

The **psalms** package

Typesetting Latin psalms to Gregorian tones

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Summarium

The **psalms** package typesets Latin psalm texts with psalm tone accents that follow the classic Gregorian mediant and termination formulas. It combines Lua-based syllable detection with Lua \LaTeX for robust accenting, and it ships with UTF-8 psalm texts for the 150 psalms plus canticles used in the Divine Office.

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1 Introduction

The package provides straightforward commands to select a psalm and tone preset. It expects UTF-8 encoded source texts and is intended for use with Lua \LaTeX . Example:

```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage{fontspec}
\usepackage{psalms}
\begin{document}
\psalm{117}{8G}
\end{document}
```

2 Loading the package

Engine Lua \LaTeX is required. The package relies on Lua for syllabification and psalm tone logic.

Dependencies fontspec, babel with Latin support, xparse, enumitem, and lettrine.

3 Main command

`\psalm`

`\psalm{<number>}{<preset>}`

The first argument is the psalm number. The second chooses the tone preset (for instance 1, 2D, 7c, or 8G). Tone presets are defined in the `psalmtones.lua` helper module.

`\psalmlegacy` This legacy wrapper keeps compatibility with documents that previously used `\psalm[<preset>]{<number>}`.

4 Package options

orthographic Switches accent detection to orthographic mode, which looks for acute marks (á, é, í, ó, ú, ý) or apostrophes. Without marks, the positional fallback (penultimate syllable) is used.

positional Explicitly sets positional mode (the default).

versenumbers Enables verse numbers globally. Numbers are formatted with an `enumitem` list that can be customised with `\SetPsalmVerseStyle`.

gloriapatri Appends the Gloria Patri to the end of every psalm.

dropcap Activates a decorative initial letter for the first verse using `lettrine`. Dropcap dimensions are controlled through the `\PsalmDropcap*` macros.

debug Writes syllable diagnostics to the log file, which helps when tuning the syllable splitter or tone presets.

5 Run-time configuration

The package exposes several helper macros:

`<mode>` Switch accent logic at run time.

`true/false` Toggle verse numbers.

`true/false` Control the doxology.

`true/false` Enable or disable dropcaps.

Skip syllable recomputation for the next psalm, useful for fully premarked texts.

Typography helpers can be redefined as needed, e.g. `\PsalmStyleAccent` to change highlighted syllables, or `\PsalmHalfDivider` to adjust the median divider.

6 File layout

Psalm texts live in the `tex/latex/psalms/psalms/` directory as UTF-8 `.txt` files. Users can point the package to an alternate directory by redefining `\PsalmDir` or the `\PsalmExt`.

The Lua helper `psalmtones.lua` resides in `tex/lualatex/psalms/` and is loaded via `\directlua`.

7 Building the documentation

Run `lualatex psalms-doc.tex` twice to resolve cross references. The package documentation depends on `ltxdoc` and the same runtime requirements as the package itself.