

The Very Short Guide to LaTeX

This is the 12 January 2012 revision of the Guide. It is designed for printing on A4 paper, double-sided, and folding once to A5.

This revision corrects some minor typographical inconsistencies and rephrases some descriptions for greater clarity.

From the source comments:

This is the Very Short Guide to LaTeX, a 4pp folder designed as an *aide-mémoire* for people who have just done a course in LaTeX and need something by them on their desk the next day to refresh their memories. It is *not* intended as a substitute for full documentation.

Production notes

An earlier (Jan 2008) version was typeset on two A4 landscape pages ready to print, but this restricted the ways people wanted to print it, so this version is set as four normal A5 pages, leaving the imposition up to your printer driver.

Adobe Acrobat, for example, can print the PDF two-sided, two-up, landscape on A4 using the “Booklet Printing” option, and a ready-imposed PDF generated this way is included below. A better result can be achieved by preprocessing the PS output with the command

```
pstops -pa4 -b "4:-3L(21cm,0)+0L(21cm,14.85cm),1L(21cm,0)+-2L(21cm,14.85cm)" \
  veryshortguide.ps | ps2pdf - veryshortguide-imposed.pdf
```

The page margins are set to 12mm, because many desktop inkjet printers cannot print the bottom 12mm of a sheet; it was felt best to equalise this all round, at the small expense of making the printable area slightly smaller.

The image shows a thumbnail of the 'The Very Short Guide to LaTeX' document. It is a four-page spread designed for A4 paper, double-sided, and folding once to A5. The pages contain the following sections:

- Page 1:** 'The very short guide to typesetting with TeX/LaTeX'. It includes a title page with the author's name (Shawn Cook) and a date (January 2012). It also has a section 'What's this all about? What's TeX/LaTeX?' and a section 'Creating and typesetting your document'.
- Page 2:** 'Basic document structure'. It includes a section 'Front matter' and a section 'Body matter'.
- Page 3:** 'Tables and Figures'. It includes a section 'Tables' and a section 'Figures'.
- Page 4:** 'References'. It includes a section 'References'.

If you have been maintaining a mirror or other copy of this document, please update it with this version

and delete the previous files.

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Files

Source code

[veryshortguide.tex](#) 22K LaTeX source

Output

[veryshortguide.pdf](#) 646K PDF output

[veryshortguide-imposed.pdf](#) 154K PDF output

[veryshortguide.dvi](#) 30K DVI output

[veryshortguide.ps](#) 1.2M PS output

Images

[menno-a.eps](#) 444K Map (EPS)

[menno-a.jpg](#) 30K Map (JPG)

Peter Flynn