **Auto-Balancing Algorithm:** The system calculates the remaining space in the current column and splits the note content evenly into right and left sub-columns.
- **Cross-Column/Page Flow:** When a note doesn't fit in one column, it flows to the next column or page automatically.
- **Alignment Control:** Supports `left`, `right`, `center`, `inward`, and `outward` (default) alignment modes.

Side Notes (SideNode / 侧批)

Small annotations placed between text columns or at page margins.

Usage

```
Main text\\侧批[yoffset=10pt, color=red]{This is the side note content}continued text.
```

Parameters

- `yoffset` : Vertical offset for fine-tuning positions.

- `color` : Annotation color (default: red).
- `font-size` : Font size for the note.
- `grid-height` : Custom grid height for the note block.
- `border-padding-top` : Top border padding.
- `border-padding-bottom` : Bottom border padding.

Global Configuration

```
\sidenoteSetup{
  color = red,
  font-size = 19pt,
  grid-height = 20pt,
  yoffset = 0em,
  border-padding-top = 0.5em,
  border-padding-bottom = 0.5em
}
```

Cross-Page Color Preservation (v0.2.1+)

v0.2.1 introduced the style registry mechanism. Side note color settings now persist correctly across pages. Even when side note content spans multiple pages, colors remain consistent.

Technical Implementation (For Developers)

- **Interlinear Notes:** Uses LuaTeX attributes to mark nodes. During layout, the system detects these attributes, pauses normal typesetting, and calls `core_textflow.lua` for column splitting and re-mapping to the grid. Migrated to style stack architecture since v0.2.1.
- **Side Notes:** Managed by `core_sidenote.lua`. It captures the content as an independent box and calculates the offset based on the current reference character's coordinates. Supports Phase 2 style registry for color preservation since v0.2.1.
- **Style Registry:** `luatex-cn-style-registry.lua` provides multi-attribute style storage, supporting deduplication and cross-page preservation for `color`, `font_size`, `grid_height`, and other attributes.

🔗 Next Steps: Check [Annotations](#) or [Judou](#).

Annotations (PiZhu / 批注)

The `\批注` command allows placing floating annotation boxes anywhere on the page, simulating post-publication notes or commentaries in ancient manuscripts.

Usage

```
\批注[x=5cm, y=2cm, height=6, color={1 0 0}]{Annotation content}
```

Parameters

- `x` : Horizontal position of the top-left corner (relative to page center).
- `y` : Vertical position of the top-left corner (relative to page center).
- `height` : Number of grid rows (height) allocated for the box.
- `color` : Color in RGB format (e.g., `{1 0 0}` for red).
- `font-size` : Font size inside the annotation.
- `grid-width` : Custom grid cell width for the box.
- `grid-height` : Custom grid cell height for the box.

Features

- **Absolute Positioning**: Does not occupy main body space; overlaid directly at specified coordinates.
- **Auto-Columnizing**: If content exceeds the set `height`, it automatically starts a new column within the box.
- **Clip Prevention**: Position calculations account for Banxin (page center) to prevent content being cut off by borders.
- **Multi-column Support**: Internal columns can be precisely controlled via `n-cols`.
- **Independent Indentation** (v0.2.2+): Annotation content no longer inherits paragraph indentation from main text (fix #37).

Technical Implementation

Under the hood, annotations are based on `core_textbox.lua`. Content is rendered into an independent vertical grid system. This produced box is then overlaid during the page rendering stage using `shipout` logic in `render_page.lua`.

Marginal Notes (MeiPi / 眉批) v0.2.3+

The `\眉批` command places annotations at the top of the page (above the main text), a common format in traditional Chinese book annotations. Unlike `\批注`, MeiPi automatically calculates positions, arranging from right to left to avoid overlap.

Usage

```
% Auto-positioning (recommended)
\眉批[height=5]{Marginal note content}

% Manual Y coordinate
\眉批[height=5, y=50pt]{Marginal note content}

% Fully manual positioning
\眉批[height=5, x=100pt, y=50pt]{Marginal note content}
```

Parameters

- `height` : Number of grid rows (height) for the note, **required**.
- `x` : Horizontal position. Auto-calculated if not specified, arranging right-to-left.
- `y` : Vertical position. Auto-calculated if not specified, aligning bottom edge to main text top.
- `color` : Color, default red `{1 0 0}`.
- `font-size` : Font size, default 18pt.
- `grid-width` : Grid width, default 20pt.
- `grid-height` : Grid height, default 19pt.

