

Program and package xindex

—
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1 Introduction

The Lua program `xindex` is a unicode aware program for creating an index file from an `.idx` source file. It is completely compatible to the current `makeindex` program, but can handle UTF-8, 16, 32, and 64. The `\LaTeX` package `xindex` is a package which provides a `\LaTeX` command which writes additional text into the index file. This text (comments and/or macros) will be accepted by the program `xindex`.

The general structure of a data element in the Lua table is:

```
data = { Entry = <text>, -- like the input line without command \indexentry
         pages = {
                     { number = <roman/arabic number or text>,
                       special = <macro> }, -- the part after | in the input
                     [...]
                     { number = <roman/arabic number or text>,
                       special = <macro> }
                   },
         sortChar = <unicode codepoint>, -- of the first character of Entry
         Macro     = <TeX macro> -- only useful with LaTeX package \Lpack{xindex}
       }
```

After reading the input file the table `pages` has only one element for the number and the so-called special command. When the pages are compressed the table will collect all pages which refer to the same entry name.

1.1 Syntax

The syntax is `xindex [...] <file>` where [...] are optional arguments, either in short or long form which, of course, can be mixed:

```
xindex
      [-q,--quiet ]
      [-h,--help ]
      [-v ]                                verbose
      [-c,--config ]                         default is cfg
      [-e,--escapechar ]                      default is "
      [-a, --nocasesensitive ]                default is false
      [-n,--noheadings ]                      default is false
      [-o,--output ]                          default is <input>.ind
      [-l,--language ]                        default is en
      [-p,--prefix]                           default L
      <input file>
```

The language has to be chosen as an international abbreviation in lower- or uppercase letters, see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO_3166-2

1.2 How it works

xindex creates by default an output file <input>.ind which can be read by the L^AT_EX document with the default command \printindex. One can use another output filename, which makes only sense if one doesn't use the \printindex command for typesetting the index. The default sorting is given by the configuration file, which defines replacements for accented characters, like ö→o.

1.3 The .idx file

There are four characters which must be escaped if used in the command \index: !, @, ", or |. These characters have a special meaning for the index. The default escape character is the double quote ":".

```
\usepackage{makeidx}\makeindex

\section{Escaping characters}
\begin{itemize}
\item Exclamation mark ! \index{exclaim ("!)}
\item Vertical bar| \index{Vertical bar ("|)}
\item Doublequote \verb|"|\ \index{""}
\item Double doublequote \verb||"|\ \index{"""}
\item At character @ \index{At ("@)}
\end{itemize}
run \texttt{xindex <file.idx>}\index{<file.idx>}\index{123}
\newpage
\printindex
```

xindex-[

1 Escaping characters

- Exclamation mark !
- Vertical bar|
- Doublequote "
- Double doublequote ""
- At character @

run xindex <file.idx>

Index

Symbols

", 1
,,, 1
<file.idx>, 1

Numbers

123, 1

A

At (@), 1

E

exclaim (!), 1

V

Vertical bar (|), 1

For the german language the double quote is an active character and it makes live easier if one chooses another character. The escape character can be changed easily by the optional argument -e "<char>" or --escapechar "<char>". The following example shows how it works for the escape character > (greater). Internally the escape sequences are now defined as:

2 Language

```
escape_chars = { -- by default " is the escape char
    {esc_char..'''', '//escapedquote//', '\\\"{}' },
    {esc_char..'@', '//escapedat//', '@' },
    {esc_char..'|', '//escapedvert//', "|" },
    {esc_char..'!', '//scapedexcl//', '!' }
}
```

which is, of course, not of interest for the user. With the beginning the escaped chars are converted into the internal strings and later back to the origin meaning.

```
\usepackage{makeidx}\makeindex
```

xindex-2

```
\section{Escaping characters with >}
\begin{itemize}
\item Exclamation mark ! \index{exclaim (>)!}
\item Vertical bar| \index{Vertical bar (>|)}
\item Doublequote \verb||| \index{>"}
\item Double doublequote \verb||"|| \index{>>"}
\item At character @ \index{At (>@)}
\end{itemize}
Run \texttt{xindex} with \texttt{xindex -e ">"}\index{<file.idx>}\index{123}
\newpage
\printindex
```

