

April 30, 2007

Question: Can I use L^AT_EX to create a simple newsletter? Nothing too fancy but I do want to use multiple columns and have graphics as well as text.

Sincerely yours,

B. Friend

Hi B. Friend,

L^AT_EX is not the best word processing system for creating a newsletter but it can be done. I would suggest using the `multicol`, `color`, `fancyheadings` and `graphicx` packages:

multicol - allows switching between 1 column and multiple columns on a page

color - allows you to splash color onto the page for interesting visual effects

fancyheadings - makes creating a header and footer a lot easier in L^AT_EX

graphicx - allows you to insert standard web graphics into your document

I would also put a border around the page and alter the columnwidths a bit. Along side this FAQ is a sample annotated newsletter that I created. You might want to borrow that one, read the comment lines, try it out and then try altering it for your own use.

Sincerely yours,

Joe Struss
Creative Services, ITS, Iowa State