Features

- **Auto-arrangement** (v0.2.3+): Multiple MeiPi notes automatically arrange right-to-left. Spacing configurable via `\meipiSetup{spacing=...}`.
- **Smart Positioning**: Y coordinate auto-calculated so bottom edge aligns with main text top.

- **Cross-page Support** (v0.2.3+): MeiPi correctly appears on the page where its anchor is located, not the previous page.
- **Independent Indentation:** MeiPi content does not inherit paragraph indentation from main text.

Configuration

```
\meipiSetup{  
  spacing = 10pt, % Spacing between MeiPi notes  
  gap = 0pt      % Gap between MeiPi bottom and main text top  
}
```

Technical Implementation

MeiPi is based on `guji/luatex-cn-guji-meipi.lua`. It inserts anchor nodes into the node list to record positions, then during layout phase determines which page the MeiPi should appear on based on the **first node with layout information after** the anchor.

🔗 Next Steps: Check [Seals](#) or [Judou](#).

Seals (YinZhang / 印章)

The `\印章` command adds images like collection marks or personal seals to the page, supporting absolute positioning and opacity.

Usage

```
\印章[page=1, xshift=2cm, yshift=5cm, opacity=0.8, width=3cm]{seal.png}
```

Parameters

- `page` : Page number where the seal appears (default: 1).
- `xshift` / `yshift` : Offsets from the page center or margin.
- `opacity` : Opacity (0.0 to 1.0). For ancient books, 0.7-0.9 is recommended to simulate ink absorption.
- `width` : Display width of the seal image.
- `color` : (Optional) Color for vector-based seals.

Features

- **Layer Management:** Seals are rendered during the `shipout/background` hook by default, appearing below the text. This can be customized if foreground placement is needed.
- **Multi-point Layout:** Multiple seal commands can be used on the same page; they are positioned independently based on their coordinates.
- **Absolute Positioning:** Uses TikZ's coordinate system for pinpoint accuracy on the page.

Technical Implementation

Seals leverage LaTeX `shipout` hooks. Each call to `\印章` registers a `tikzpicture` block inside the appropriate hook, wrapped in an `\ifnum\value{page}=N` conditional to ensure images are output on the correct page and at the correct layer.

🔑 Next Steps: Check [Judou](#) or [Features Overview](#).

[English Version] | [中文版](#)

Judou (Punctuation)

Judou (jù dòu) refers to the traditional Chinese system of punctuation and pausing marks. `luatex-cn` can automatically convert modern punctuation into traditional styles suitable for ancient book typesetting.

What is Judou Mode?

Traditional ancient books typically do not use modern full-width punctuation marks. Instead, they use small circles ("Ju") or dots ("Dou") attached to the characters.

- **Ju** (句): Corresponds to periods (.), question marks (?), and exclamation marks (!). Rendered as a small circle (○).
- **Dou** (读): Corresponds to commas (,), semicolons (;), and enumeration commas (、). Rendered as a small dot or tick (●).

Supported Punctuation (v0.2.1+)

Since v0.2.1, the range of supported punctuation has been extended to include:

- Basic punctuation: periods, commas, enumeration commas, semicolons, colons
- Paired punctuation: quotation marks (「」 『』 """"), book title marks (《》 〈〉), parentheses
- Special punctuation: dashes, ellipses, interpuncts, etc.

Usage

1. Global Activation

Enable it in the document class options:

```
\documentclass[judou-on=true]{ltx-guji}
```

2. Commands

You can switch modes anywhere in the document:

- `\JudouOn` : Enable the Judou processing mechanism.
- `\JudouOff` : Disable Judou processing.

Switching **Punctuation Styles**:

- `\JudouPunctuationMode` (or `\句读模式`): Convert modern punctuation to Ju/Dou marks.
- `\NonePunctuationMode` (or `\无标点模式`): Hide all punctuation (Plain text / "Baiwen").
- `\NormalPunctuationMode` (or `\正常标点模式`): Show standard modern full-width punctuation.

