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Your Institution

# My Awesome Research Notebook

A Subtitle for My Brilliant Work

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# Contents

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<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome to Your Elegant Notebook</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Getting Started in Three Simple Steps</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1	Compiling Your Document . . . . .	3
<b>3</b>	<b>Showcase of Core Features</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1	Effortless Typography and Text . . . . .	4
3.2	Engaging Custom Boxes . . . . .	4
3.2.1	Note Boxes . . . . .	4
3.2.2	Example Boxes . . . . .	4
3.3	Beautiful Code Listings . . . . .	5
3.4	Seamless Mathematics . . . . .	5
3.5	Professional Tables and Figures . . . . .	5
3.5.1	Tables . . . . .	5
3.5.2	Figures and Diagrams . . . . .	5
3.6	Citations and Bibliography . . . . .	6
<b>4</b>	<b>Theming: Your Document, Your Style</b>	<b>7</b>
4.1	One-Step Theme Switching . . . . .	7
4.2	Available Font Themes . . . . .	7
4.3	Available Colour Themes . . . . .	8
4.4	Creating Your Own Colour Theme . . . . .	8
<b>5</b>	<b>Advanced Customisation</b>	<b>9</b>
5.1	Creating Custom Box Types . . . . .	9
5.2	Understanding the Project Structure . . . . .	9
<b>6</b>	<b>Conclusion and Best Practices</b>	<b>11</b>

# Chapter 1

## Welcome to Your Elegant Notebook

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Welcome to the Elegant Notebook template! We have designed this template to help you create stunning and professional documents with ease. Whether you are taking notes, writing a research paper, or compiling a report, our goal is to make your work shine.

This template is built on a foundation of consistent styling, thoughtful typography, and a powerful theming system.

### Key Features at a Glance

Here is a glimpse of what you can do:

- Craft a unique look with our one-step **font and colour theme switcher**.
- Organise your thoughts with beautifully designed **custom boxes** for notes and examples.
- Showcase your work with elegant support for **mathematics**, **code listings**, and **bibliographies**.
- Focus on your content, knowing the design is polished and professional.

Let's get started and bring your ideas to life!

## Chapter 2

# Getting Started in Three Simple Steps

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Getting started is straightforward. Just follow these three steps:

1. **Personalise Your Document:** Open `config/metadata.tex` and add your title, author, and other details.
2. **Choose Your Style:** In this file (`elegant-notebook.tex`), find the `usetheme` command. Pick your favourite font and colour theme to match your taste. See Chapter 4 for a full list of themes!
3. **Compile Your Notebook:** Run one of the provided scripts to compile your document.

### 2.1 Compiling Your Document

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For a quick preview without bibliography processing, use:

```
1 ./simple-compile.sh
```

For a full compilation with bibliography support (this requires the `biber` engine), run:

```
1 ./compile.sh
```

And that's it! You are ready to start writing.

# Chapter 3

## Showcase of Core Features

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This template includes a rich set of features to make your content look its best. Let's explore some of them.

### 3.1 Effortless Typography and Text

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The template provides clean, readable typography right out of the box. You can easily format your text:

- Normal text is optimised for readability.
- **Bold text** for giving emphasis.
- *Italic text* is perfect for definitions or foreign terms.
- Monospace text for technical terms.
- Sans-serif text for headings and UI elements.
- Of course, you can use coloured text and highlighted text, too!

Hyperlinks, like this one to the [LaTeX Project](#), are styled to fit seamlessly.

### 3.2 Engaging Custom Boxes

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Highlight key information and provide clear examples with our custom box environments.

#### 3.2.1 Note Boxes

Use a 'notetbox' to draw attention to important points, warnings, or helpful tips.

##### Note

This is a note box. It is perfect for highlighting information that your reader should not miss. Note boxes support multiple paragraphs and are styled using your theme's main colour.

#### 3.2.2 Example Boxes

The 'examplertbox' is designed to showcase examples, from mathematical proofs to code snippets.

##### Example

This is an example box, styled with your theme's accent colour. You can include anything you like, such as a famous equation:  $E = mc^2$ .

### 3.3 Beautiful Code Listings

Whether you are writing a tutorial or documenting your code, our syntax highlighting provides excellent support. You can use `inline code` for small snippets. For larger blocks:

```

1 def factorial(n):
2     """Calculate the factorial of a non-negative integer."""
3     if n < 0:
4         raise ValueError("Factorial is not defined for negative numbers")
5     elif n == 0 or n == 1:
6         return 1
7     else:
8         return n * factorial(n - 1)
9
10 # Example usage:
11 result = factorial(5)
12 print(f"The factorial of 5 is {result}")

```

**Listing 3.1:** A simple Python function

### 3.4 Seamless Mathematics

The template provides excellent support for mathematical notation, both inline and in display environments.

