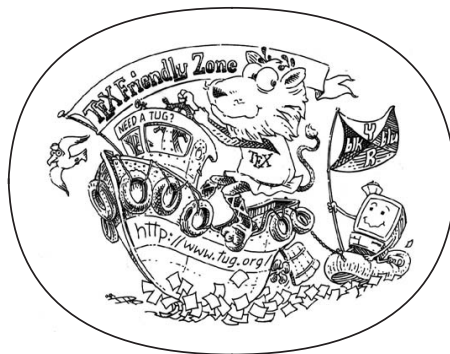


# A CLASSIC THESIS STYLE

ANDRÉ MIEDE



An Homage to The Elements of Typographic Style

December 2011 – version 4.0

André Miede: *A Classic Thesis Style*, An Homage to The Elements of  
Typographic Style, © December 2011

*Ohana* means family.  
Family means nobody gets left behind, or forgotten.

— Lilo & Stitch

Dedicated to the loving memory of Rudolf Miede.

1939 – 2005



## ABSTRACT

---

Short summary of the contents...



## PUBLICATIONS

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Some ideas and figures have appeared previously in the following publications:

Put your publications from the thesis here. The packages `multibib` or `bibtopic` etc. can be used to handle multiple different bibliographies in your document.





*We have seen that computer programming is an art,  
because it applies accumulated knowledge to the world,  
because it requires skill and ingenuity, and especially  
because it produces objects of beauty.*

— Knuth (1974)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Put your acknowledgements here.

Many thanks to everybody who already sent me a postcard!

Regarding the typography and other help, many thanks go to Marco Kuhlmann, Philipp Lehman, Lothar Schlesier, Jim Young, Lorenzo Pantieri and Enrico Gregorio<sup>1</sup>, Jörg Sommer, Joachim Köstler, Daniel Gottschlag, Denis Aydin, Paride Legovini, Steffen Prochnow, Nicolas Repp, Hinrich Harms, Roland Winkler, and the whole L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X-community for support, ideas and some great software.

*Regarding L<sub>Y</sub>X*: The L<sub>Y</sub>X port was initially done by *Nicholas Mariette* in March 2009 and continued by *Ivo Pletikosić* in 2011. Thank you very much for your work and the contributions to the original style.

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<sup>1</sup> Members of GuIT (Gruppo Italiano Utilizzatori di T<sub>E</sub>X e L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X)



## CONTENTS

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<b>i</b>	<b>SOME KIND OF MANUAL</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1	Organization	4
1.2	Style Options	5
1.3	Customization	6
1.4	Issues	7
1.5	Future Work	8
1.6	License	8
<b>ii</b>	<b>THE BEGINNING</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>LET'S GO</b>	<b>11</b>
2.1	new section	12
<b>iii</b>	<b>APPENDIX</b>	<b>13</b>
	<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	<b>15</b>

## LIST OF FIGURES

---

Figure 1	plot of chunk unnamed-chunk-2	<a href="#">12</a>
----------	-------------------------------	--------------------

## LIST OF TABLES

---

## LISTINGS

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## ACRONYMS

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**DRY** Don't Repeat Yourself

**API** Application Programming Interface

**UML** Unified Modeling Language





## Part I

### SOME KIND OF MANUAL

You can put some informational part preamble text here.



## INTRODUCTION

---

This template for L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X has two goals:

1. Provide students with an easy-to-use template for their Master's or PhD thesis (though it might also be used by other types of authors for reports, books, etc.).
2. Provide a classic, high-quality typographic style that is inspired by Bringhurst's *"The Elements of Typographic Style"* (Bringhurst, 2008).

*A Classic Thesis  
Style version 4.0*

The bundle is configured to run with a *full* MiK<sub>T</sub>E<sub>X</sub> or T<sub>E</sub>XLive installation right away and, therefore, it uses only freely available fonts.

People interested only in the nice style and not the whole bundle can now use the style stand-alone via the file `classicthesis.sty`. This works now also with "plain" L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.