1 Escaping characters with >

- Exclamation mark !
- Vertical bar|
- Doublequote "
- Double doublequote ""
- At character @

Run xindex with xindex -e ">"

Index

Symbols

" , 1
''' , 1
<file.idx(, 1

Numbers

123, 1

A

At (@), 1

E

exclaim (!), 1

V

Vertical bar (|), 1

2 Language

The language is only important for the first two headers in the output of the index data. They are by default *Symbols* followed by *Numbers*. In a new version of xindex it will be customizable. The predefined language is »en« and currently the following languages are possible:

```
indexheader = {
  de = {"Symbole", "Zahlen"},
  en = {"Symbols", "Numbers"},
  fr = {"Symboles", "Chiffre"},
  jp = {"シンボル", "番号"},
}
```

The following example was run with `xindex -l de <file>.idx`:

```
\usepackage{makeidx}\makeindex

\section{Escaping characters with >}
\begin{itemize}
\item Exclamation mark ! \index{exclaim (>)!}
\item Vertical bar| \index{Vertical bar (>|)}
\item Doublequote \verb|"|\ \index{>"}
\item Double doublequote \verb|" "| \index{">"}
\item At character @ \index{At (>@)}
\end{itemize}
Run \texttt{xindex} with \texttt{xindex -l de -e ">"}\index{123}
\newpage
\printindex
```

1 Escaping characters with >

- Exclamation mark !
- Vertical bar|
- Doublequote "
- Double doublequote ""
- At character @

Run `xindex` with `xindex -l de -e ">"`

Index	
Symbole	
"	, 1
..."	, 1
Zahlen	
123	, 1
A	
At (@)	, 1
E	
exclaim (!)	, 1
V	
Vertical bar ()	, 1

3 Sorting

The default sorting is unicode aware and uses a translation table for accented characters:

```
alphabet_lower = { -- for sorting
  { ' ' }, -- only for internal tests
  { 'a', 'á', 'à', 'ä' },
  { 'b' },
```

3 Sorting

```
{ 'c' },
{ 'd' },
{ 'e', 'é', 'è', 'ë' },
{ 'f' },
{ 'g' },
{ 'h' },
{ 'i', 'í', 'ì', 'í' },
{ 'j' },
{ 'k' },
{ 'l' },
{ 'm' },
{ 'n', 'ñ' },
{ 'o', 'ó', 'ò', 'ö' },
{ 'p' },
{ 'q' },
{ 'r' },
{ 's' },
{ 't' },
{ 'u', 'ú', 'ù', 'ü' },
{ 'v' },
{ 'w' },
{ 'x' },
{ 'y' },
{ 'z' }
}
```

There is also a table for the uppercase letters. If it should be edited or extended then copy first the base configuration file `xindex-cfg.lua` and modify that new file. It can be used by `xindex` with the optional argument `-c newfile` if it is named as `xindex-newfile.lua`. For german there already exists a configuration file `xindex-DIN2.lua` which uses the so-called »Telefonbuchsortierung« which converts the umlauts like ö→oe:

```
alphabet_upper = { -- for sorting
{ ' ' },
{ 'A', 'Á', 'À', 'Ã' },
{ 'B' },
{ 'C' },
{ 'D' },
{ 'E', 'È', 'È', 'ë' },
{ 'F' },
{ 'G' },
{ 'H' },
{ 'I', 'Í', 'Ì', 'í' },
{ 'J' },
{ 'K' },
{ 'L' },
{ 'M' },
```

```

{ 'N', 'Ñ' },
{ 'O', 'Ó', 'Ò', 'Ö' },
{ 'P' },
{ 'Q' },
{ 'R' },
{ 'S' },
{ 'T' },
{ 'U', 'Ú', 'Ù', 'Ü' },
{ 'V' },
{ 'W' },
{ 'X' },
{ 'Y' },
{ 'Z' }
}