Inline equations like  $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 = x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2$  fit perfectly within your text. For more complex expressions, use the ‘align’ environment:

$$f(x) = (x - 1)^2 \tag{3.1}$$

$$f'(x) = 2(x - 1) \tag{3.2}$$

#### Note

Notice how mathematical expressions are rendered clearly in both inline and display forms. The consistent styling ensures your document remains professional and easy to read.

### 3.5 Professional Tables and Figures

Present your data and diagrams with elegance.

#### 3.5.1 Tables

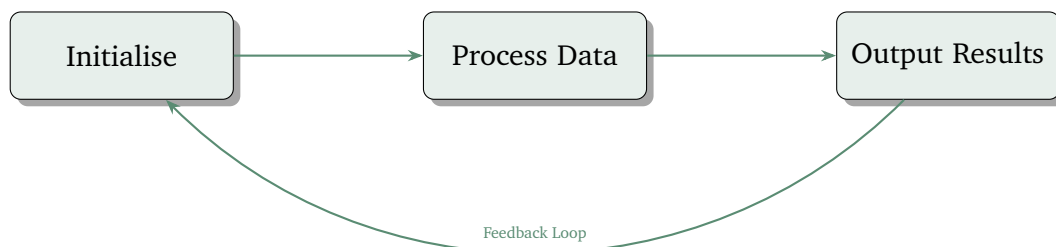
Tables are styled using the `booktabs` package for a clean, professional look without vertical lines.

#### 3.5.2 Figures and Diagrams

The template includes full support for TikZ, allowing you to create stunning, customised diagrams.

**Table 3.1:** Sample Experimental Results

Metric	Value	Uncertainty
Mean	0.12	$\pm 0.03$
Std. Dev.	1.05	$\pm 0.02$
Skewness	0.05	$\pm 0.01$

**Figure 3.1:** A styled TikZ diagram showing a simple workflow with a feedback loop.

## 3.6 Citations and Bibliography

The template uses BibLaTeX for easy and powerful reference management. You can cite sources from your bibliography, such as [1] or [2].

### Note

To use citations, ensure you have the `biber` bibliography processor installed and run the full compilation with `./compile.sh`.

Simply add your references to the `references.bib` file. Here is an example entry:

```

1 @article{Smith2020,
2   author = {Smith, John and Johnson, Sarah},
3   title  = {Recent Advances in Document Preparation Systems},
4   journal = {Journal of Documentation},
5   year   = {2020},
6   volume = {76},
7   number = {3},
8   pages  = {710--725},
9   doi    = {10.1000/example.doi}
10 }
  
```

**Listing 3.2:** Example reference entry in references.bib

# Chapter 4

## Theming: Your Document, Your Style

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The powerful theming system is one of the standout features of this template. You can effortlessly change the entire look and feel of your document with a single command.

### 4.1 One-Step Theme Switching

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To change your theme, simply edit the `\usetheme` command at the top of this file. It takes two arguments: the font theme and the colour theme.

```
1 % The first parameter is the font theme, the second is the colour theme
2
3
4 % Example: Modern fonts with the Oxford Blue theme
5 \usetheme{modern}{oxford-blue}
6
7 % Example: Elegant fonts with the Vintage Rose theme
8 \usetheme{elegant}{vintage-rose}
```

**Listing 4.1:** Using the theme switcher command

### 4.2 Available Font Themes

---

We have curated seven professional font pairings to suit any document. Your current theme is **modern**.

- **modern:** A contemporary look with Charter and Bera Sans (the default).
- **classic:** A traditional academic style with Palatino and TeX Gyre Heros.
- **elegant:** A refined style with EB Garamond and Source Sans Pro.
- **academic:** The cohesive Libertinus family, perfect for scholarly papers.
- **scientific:** STIX Two and Cabin, optimised for scientific and mathematical content.
- **professional:** An enhanced Palatino clone with Source Sans Pro for a smart, business look.
- **contemporary:** Modern Fira Sans with matching mathematics support for a clean, unified feel.



### 4.3 Available Colour Themes

Choose from over 17 carefully designed colour themes.