As of version 3.0, `classicthesis` can also be easily used with L<sub>Y</sub>X<sup>1</sup> thanks to Nicholas Mariette and Ivo Pletikosić. The L<sub>Y</sub>X version of this manual will contain more information on the details.

This should enable anyone with a basic knowledge of L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X<sub>2</sub> $\epsilon$  or L<sub>Y</sub>X to produce beautiful documents without too much effort. In the end, this is my overall goal: more beautiful documents, especially theses, as I am tired of seeing so many ugly ones.

The whole template and the used style is released under the GNU General Public License.

If you like the style then I would appreciate a postcard:

Andre Miede  
Detmolder Strasse 32  
31737 Rinteln  
Germany

The postcards I received so far are available at:

<http://postcards.miede.de>

So far, many theses, some books, and several other publications have been typeset successfully with it. If you are interested in some typographic details behind it, enjoy Robert Bringhurst's wonderful book.

*A well-balanced line  
width improves the  
legibility of the text.  
That's what  
typography is all  
about, right?*

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Some things of this style might look unusual at first glance, many people feel so in the beginning. However, all things are intentionally designed to be as they are, especially these:

- No bold fonts are used. Italics or spaced small caps do the job quite well.

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.lyx.org>

- The size of the text body is intentionally shaped like it is. It supports both legibility and allows a reasonable amount of information to be on a page. And, no: the lines are not too short.
- The tables intentionally do not use vertical or double rules. See the documentation for the booktabs package for a nice discussion of this topic.<sup>2</sup>
- And last but not least, to provide the reader with a way easier access to page numbers in the table of contents, the page numbers are right behind the titles. Yes, they are *not* neatly aligned at the right side and they are *not* connected with dots that help the eye to bridge a distance that is not necessary. If you are still not convinced: is your reader interested in the page number or does she want to sum the numbers up?

Therefore, please do not break the beauty of the style by changing these things unless you really know what you are doing! Please.

### 1.1 ORGANIZATION

A very important factor for successful thesis writing is the organization of the material. This template suggests a structure as the following:

*You can use these  
margins for  
summaries of the  
text body...*

- Chapters/ is where all the “real” content goes in separate files such as Chapter01.tex etc.
- FrontBackMatter/ is where all the stuff goes that surrounds the “real” content, such as the acknowledgments, dedication, etc.
- gfx/ is where you put all the graphics you use in the thesis. Maybe they should be organized into subfolders depending on the chapter they are used in, if you have a lot of graphics.
- Bibliography.bib: the BibTeX database to organize all the references you might want to cite.
- classicthesis.sty: the style definition to get this awesome look and feel. Bonus: works with both L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X and PDFL<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X... and L<sub>Y</sub>X.
- ClassicThesis.tcp a T<sub>E</sub>XnicCenter project file. Great tool and it’s free!
- ClassicThesis.tex: the main file of your thesis where all the content gets bundled together.

---

<sup>2</sup> To be found online at  
<http://www.ctan.org/tex-archive/macros/latex/contrib/booktabs/>.

- `classicthesis-config.tex`: a central place to load all nifty packages that are used. In there, you can also activate backrefs in order to have information in the bibliography about where a source was cited in the text (i. e., the page number).

*Make your changes and adjustments here.* This means that you specify here the options you want to load `classicthesis.sty` with. You also adjust the title of your thesis, your name, and all similar information here. Refer to [Section 1.3](#) for more information.

This had to change as of version 3.0 in order to enable an easy transition from the “basic” style to L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.

In total, this should get you started in no time.