```

```
\usepackage{makeidx}\makeindex
\newcommand\Index[1]{\index{#1}#1}
```

Sorted with \verb|-l DE|

```

\Index{Österreich} \Index{Öresund}
\Index{Ostern} \Index{Ober}
\Index{Oberin} \Index{Österreich}
\Index{Öresund} \Index{Ostern}
\Index{Ober} \Index{Oberin}
\Index{Obstler} \Index{Öl}
\Index{ölen} \Index{Ödem}
\Index{Oligarch} \Index{Oder}
\Index{oder} \index{Fluss!Oder}
\index{Oder|seealso{Fluss}}
\Index{Göbel} \Index{Goethe}
\Index{Göthe} \Index{Götz}
\Index{Goldmann}

\printindex

```

Index

F	Oberin, 1
Fluss	Obstler, 1
- Oder, 1	Ödem, 1
G	oder, 1
Göbel, 1	Oder, 1, <i>siehe auch</i> Fluss
Goethe, 1	Öl, 1
Goldmann, 1	ölen, 1
Göthe, 1	Oligarch, 1
Götz, 1	Öresund, 1
O	Ostern, 1
Ober, 1	Österreich, 1

xindex-4

The same sorted with the german DIN variant 2 with `--config DIN2`, which is part of the TeX distribution. In this case a letter Ö is converted to Oe before sorting the word beginninjg with the letter Ö:

```
\usepackage{makeidx}\makeindex
\newcommand\Index[1]{\index{#1}#1}

Sorted with
\verb|--config DIN2 -l DE| 

\Index{Österreich} \Index{Öresund}
\Index{Ostern} \Index{Ober}
\Index{Oberin} \Index{Österreich}
\Index{Öresund} \Index{Ostern}
\Index{Ober} \Index{Oberin}
\Index{Obstler} \Index{Öl}
\Index{ölen} \Index{Ödem}
\Index{Oligarch} \Index{Oder}
\Index{oder} \index{Fluss!Oder}
\index{Oder|seealso{Fluss}}
\Index{Göbel} \Index{Goethe}
\Index{Goethe} \Index{Götz}
\Index{Goldmann}

\printindex
```

Index**F**

Fluss
- Oder, 1

G

Göbel, 1
Goethe, 1
Göthe, 1
Götz, 1
Goldmann, 1

O

Ödem, 1

Öl, 1
ölen, 1
Öresund, 1
Österreich, 1
Ober, 1
Oberin, 1
Obstler, 1
Oder, 1
oder, 1
Oder, *siehe auch* Fluss
Oligarch, 1
Ostern, 1

The following runs with xindex -l jp <file>:

```
\usepackage{fontspec}
\setmainfont{SourceHanSans}
\usepackage[japanese]{babel}
\addto\captionsjapanese{%
\def\indexname{指数}}
\usepackage{hvindex}% for \Index
\usepackage{makeidx}\makeindex

\Index{車} \Index{車道}
日本\index{日本\fbox}
\Index{病院} \Index{コンピュータ}
\Index{プリンタ} \Index{印刷}
\Index{スイミングプール} \Index{天王}
\Index{広島} \Index{ドイツ}
\Index{日本} \Index{ワープロ}
\Index{foo} und \Index{bar}
\Index{//} \Index{4711}
\newpage\printindex
```

指数**シンボル**

//, 1

番号

4711, 1

B

bar, 1

F

foo, 1

C

コンピュータ, 1

S

スイミングプール, 1

D

ドイツ, 1

P

プリンタ, 1

ワ

ワープロ, 1

印

印刷, 1

天

天王, 1

広

広島, 1

日

日本, 1, [1]

病

病院, 1

車

車, 1

車道, 1

4 Compressing pagenumbers

By default page sequences of an entry are compressed to

8f page 8 and 9

8ff page 8, 9, and 10

8-12 page 8, 9, ..., 12

The so-called folio abbreviation is language dependent and defined in the file `xindex-cfg-common.cfg`:

```
folium = {
  de = {"f", "ff"}, 
  en = {"f", "ff"}, 
  fr = {"\sq", "\sqq"}, 
  jp = {"シンボル", "番号"}, 
}
```