Example

```
\JudouOn
\JudouPunctuationMode
人之初，性本善。
% ", " becomes a dot, "." becomes a circle at the bottom-right.

\NonePunctuationMode
子曰学而时习之不亦说乎
% All punctuation is hidden.
```

Parameters

Fine-tune Judou appearance via parameters:

Key	Description	Default
<code>judou-color</code>	Color of the marks	<code>red</code>
<code>judou-size</code>	Size of the marks	<code>1em</code>
<code>judou-pos</code>	Position relative to character	<code>right-bottom</code>

Technical Details

Implemented via `luatex-cn-guji-judou.lua` :

1. **Identification:** Scans node stream for punctuation Unicode code points.
2. **Conversion:** In `judou` mode, punctuation nodes are removed and replaced by a `WHATSIT` node attached to the preceding CJK character.
3. **Rendering:** The renderer draws the circle/dot at the specified anchor point (usually bottom-right) of the character.
 - vo.1.5 optimized the positioning algorithm to ensure marks adhere closely to the character bounding box without extra gaps.
 - vo.2.1 fixed punctuation mode application for sidenote content (fix #39).
 - vo.2.2 extended the range of supported Chinese punctuation symbols (fix #40).

🔗 Next: [Side-Note](#) or [Features](#).

Fonts

`luatex-cn` provides intelligent cross-platform font detection and a powerful multi-font fallback mechanism to gracefully handle missing characters (rare glyphs).

1. Automatic Font Detection

By default, the `ltx-guji` document class automatically selects the most suitable installed fonts based on your operating system:

- **Windows:** Prioritizes SimSun, SimHei, etc.
- **macOS:** Prioritizes Songti SC, PingFang SC, etc.
- **Linux:** Prioritizes Fandol series or Noto CJK series.

To manually trigger and apply the auto-detected font:

```
\ApplyAutoFont
```

Chinese Font Name Support (v0.2.2+)

Since v0.2.2, font detection supports simplified and traditional Chinese font names:

```
\设置字体{宋体}           % Simplified Chinese name
\设置字体{標楷體}         % Traditional Chinese name
\设置字体{思源宋体}       % Open source font Chinese name
```

The system automatically maps Chinese font names to corresponding system fonts.

2. Font Family & Fallback

v0.1.5 introduces the concept of **Font Family**. By setting a font family, the system establishes a "fallback chain". When the main font lacks a specific character (e.g., a rare CJK ideograph), it automatically looks for it in the next font in the chain.

`\setFontFamily`

This command accepts a comma-separated list of fonts. The first font in the list becomes the main font, and the rest serve as fallbacks.

```
% Sets "Source Han Serif SC" as the main font.  
% If a character is missing, it tries "SimSun", then "SimHei".  
\setFontFamily{Source Han Serif SC, SimSun, SimHei}
```

Chinese Alias:

```
\设置字体族{Source Han Serif SC, SimSun, SimHei}
```

`\DeclareFontFallback`

To define a named fallback chain for custom usage:

```
% Define a chain named "mybackup"  
\DeclareFontFallback{mybackup}{SimSun, SimHei}  
  
% Apply this chain to a specific font  
\setmainfont{MyCustomFont}[RawFeature={fallback=mybackup}]
```

3. Standard Font Setting

If you only need to set a single font without fallback logic:

```
\setmainfont{KaiTi}  
% or  
\设置字体{KaiTi}
```

[!NOTE] For vertical layout, `luatex-cn` generally handles vertical features (`RawFeature={+vert}`) automatically.

🔗 Next: [Correction](#) or [Features](#).

[English Version] | [中文版](#)

Textbox

`luatex-cn` provides powerful vertical text box capabilities with grid alignment.

Basic Textbox

The `\TextBox` (or `\文本框`) command creates an independent vertical text area.

Usage

```
\TextBox[options]{Content}
```

Options

Key	Description	Default
<code>height</code>	Height in grid units. 0 for auto-extension.	<code>0</code>
<code>n-cols</code>	Number of columns.	<code>0</code>
<code>border</code>	Show border.	<code>false</code>
<code>background-color</code>	Background color.	None
<code>floating</code>	Enable floating mode (needs x, y).	<code>false</code>

Features

- **Auto-Extension:** If `height` is 0, the box extends naturally.
- **Compression (Flat Text):** If `height` is fixed and content is too long, text is vertically compressed (v0.1.5).
- **Independent Indentation** (v0.2.2+): Textbox content no longer inherits paragraph indentation from main text, ensuring layout independence (fix #37).