## 1.2 STYLE OPTIONS

There are a couple of options for `classicthesis.sty` that allow for a bit of freedom concerning the layout:

- General:
  - `drafting`: prints the date and time at the bottom of each page, so you always know which version you are dealing with. Might come in handy not to give your Prof. that old draft.
- Parts and Chapters:
  - `parts`: if you use Part divisions for your document, you should choose this option. (Cannot be used together with `nochapters`.)
  - `nochapters`: allows to use the look-and-feel with classes that do not use chapters, e. g., for articles. Automatically turns off a couple of other options: `eulerchapternumbers`, `linedheaders`, `listsseparated`, and `parts`.
  - `linedheaders`: changes the look of the chapter headings a bit by adding a horizontal line above the chapter title. The chapter number will also be moved to the top of the page, above the chapter title.
- Typography:
  - `eulerchapternumbers`: use figures from Hermann Zapf’s Euler math font for the chapter numbers. By default, old style figures from the Palatino font are used.
  - `beramono`: loads Bera Mono as typewriter font. (Default setting is using the standard CM typewriter font.)
  - `eulermath`: loads the awesome Euler fonts for math. (Palatino is used as default font.)

*...or your supervisor might use the margins for some comments of her own while reading.*

- pdfspacing: makes use of pdftex’ letter spacing capabilities via the microtype package.<sup>3</sup> This fixes some serious issues regarding math formulæ etc. (e. g., “ß”) in headers.
- minionprospacing: uses the internal textssc command of the MinionPro package for letter spacing. This automatically enables the minionpro option and overrides the pdfspacing option.
- Table of Contents:
  - tocaligned: aligns the whole table of contents on the left side. Some people like that, some don’t.
  - dottedtoc: sets pagenumbers flushed right in the table of contents.
  - manychapters: if you need more than nine chapters for your document, you might not be happy with the spacing between the chapter number and the chapter title in the Table of Contents. This option allows for additional space in this context. However, it does not look as “perfect” if you use \parts for structuring your document.
- Floats:
  - listings: loads the listings package (if not already done) and configures the List of Listings accordingly.
  - floatperchapter: activates numbering per chapter for all floats such as figures, tables, and listings (if used).
  - subfig(ure): is passed to the tocloft package to enable compatibility with the subfig(ure) package. Use this option if you want use classicthesis with the subfig package.

The best way to figure these options out is to try the different possibilities and see, what you and your supervisor like best.

In order to make things easier in general, classicthesis-config.tex contains some useful commands that might help you.

### 1.3 CUSTOMIZATION

This section will give you some hints about how to adapt classicthesis to your needs.

The file classicthesis.sty contains the core functionality of the style and in most cases will be left intact, whereas the file classicthesis-config.tex is used for some common user customizations.

The first customization you are about to make is to alter the document title, author name, and other thesis details. In order to do this, replace the data in the following lines of classicthesis-config.tex:

*Modifications in  
classic-  
thesis-config.tex*

---

3 Use microtype’s DVIPDF option to generate DVI with pdftex.

---

```

1 \newcommand{\myTitle}{A Classic Thesis Style\xspace}
  \newcommand{\mySubtitle}{An Homage to ...\xspace}
  \newcommand{\myDegree}{Doktor-Ingenieur (Dr.-Ing.)\xspace}

```

---

Further customization can be made in `classicthesis-config.tex` by choosing the options to `classicthesis.sty` (see [Section 1.2](#)) in a line that looks like this:

---

```

\PassOptionsToPackage{eulerchapternumbers,listings,drafting,
  pdfspacing, subfig,beramono,eulermath,parts}{classicthesis}

```

---

If you want to use backreferences from your citations to the pages they were cited on, change the following line from:

---

```

\setboolean{enable-backrefs}{false}

```

---

to

---

```

\setboolean{enable-backrefs}{true}

```

---

Many other customizations in `classicthesis-config.tex` are possible, but you should be careful making changes there, since some changes could cause errors.

Finally, changes can be made in the file `classicthesis.sty`, although this is mostly not designed for user customization. The main change that might be made here is the text-block size, for example, to get longer lines of text.

*Modifications in  
classicthesis.sty*

## 1.4 ISSUES

This section will list some information about problems using `classicthesis` in general or using it with other packages.

Beta versions of `classicthesis` can be found at the following Google code repository:

<http://code.google.com/p/classicthesis/>

There, you can also post serious bugs and problems you encounter.

### *Compatibility with the glossaries Package*

If you want to use the `glossaries` package, take care of loading it with the following options:

```
\usepackage[style=long,nolist]{glossaries}
```

Thanks to Sven Staehs for this information.