`\usepackage{makeidx}\makeindex`

Sorted with `\verb|-l fr|`

```
foobar\index{foobar}{} 
foo\index{foo}\index{bar}\index{baz}\newpage 
foo\index{foo}\index{bar}\index{baz}\newpage 
foo\index{bar}\index{baz}\newpage 
foo\index{baz}\newpage 
foo\index{foo}foobar\index{foobar}{} 
\newpage 
\printindex
```

Index

B

bar, 1 sqq
baz, 1–4

F

foo, 1 sq, 5
foobar, 1–5

xindex-7

5 hyperref

Using the package `hyperref` is no problem:

`\usepackage{makeidx}\makeindex`
`\usepackage{hvindex}% for \Index`
`\usepackage[colorlinks]{hyperref}`

Sorted with `\verb|-l DE|`

```
\Index{\Osterreich} \Index{\Oresund} 
\Index{\Ostern} \Index{\Ober} \Index{\Oberin} 
\Index{\Osterreich} \index{\Oresund|textbf} 
\Index{\Ostern} \Index{\Ober} \Index{\Oberin} 
\Index{\Obstler} \Index{\Oel} \Index{\olen} 
\Index{\Odem} \Index{\Oligarch} \Index{\Oder} 
\Index{\oder} \index{Fluss!Oder|textit} 
\Index{\Oder|seealso{Fluss}} \Index{\Gobel} 
\Index{\Goethe} \Index{\Goethe} \Index{\Gott} 
\newpage\Index{\Goldmann} \Index{\Goethe} 
\newpage \printindex
```

Index

F

Fluss
- Oder, 1

G

Göbel, 1
Goethe, 1f
Goldmann, 2

Göthe, 1
Götz, 1

O

Ober, 1

Oberin, 1

Obstler, 1

Ödem, 1

Oder, 1

oder, 1

Oder, *see also* Fluss

Öl, 1

olen, 1

Oligarch, 1

Öresund, 1, 1

Ostern, 1

Österreich, 1

xindex-8

6 Page argument

Every page can be combined with an additional macro, like `\index{foo|fbox}`, the page number will be set into a framebox. If we have on the same page the two commands:

```
foo\index{foo} and foo\index{foo|bar}
```

then we have two *different* index entries which will not be compressed to one entry. In the following example we have four different entries for *foo* which is the reason that we do not get an output like *foo, 1--4*. Only the first two entries are of the same type, so we get *1f* in the output.

xindex-9	\usepackage{makeidx}\makeindex	Index
	<pre>Ein foo\index{foo} \newpage und \index{foo} ein foo\index{foo textit} \newpage und foo\index{foo textbf} \newpage und foo\index{foo fbox} \newpage \printindex</pre>	<p>F foo, 1f, 2, 3, 4</p>

7 The config file

The main config file is `xindex-cfg.lua` is used by default and loading it by the optional parameter `-c` makes no sense. A new config file must have the prefix `xindex-` and the file extension `.lua`, for example: `xindex-HAdW-eK0.lua` which can be used with `--config HAdW-eK0`. The file must be saved in the documents directory or in one which is known to kpsewhich, for example¹ `$TEXMFLOCAL/tex/lualatex/xindex/` Don not forgot to update the filename database.

A new config file must declare at least the variables which are part of the default config file: the translation tables and

```
itemPageDelimiter = ","      -- Hello, 14
compressPages    = true
-- something like 12--15, instaead of 12,13,14,15. the |( ... |) syntax is still valid
fCompress       = true      -- 3f -> page 3, 4 and 3ff -> page 3, 4, 5
minCompress     = 3         -- 14--17 or
rangeSymbol     = "--"
numericPage     = true      -- for non numerical pagenumbers, like "VI-17"
sublabels       = {"", "-\\-", "--\\-", "---\\-"}
-- for the sub(sub(sub-items, first one is empty
pageNoPrefixDel = ""       -- a delimiter for page numbers like "VI-17" -- not used !!!
indexOpening    = ""       -- commands/text after \begin{theindex}
```

¹The directory `xindex` must be created before saving the file.