- **Cambridge Family:** **cambridge-blue** (default), **cambridge-classic**, **cambridge-forest**, **cambridge-sunset**, **cambridge-river**
- **Oxford Family:** **oxford-blue**, **oxford-mist**, **oxford-monochrome**
- **Sky Family:** **summer-skies**, **aurora-skies**, **twilight-skies**, **midnight-skies**
- **Other Themes:** **vintage-rose**, **emerald**, **royal-purple**, **arctic**, **autumn**

### 4.4 Creating Your Own Colour Theme

Feeling creative? You can easily define your own colour theme in `config/colours.tex`.

#### Note

To add your own theme, find the "CUSTOM THEME" section in `config/colours.tex` and follow the template pattern provided.

- Choose a unique theme name (e.g., `my-awesome-theme`).
- Define all the required colours.
- Activate it with `\usetheme{font-theme}{my-awesome-theme}`.

Here is an example of what a custom theme definition looks like:

```

1 % Add this block to config/colours.tex
2 \ifdefstring{\activetheme}{my-custom-theme}{%
3     \definecolor{maincolor}{RGB}{76,40,130}      % Royal Purple
4     \definecolor{accentcolor}{RGB}{212,175,55}    % Gold
5     \definecolor{highlightcolor}{RGB}{220,20,60}  % Crimson
6     \definecolor{codebg}{RGB}{245,240,255}        % Light purple
7     \definecolor{codefg}{RGB}{50,30,80}           % Dark purple
8     \definecolor{softgray}{RGB}{200,190,210}      % Purple-tinted grey
9     \definecolor{titlepagebg}{RGB}{240,235,250}   % Soft purple
10    \definecolor{inlinecodebg}{RGB}{235,230,250}  % Richer purple for
11    \definecolor{inlinecodefg}{RGB}{90,50,150}    % Deeper royal purple
12 }{}
13
14 % Then, in elegant-notebook.tex:
15 \usetheme{modern}{my-custom-theme}

```

**Listing 4.2:** Custom theme definition in `config/colours.tex`

# Chapter 5

## Advanced Customisation

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For those who want to dig deeper, the template offers even more ways to tailor your document.

### 5.1 Creating Custom Box Types

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You can design your own box styles in `config/settings.tex`. For example, you could create a ‘warningbox’ for critical alerts.

```
1 \newtcolorbox{warningbox}{
2     enhanced,
3     colback=red!10,
4     colframe=red!80!black,
5     fonttitle=\sffamily\bfseries,
6     coltitle=white,
7     title=Warning,
8     left=2mm, right=2mm, top=2mm, bottom=2mm,
9     arc=2mm,
10    drop shadow,
11    breakable
12 }
```

**Listing 5.1:** Creating a custom box type in config/settings.tex

### 5.2 Understanding the Project Structure

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The template is organised into a clear and logical file structure, making it easy to find what you need.

```
1 elegant-notebook.tex      # Main document (this file)
2 references.bib            # Bibliography file
3 README.md                # Project documentation
4 compile.sh               # Full compilation script
5 simple-compile.sh        # Basic compilation script
6 test-themes.tex          # Theme preview tool
7 config/                  # Configuration files
8     colours.tex           # Colour theme definitions
9     metadata.tex          # Document metadata (titles, author, etc.)
10    settings.tex          # Core package imports and style settings
11    theme.tex             # The theme switching system
12    title-page.tex        # The title page layout
```

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**Listing 5.2:** Project directory structure

## Chapter 6

### Conclusion and Best Practices

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We hope you enjoy using the Elegant Notebook template. It is designed to be a powerful yet flexible tool that gets out of your way, so you can focus on what matters most: your content.

#### Best Practices for Best Results

Here are a few final tips for getting the best results:

- Keep your document organised with a clear hierarchy of chapters and sections.
- Use the provided environments ('notetbox', 'exampletbox', etc.) consistently for visual coherence.
- Choose a font and colour theme that matches the tone and subject matter of your work.
- Always use the `./compile.sh` script for the final version to ensure all references and links are correct.
- For collaborative projects, we highly recommend using a version control system like Git.

Happy writing!

## References

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- [1] John Smith and Sarah Johnson. ‘Recent Advances in Document Preparation Systems’. In: *Journal of Documentation* 76.3 (2020), pp. 710–725. DOI: [10.1000/example.doi](https://doi.org/10.1000/example.doi).
- [2] Leslie Lamport. *TeX: A Document Preparation System*. 2nd. Reading, Massachusetts: Addison-Wesley, 1994.