Fill Textbox

`\FillTextBox` (or `\填充文本框`) is a variant of `\TextBox` with default fill alignment.

```
\FillTextBox[height=10]{Content}
```

➤ Next: [Features](#).

[English Version] | [中文版](#)

Correction & Decoration

`luatex-cn` provides tools for classical text correction and decoration, including correction marks, emphasis marks, and underlines (proper name marks / book title marks).

Correction (GaiZi)

The `\fix` (or `\改`) command marks corrections in classical text editing. It retains the original character with a deletion mark (、) and places the replacement character at the bottom right.

Usage

```
\fix{replacement}  
% or Chinese alias  
\改{替换字}
```

Example

```
This has a \fix{correct}wrong text.
```

In this example, "wrong" is marked with a deletion symbol, and "correct" is placed at its bottom-right corner at 60% size.

Technical Details

- **Deletion Mark:** Automatically overlays a deletion point (、) on the character.
- **Replacement Text:** Placed at bottom-right corner at 60% of original font size.
- **Non-destructive:** Does not affect the original grid layout.

Text Decoration

Preset commands for marking text according to classical or modern standards.

1. Underline Marks

Command	Alias	Description	Use Case
<code>\Underline</code>	<code>\下划线</code>	Straight line on the left	General highlighting
<code>\专名号</code>	-	Straight line on the left	Proper names (Person, Place)
<code>\WavyUnderline</code>	<code>\波浪线</code>	Wavy line on the left	General highlighting
<code>\书名号</code>	-	Wavy line on the left	Book/Article titles

Options ([options]):

- `color` : Line color (default: `red`).
- `offset` : Distance from text (default: `0.6em`).

Example:

```
\专名号[color=black]{Confucius}  
\书名号{The Analects}
```

2. Emphasis Marks

Command	Alias	Description
<code>\EmphasisMark</code>	<code>\着重号</code>	Add small circles (°) to the right of each char
<code>\圈点</code>	-	Same as above

Example:

```
\EmphasisMark{Very Important}
```

Generic Decoration

The `\decorate` (or `\装饰`) command allows overlaying arbitrary content on **each character**.

Usage

```
\decorate[options]{content}
```

Parameters

Key	Description	Default
<code>char</code>	Decoration character	<code>◦</code>
<code>color</code>	Color	<code>red</code>
<code>xoffset</code>	Horizontal offset (xshift)	<code>0pt</code>
<code>yoffset</code>	Vertical offset (yshift)	<code>0pt</code>
<code>scale</code>	Scale factor	<code>1.0</code>
<code>font-size</code>	Force specific font size	<code>auto</code>

Example

```
% Add a red circle on each character in "important"  
\decorate[char=◦, scale=0.8, color=red]{important}
```

➤ Next: [Textbox](#) or [Features](#).

Debug Mode

`luatex-cn` provides comprehensive debugging features to help troubleshoot layout issues.

Enable/Disable Debug

```
\LtcDebugOn    % or \开启调试
\LtcDebugOff   % or \关闭调试
```

Module-level Debug

Enable debugging for specific modules:

```
\LtcDebugModuleOn{vertical}  % or \开启调试模块{vertical}
\LtcDebugModuleOff{vertical} % or \关闭调试模块{vertical}
```

Display Helper Tools

Show Page Frame

```
\LtcShowFrame  % or \显示边框
```

Show Grid Coordinates

Overlay grid coordinates on the page for element positioning:

```
% Show grid (default unit: cm)
\LtcShowGrid          % or \显示网格

% Specify unit
\LtcShowGrid[measure=cm] % or \显示网格[measure=cm]
\LtcShowGrid[measure=pt]
\LtcShowGrid[measure=mm]
```

```
% Hide grid
\LtcHideGrid           % or \隐藏网格
```

Supported units: `cm` (default), `pt`, `mm`

Show Coordinates

`\显示坐标` is an alias for `\显示网格`:

```
\显示坐标[measure=pt]
\隐藏坐标
```

Debug Color Settings

Set different debug colors for different modules:

```
\LtcDebugColor{vertical}{blue}
\LtcDebugColor{banxin}{red}
```

Usage Example

```
\documentclass[四库全书彩色]{ltx-guji}

% Enable debug mode
\LtcDebugOn
\LtcShowGrid[measure=cm]

\begin{document}
\begin{正文}
Debug content...
\end{正文}
\end{document}
```

Debug Output

When debug is enabled, the compilation log outputs detailed layout information including:

- Grid position calculations
- Character positioning
- Banxin rendering process
- Plugin invocation order

 Back to: [Features](#) | [Home](#)

Changelog

All notable changes to this project will be documented here.