The new config file can define own functions for compressing the pagelist for a given entry and for the formatting of the output. They must be called `specialCompressPageList` and `specialGetPageList`.

For example:

```
function specialCompressPageList(pages)
    if (pages[1]["number"] == "") then pages[1]["number"] = " " end
    if (#pages <= 1) then
        pages[1]["number"] = pages[1]["number"]:gsub('-',':~')-- replace "-" with ":~"
        return pages
    end -- only one pageno
    local sortPages = {}
    local roman
    local volume
    local page
    local i
    for i=1,#pages do
        roman = string.gsub(pages[i]["number"],'%U*', '') -- only uppercase to catch VII/1-123f and VII/3-
        123ff (folium pages)
        if romanToNumber(roman) then
            roman = string.format("%05d",tonumber(romanToNumber(roman))) -- only roman part VII
        else
            roman = ""
        end
        volume = string.gsub(pages[i]["number"],'%a*','') -- only the number /2 123 or /2-123
        if volume then volume = volume:gsub('-%d*','') end -- delete - char to get /
        page = string.gsub(pages[i]["number"],'.*-','')
        page = string.format("%5s",page)
        sortPages[#sortPages+1] = {
            origin = pages[i],
            sort = roman..volume.." "..page } -- no minus between Roman/Volume and first page
    end
    table.sort(sortPages, function(a,b) return a["sort"] < b["sort"] end )
    [...]
    return pages
end
end
```

is a special function which can handle page numbers like VII-17, VIII/2/1-186. Internally exists a function `compressPageList` which is used if no `specialCompressPageList` is defined.

```
\usepackage{makeidx}
\mbox{} \printindex
```

Personenverzeichnis

A	K
Aachen, Johannes von	VII/1 : 215
Aarones	VII/2/1 : 1003, 1012
Abrahamson	VII/2/1 : 864, 991, 1048, 1067, 1156
Adamson	VII/2/1 : 1223, IX/1 : 1228
Adrian	
- Hauster	VII/1 : 514, XI/1 : 515
Alting	
- Mensa	VII/1 : 426, 434, 453, 455, 466f.
B	O
Braunschweig-Wolfenbüttel	
- Karl Viktor von, Herzog	VI/1 : 83
Bremen	
- Heinz von, Erzbischof	see Sachsen-Lauenburg
J	S
Julian	
- Apostata, römischer Kaiser	VII/2/1 : 904
Justinian I., byzantinischer Kaiser	VII/1 : 326, 734,
	VII/2/1 : 1011
Z	Z
	Zwingl, Haldrich
	IX : 479, 692

The config file `xindex-dtk.lua` defines a special page output:

```
function specialGetPageList(v,hyperpage) -- Entry table, boolean
    local Pages = {}
[...]
    if (Pages[1]["special"] == nil) or (Pages[1]["number"] == nil) then return "" end
    if #Pages == 1 then
        return "\relax"..Pages[1]["number"].."\\@nil"
    else
        pageNo = "\relax"..Pages[1]["number"]
        for i=2,#Pages do
            if Pages[i]["number"] then
                pageNo = pageNo..", "..Pages[i]["number"].."\\@nil"
                Pages[i] = {}
            end
        end
    end
[...]
end
```

The following example runs `xindex -c dtk -l de -n <input>`

<code>\usepackage{makeidx}</code>	??	Autorenliste	
<code>\mbox{} \ref{president}</code>		Elke Baehrendtsen	[14] Martin Severs
<code>\printindex</code>		dori@xyz.de	siehe Seite ??
		Horst Fannt	[48] Herbert Voß
		Friedrichallee 74	Wasgensteig 12
		13233 Neu-Isenburg	10127 Potsdam
		juergen.fannt@gmxnet.de	herbert@xyz.de
		Jonasson Jared Jazek	[20] Herbert Voß
		mail@jones.net	Wasgenstraße 121
		Martin Koomer	[24, 31] 10127 Potsdam
		Freiherr-von-Stein-Weg 16	herbert@xyz.de
		15525 Erdingen-Neckar	
		kooma@xyz.info	
		Eike Schuster	[40] Michael Ziegendaten
		Haussteig 15	Lokostr. 19
		36396 Stuttens	20713 Kalln
		elke.schuster@kabelxyz.de	ziegendaten@mail.com

