

The MacTeX Distribution

1 Introduction

The MacTeX project is a modern T_EX distribution for Mac OS X, produced by the TUG working group on Mac OS X. For more information see <<http://tug.org/mactex>>.

2 The MacTeX-Install Folder

(Available only on the DVD.) The MacTeX-Install Folder has four pieces:

2.1 The MacTeX Install Parts 1 and 2.rtf Document and TeXDist-2024 Package

For macOS 10.6 and later. The MacTeX Install Parts 1 and 2.rtf Document has instructions for installing the full T_EX Live 2024 T_EX Distribution from the DVD using Terminal.app. After that installation double clicking the TeXDist-2024.pkg sets up a small database called TeXDist about TeX Live to complete the configuration of TeX Live.

2.2 The Ghostscript Package and TeX Folder

You must be using macOS High Sierra or later for Ghostscript and T_EXShop and Mavericks or later for the rest of the installation. Double clicking the Ghostscript-9.55-Full.pkg installs or updates to a recent version of Ghostscript. Finally copy the TeX folder, or its contents if it already exists, to your Applications folder to install several GUI applications and some documentation. The supplied GUI applications, installed in a “TeX” folder inside your Applications folder, allow you to:

1. Edit, Typeset and Preview your documents using T_EXShop as a front end to the T_EX typesetting system;
2. Build L^AT_EX equations that can be used in other applications via Drag and Drop using LaTeXiT
3. Build and modify bibliographic databases (.bib files) using BibDesk.
4. Update the T_EX Live 2024 T_EX Distribution packages using the TeX Live Utility.

Those just starting out with T_EX should follow the suggestions in the short “Read Me First.pdf” document in the “Docs” folder.

3 The Other Folders

The remaining folders contain:

- information on getting started with the installed system;
- some introductory documentation to L^AT_EX;
- duplicates of some of the GUI applications for those who already have a T_EX distribution or other special needs; and,
- additional or alternative software that some users may find useful.

3.1 Demos

This folder has some demonstrations or links to demonstrations of what can be accomplished with the most popular “dialects” of T_EX; Plain T_EX, L^AT_EX, ConT_EXt, X_YT_EX and X_YL^AT_EX.

3.2 Documentation

Some URL files for further information about T_EX on Mac OS X on the internet as well as instructions for finding “A (Not So) Short Introduction to L^AT_EX” in several languages.

3.3 Extras

The Extras folder contains an Extras.pdf document with links to:

- alternates to the GUI applications installed by the MacT_EX installer; and
- additional software that a T_EXer might find useful applications for: bibliography, Browsers, Editors & Front Ends, Equation Editors, Previewers and Spell Checkers.

4 In Closing

If you find the distribution useful, please consider joining TUG, <<http://tug.org/join.html>>, or the T_EX User Group best for you, <<http://tug.org/usergroups.html>>. If you want to report bugs or have a problem with the MacT_EX distribution please contact <<http://www.tug.org/mactex/support/>> or e-mail directly to <mactex-support@tug.org>. If you have T_EX problems, please join the TeX on Mac OS X mailing list, <<https://email.esm.psu.edu/mailman/listinfo/macosex-tex>>.