[0.2.5] - 2026-02-05

- **🔱 Catalog Entry Command:** Added `\条目` command with hierarchical indentation for table of contents
- **🔱 Column Control Commands:** Added `\列` (Column) and `\末列` (LastColumn) commands for better layout control (fix #30)
- **🐛 Bug Fix:** Fixed decoration underlines (专名号/书名号) not drawn on last character at column end (fix #54)
- **🐛 Bug Fix:** Fixed character centering offset for some characters (e.g., "漢"), main text now uses width-based centering (fix #55)
- **🐛 Bug Fix:** Fixed sidenote color leakage to banxin when crossing page boundaries (fix #48)

[0.2.4] - 2026-02-03

- **🔱 Underline Support:** Added `\Underline` / `\下划线` commands, implemented with the `|` character (fix #5)
- **🔱 Book Title & Proper Name Marks:** Added `\书名号` (wavy line) and `\专名号` (straight line) commands (fix #16)
- **🐛 Bug Fix:** Fixed sidenote column alignment when switching columns (fix #47)
- **🐛 Bug Fix:** Fixed sidenote going to second column when crossing pages (fix #49)
- **🐛 Bug Fix:** Fixed jiazhu alignment issue (fix #51)
- **🐛 Bug Fix:** Fixed `\newgeometry` not supporting paperwidth/paperheight (fix #52)
- **🐛 Bug Fix:** Fixed sidenote color leakage causing banxin to turn red when crossing pages

[0.2.3] - 2026-02-01

- **✦ MeiPi (Marginal Notes):** Added `\眉批` command with auto-positioning and manual coordinate support (fix #46)
- **✦ Special TextBox:** TextBox frame feature with border shape customization (fix #25)
- **✦ Publisher Display:** Added publisher display below banxin with customizable font (fix #26)
- **🐛 Bug Fix:** Fixed annotation and textbox incorrectly inheriting paragraph indentation (fix #37)
- **🐛 Bug Fix:** Fixed MeiPi appearing on wrong page when crossing page boundaries
- **🐛 Bug Fix:** Fixed font detection support for simplified/traditional Chinese names (fix #35)
- **♻️ Refactoring:** Refactored border style system with style stack management for border, outer_border attributes

[0.2.2] - 2026-01-31

- **🐛 Bug Fix:** Fixed preamble chapter display on first page (fix #45)
- **🐛 Bug Fix:** Fixed jiazhu column jumping at column end (fix #42)
- **✦ Judou Enhancement:** Support for more Chinese punctuation symbols (fix #40)
- **🐛 Bug Fix:** Fixed TextBox and annotation inheriting paragraph indent (fix #37)
- **✦ Debug Feature:** Added debug ruler showing page grid coordinates (fix #31)
- **✦ Font Detection:** Support simplified/traditional Chinese font names (fix #35)
- **♻️ Refactoring:** Consolidated banxin text rendering logic
- **♻️ Refactoring:** Moved title/publisher commands to metadata.sty
- **☑️ Module Cleanup:** Cleaned up banxin, guji, yinzhang module dependencies

[0.2.1] - 2026-01-31

- **✦ Color Preservation:** Sidenote color preservation across pages (fix #38, #44)
- **✦ Style Stack Architecture:** Implemented Phase 3 style stack for multi-attribute support
- **✦ Style Registry:** Phase 2 multi-attribute style storage (color, font_size, grid_height)

- 🐛 **Bug Fix:** Fixed sidenote rendering order, now correctly displays above silk columns (fix #38)
- 🐛 **Bug Fix:** Punctuation mode now correctly applies to sidenote content (fix #39)
- ♻️ **Jiazhu Migration:** Migrated jiazhu functionality to style stack architecture
- ♻️ **Refactoring:** Unified color registration mechanism