7.1 Sublabels

There are three predefined sublabels for `\subitems`. The program itself can handle more, there is no limit for `xindex`.

```
\makeatletter
\g@addto@macro{\theindex}{%
  \def\subsubsubitem{@idxitem\hspace*{35\p@}}
  \def\subsubsubsubitem{@idxitem\hspace*{40\p@}}
}
\makeatother
\usepackage{makeidx}\makeindex

foo\index{foo} bar\index{foo!bar}
baz\index{foo!bar!baz} foobar%
\index{foo!bar!baz!foobar} Kuba
\index{foo!bar!baz!foobar!Kuba}
\newpage \printindex
```

Index

F
foo, 1
- bar, 1
- baz, 1
— foobar, 1
— Kuba, 1

8 Including L^AT_EX commands into the .idx file

The command `\addtocontents` doesn't work for the index file. With the L^AT_EX package `xindex` (same name as the Lua program `xindex`) defines a macro `\writeidx` which writes its argument into the `.idx` file. This can be usefull to insert a pagebreak/”columnbreak before a new letter in the output of the index file:

```
\documentclass{article}
```

9 Headings

```
\usepackage{makeidx}
\makeindex
\usepackage{xindex}
\begin{document}

\index{foo}foo and
\writeidx{\clearpage}
\index{bar}bar

\printindex
\end{document}
```

Such commands are then taken into account by the program `xindex`. With the often used program `makeindex` such commands are ignored. In the following example we put an horizontal line after the first entry:

xindex-13

```
\usepackage{xindex}
\makeindex

\index{foo}foo and
\writeidx{\item\protect\hrulefill}
\index{bar}bar
\index{gex}gex
\printindex
```

Index

B
bar, 1

F
foo, 1

G
gex, 1

9 Headings

By default the output uses the english headings: *Symbols*, *Numbers*, and *A* ...There are three predefined languages `en`, `de`, and `fr`. The definition is in the file `xindex-cfg-common.lua` (see also section [2 on page 4](#)). It can easily be extended for other languages. Sometimes the headers are not needed, for example in a name list. With the optional argument `-n` or `--noheadings` the created `.ind` file has only the vertical space between different first letters:

```
\usepackage{makeidx}\makeindex
```

```
Ein foo\index{foo}\index{bar|()}
\newpage und \index{foo}
ein foo\index{foo|textit} \newpage
und foo\index{foo|textbf} \newpage
und foo\index{foo|fbox}
\index{bar|})
\newpage
\verb|xindex -n <file>|
\printindex
```

xindex -n <file>

Index

bar, 1–4

foo, 1f, 2, 3, [4]

The headings are printed by default as `\textbf`. This can be changed in the config file by setting the variable `idxnewsletter`, for example: `idxnewsletter = "\textit"`. If you need some more code here then define an own macro for it, which can be seen in the following example. It has an own config file `xindex-header.lua` which has the line

```
idxnewsletter = "\idxnewsletter"
```

In the documents preamble there is the definition:

```
\newcommand\idxnewsletter[1]{\textbf{\textit{#1}}}
```

```
æšž€ŠÝŽ
\usepackage{makeidx}\makeindex
\newcommand\idxnewsletter[1]{\textbf{\textit{#1}}}
```

```
æšž€ŠÝŽ
\section{Escaping characters}
\begin{itemize}
\item Exclamation mark ! \index{exclaim ("!)}
\item Vertical bar| \index{Vertical bar ("|)}
\item Doublequote \verb||| \index{""}
\item Double doublequote \verb||"|| \index{"""
\item At character @ \index{At ("@)}
\end{itemize}
\end{itemize}
run \verb|xindex -c header <file.idx>|
\index{<file.idx>}@\texttt{<file.idx>}
\index{123}
\newpage
\printindex
```