### *Compatibility with the (Spanish) babel Package*

Spanish languages need an extra option in order to work with this template:

```
\usepackage[spanish,es-lcroman]{babel}
```

Thanks to an unknown person for this information (via Google Code issue reporting).

*Compatibility with the pdfsync Package*

Using the pdfsync package leads to linebreaking problems with the `graffito` command. Thanks to Henrik Schumacher for this information.

## 1.5 FUTURE WORK

So far, this is a quite stable version that served a couple of people well during their thesis time. However, some things are still not as they should be. Proper documentation in the standard format is still missing. In the long run, the style should probably be published separately, with the template bundle being only an application of the style. Alas, there is no time for that at the moment. . . it could be a nice task for a small group of L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>Xnicians.

Please do not send me email with questions concerning L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X or the template, as I do not have time for an answer. But if you have comments, suggestions, or improvements for the style or the template in general, do not hesitate to write them on that postcard of yours.

## 1.6 LICENSE

GNU GENERAL PUBLIC LICENSE: This program is free software; you can redistribute it and/or modify it under the terms of the GNU General Public License as published by the Free Software Foundation; either version 2 of the License, or (at your option) any later version.

This program is distributed in the hope that it will be useful, but *without any warranty*; without even the implied warranty of *merchantability* or *fitness for a particular purpose*. See the GNU General Public License for more details.



## Part II

### THE BEGINNING

Here is where everything began.



LET'S GO

---

## 2.1 NEW SECTION

- item
  - item 1.1
  - item 1.2
  - new item

$$x_i = y_i$$

$$x_i + y_i = y_i$$

cite me: Abberger (1997)

```
x <- 1
```

```
plot(1:10)
```

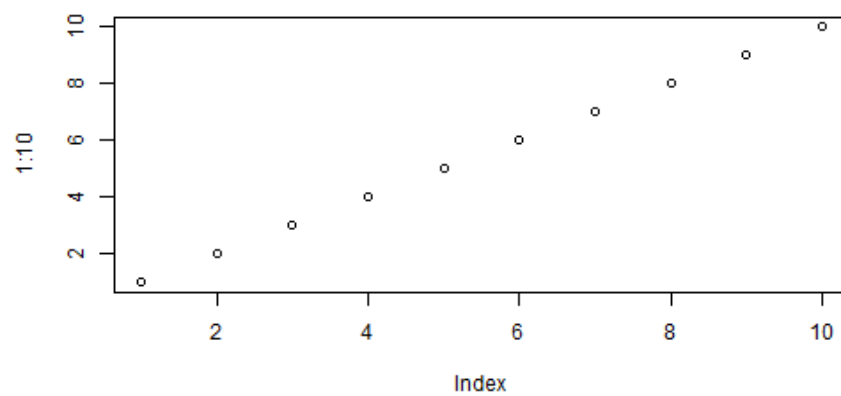


Figure 1: plot of chunk unnamed-chunk-2

## Part III

### APPENDIX



## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Abberger, K. (1997). "Quantile smoothing in financial time series." In: *Statistical Papers* 38 (2), pp. 125–148.
- Bringhurst, Robert (2008). *The Elements of Typographic Style*. Version 3.2. Point Roberts, WA, USA: Hartley & Marks Publishers.
- Knuth, Donald E. (1974). "Computer Programming as an Art." In: *Communications of the ACM* 17.12, pp. 667–673.





## COLOPHON

This document was typeset using the typographical look-and-feel classicthesis developed by André Miede. The style was inspired by Robert Bringhurst's seminal book on typography "*The Elements of Typographic Style*". classicthesis is available for both  $\text{\LaTeX}$  and  $\text{\LyX}$ :

<http://code.google.com/p/classicthesis/>

Happy users of classicthesis usually send a real postcard to the author, a collection of postcards received so far is featured here:

<http://postcards.miede.de/>



## DECLARATION

---

Put your declaration here.

*Darmstadt, December 2011*

---

André Miede, January 20,  
2015