[0.2.0] - 2026-01-31

- ⚡ **Plugin Architecture:** Refactored to standardized plugin API for consistent component behavior
- ⚡ **Global State Management:** Unified configuration via global tables for all modules
- ⚡ **Metadata System:** Centralized book metadata management (title, publisher, chapter markers)
- ♻️ **Module Namespace:** Clear separation of core/, guji/, banxin/, util/, decorate/
- ♻️ **Major Refactoring:** Plugin system refactoring with standardized module interfaces

[0.1.5] - 2026-01-28

- ⚡ **Multi-font Support:** Added multi-font fallback chain and Chinese font setting commands (fix #23).
- ⚡ **New Features:** Implemented `\decorate` and `\fix` functionalities, supporting vertical typesetting correction marks (fix #12).
- ⚡ **Textbox Enhancements:** Textbox supports vertical compression (flattening) to fit grid positions (fix #24).
- 🐛 **Bug Fixes:** Fixed layout bugs including opt dimension parsing error, Judou positioning offsets, and long title squeezing (fix #19, #20).
- ☑️ **Regression Tests:** Introduced automated regression testing program based on PDF rendering comparison.
- ♻️ **Refactoring:** Refactored core rendering logic and improved overall code stability.

[0.1.4] - 2026-01-27

- ⚡ Added Judou (punctuation marks) functionality
- 🐛 Fixed paragraph indentation and side note column switching issues

- ♻ Major code refactoring for better readability and maintainability
- ☑ Added more test files

[0.1.3] - 2026-01-25

- 🐞 Fixed inaccurate page breaks and page number positioning
- ✦ Annotation coordinates now more accurate, skipping page center to prevent clipping
- 📖 Completely typeset Dream of the Red Chamber (Jiaxu manuscript) Chapter 1
- ♻ Better compliance with Expl3 syntax
- ☑ Added l3build test files for regression testing
- ☑ Established comprehensive Lua unit testing framework with `l3build test` command support
- 🐞 Completely fixed Mock logic and API inconsistency issues in unit tests

[0.1.2] - 2026-01-22

- ♻ Renamed src to tex
- 🐞 Completely fixed CRLF and BOM character issues on Windows
- 📦 Adopted l3build, see build.lua
- 🐞 Fixed package require paths to ensure release version works out of the box

[0.1.1] - 2026-01-19

Features

- ✦ Added annotation command, still using floating text box underneath

Fixes

- 🐞 Fixed CRLF and BOM character issues on Windows

Documentation

- 📖 Updated documentation with bilingual support

Major Features

- **Native Geometric Vertical Typesetting Engine:** Deep Lua customization with grid layout system designed for ancient book typesetting
- **Traditional Book Core Elements:** Complete support for Banxin (page center), Yuwei (fishtail), and traditional silk frames
- **Comprehensive Annotation System:** Flexible interlinear notes and side note functionality
- **Ready-to-use Template System:** Preset visual styles including Siku Quanshu and Dream of the Red Chamber manuscripts
- **Cross-platform Font Auto-detection:** Smart recognition of Windows, macOS, and Linux system fonts
- **Electronic Scroll/Traditional Page Support:** Traditional "tube page" logic and electronic reading adaptation
- **Absolute Positioning Seal System:** Support for placing collection seals anywhere on the page

Project Infrastructure

- Automated CTAN packaging and release workflow
- Comprehensive bilingual user manuals and multiple classic ancient book reproduction examples

Release Process

`luatex-cn` follows an automated release workflow to ensure compliance with CTAN (Comprehensive TeX Archive Network) standards.

Development Workflow

Building and testing are powered by `l3build` :

```
# Run all Lua unit tests
l3build test

# Install to local TEXMFHOME
l3build install

# Create release bundle (.zip)
l3build bundle
```

Automated Publishing (CI/CD)

GitHub Actions handles the packaging:

1. **Source Sync:** The `main` branch is used for active development.
2. **Packaging:**
 - Extracts `src/` , `文档/` (docs), and `示例/` (examples).
 - Translates folders and filenames to English as required by CTAN, using `scripts/file_name_translation.json` .
 - Generates the standardized directory structure (doc, example, tex).
3. **Release Branch:** The packaged content is pushed to the `ctan` branch and published via GitHub Releases.