Index

Symbols

", 1
,,, 1
<file.idx>, 1

Numbers

123, 1

A

At (@), 1

E

exclaim (!), 1

V

Vertical bar (|), 1

10 Case sensitive index entries

By default `foo` and `Foo` are two different entries and will handled differently by `xindex`: `Foo` will be as an own entry *before* `foo`. Let's see a more complex example. In the index the entry `xindex-DIN2.lua` is the first one of the `xindex-???` series because uppercase letters are sorted before lowercase letters.

II Automatic index creation

xindex-16

```
\usepackage{makeidx}  
\usepackage{hyperref}
```

```
foo\newpage  
\printindex
```

Index

X

xindex package, 2, 15
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xindex-DIN2.lua file, 6
xindex-HAdW-eKO.lua file, 10
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xindex-cfg-common.lua file, 14
xindex-cfg.lua file, 6, 10
xindex-dtk.lua file, 12
xindex-newfile.lua file, 6

xindex-17

```
\usepackage{makeidx}  
\usepackage{hyperref}
```

```
foo\newpage  
\printindex
```

Index

X

xindex package, 2, 15
xindex program, 4, 13f
xindex-cfg-common.cfg file, 9
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11 Automatic index creation

With package `xindex` one can define several different index files, e.g. an index of names. With the optional argument `imakeidx` the package itself loads `imakeidx` and adds the program `xindex` as the default program to `imakeidx`.

```
\usepackage[imakeidx]{xindex}
\makeindex[name=persons,title=Index of names,
  columns=1,options=--noheadings]
\def\ThanhVN{Hàn Thê}\protect\llap{%
  \raise 0.5ex\hbox{\{'\}}}}
\newpage
foo\index[persons]{Niepraschk,~ Rolf}
foo\index[persons]{Lamport,~ Leslie}
foo\index[persons]{Knuth,~ Donald}
foo\index[persons]{Knuth,~ Donald}
\newpage
foo\index[persons]{Lamport,~ Leslie}
foo\index[persons]{Thành,~ \ThanhVN}
foo\index[persons]{Kew,~ Jonathan}
foo\index[persons]{Kohm,~ Markus}
foo\index[persons]{Preining,~ Norbert}
\newpage
foo\index[persons]{Schenk,~ Christian}
foo\index[persons]{Feuerstack,~ Thomas}
foo\index[persons]{Tobin,~ Geoffrey}
foo\index[persons]{Wilson,~ Peter}
\newpage
foo\index[persons]{Kohm,~ Markus}
foo\index[persons]{Theiling,~ Henrik}
foo\index[persons]{Pégourié-Gonnard,~ Manuel}
foo\index[persons]{Roux,~ Élie}
\newpage
foo\index[persons]{Mittelbach,~ Frank}
foo\index[persons]{Fairbairns,~ Robin}
foo\index[persons]{Lemberg,~ Werner}
foo\index[persons]{Volovich,~ Vladimir}
\printindex[persons]
```

Index of names

Fairbairns, Robin,
Feuerstack, Thomas,

Kew, Jonathan,
Knuth, Donald,
Kohm, Markus,

Lamport, Leslie,
Lemberg, Werner,

Mittelbach, Frank,

Niepraschk, Rolf,

Pégourié-Gonnard, Manuel,
Preining, Norbert,

Roux, Élie,

Schenk, Christian,

Thành, Hàn Thê,
Theiling, Henrik,
Tobin, Geoffrey,

Volovich, Vladimir,

Wilson, Peter,

You have to run \LaTeX with the --shell-escape option to run xindex from within the \LaTeX document.

12 Demerits

- For more than 5000 entries in the .idx file the internal Lua function for sorting may take some time.
- The .idx file is not checked for \LaTeX errors in the argument of \indexentry.

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