

April 30, 2007

**Question:** I am trying to put a box around a parbox with math formulas in it. I would like the area to be centered on the page just like in displaymath mode. Is there any way to do this? Thanks.

Hi,

There is a trick using a `\framebox` outside of a parbox that I think might work for you. You can then surround this with a centering environment. I assume the “math formulas” you are referring to are In-Text Math formula or none of this will work properly. Try the following:

```
\documentclass{article}
\begin{document}
```

This is a line of text.

```
\framebox{\parbox[t]{1 in}{This is a box aligned along its top
line.}} AND \framebox{\parbox[b]{1.5 in}{Now a slightly wider
box aligned on its bottom line.}}
```

That’s all folks.

Let’s try another one.

```
\begin{center}
\framebox{\parbox[b]{2 in}{This is a centered box with a math formula
somewhere  $\int_a^b f(x) dx$  inside it.}}
\end{center}
\end{document}
```

The above framebox trick was found in “ $\text{\LaTeX}$  for Everyone” by Jane Hahn. A very nice source text for  $\text{\LaTeX}$  tricks and tools but now a little out of date.

Sincerely yours,

Joe Struss  
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