Versioning

- Version numbers are stored in the root `VERSION` file.
- Significant changes are recorded in the [Changelog](#).
- We follow Semantic Versioning (SemVer) principles.

🔑 Next Steps: Check [Development Documentation](#).

Development Documentation

This document summarizes the core design philosophy, modular architecture, and the complete development workflow for the `luatex-cn` typesetting engine.

1. Core Architecture: Three-Layer Design

`luatex-cn` utilizes a three-layer architecture to decouple layout logic from rendering:

- LaTeX Interface Layer (`.sty` , `.cls`)**: Defines user commands; sets attributes and parameters via `luatexbase`.
- Coordination Layer (`core_*.lua`)**: Manages logic flow. For instance, `core_main` orchestrates the main process, while `core_textflow` handles interlinear note splitting.
- Processing Layer (`layout_*.lua` , `render_*.lua`)**:
 - **Flattening**: Converts TeX node lists into linear Lua tables.
 - **Layout**: Calculates grid coordinates for each character and its associated elements.
 - **Rendering**: Reassembles content based on coordinates and outputs PDF instructions.

Module Directory Structure (v0.2.0+)

```
tex/
├─ core/           # Core vertical engine (26 files)
├─ guji/           # Ancient book specific features (6 files)
├─ banxin/         # Page center system (5 files)
├─ splitpage/      # Tube page splitting (2 files)
├─ fonts/          # Font auto-detection
├─ util/           # Utility modules (including style registry)
├─ decorate/       # Text decoration
├─ debug/          # Debug tools
└─ configs/        # Preset configuration files
```

Plugin System (v0.2.0+)

v0.2.0 introduced a standardized plugin API where each module implements a three-phase interface:

```

plugin = {
  initialize = function(params, engine_ctx) end, -- Initialization
  layout = function(list, layout_map, engine_ctx, context) end, -- Layout
  render = function(head, layout_map, params, context, ...) end -- Rendering
}

```

Style Registry (v0.2.1+)

`luatex-cn-style-registry.lua` provides multi-attribute style storage:

```

-- Register a style, returns unique ID
local style_id = style_registry.register({
  color = {1, 0, 0},
  font_size = 19,
  grid_height = 20
})

-- Retrieve style by ID
local style = style_registry.get(style_id)

```

Supported attributes: `color`, `font_size`, `grid_height`, `font`, etc.

2. Participating in Development

We welcome contributions and Pull Requests (PRs).

2.1 Fork & Workflow

1. **Fork the Repo:** Click the Fork button on GitHub.
2. **Clone:** Clone your forked repository locally.
3. **Coding:** Main source code is located in the `tex/` directory.

[!TIP] VS Code with LaTeX Workshop is recommended for development.

2.2 Testing

Please ensure all tests pass before submitting a PR.

1. **Install Dependencies:** You need `l3build` installed.
2. **Unit Tests:** Run Lua unit tests:

```
l3build test
```

This invokes `test/run_all.lua`.

3. **Regression Tests:** We use automated regression testing based on PDF rendering comparison to prevent layout regressions.

```
l3build check
```

This compiles `.lvt` files in `testfiles/` and compares the output logs (`.tlg`) against baselines. If your changes affect layout, ensure these pass. If layout changes are intentional, update baselines:

```
l3build save test-name
```

2.3 Release

For release procedures, please refer to [Release](#).

3. Key Technical Details

Vertical Direction (RTT)

Leverages LuaTeX's `dir RTT` attribute. In RTT mode, text flows top-to-bottom, and lines stack right-to-left.

Attribute Management

Uses LuaTeX attributes to pass metadata across languages (e.g., "this glyph belongs to an interlinear note").

```
[!WARNING] \selectfont clears all active attributes. Ensure attributes are reset
AFTER setting the font size.
```

Node Ownership

Passing nodes to TeX via `tex.box[n] = node` transfers ownership. Use `node.copy_list()` if you need to reuse nodes.

4. Development Lessons (LEARNING)

- **Color Commands:** Must use normalized RGB (e.g., `0 0 0 rg`), not names.
- **Rendering Order:** PDF follows the "painter's model"—later content overlays earlier content. Insert backgrounds at the head of the list to ensure they are at the bottom.
- **Module Loading:** Standardize on `require()` and utilize `package.loaded` for caching.