

# The MacTeX Distribution

## 1 Introduction

The MacTeX project is a modern T<sub>E</sub>X 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-2022 Package

For macOS 10.6 and later. The MacTeX Install Parts 1 and 2.rtf Document has instructions for installing the full T<sub>E</sub>X Live 2022 T<sub>E</sub>X Distribution from the DVD using Terminal.app. After that installation double clicking the TeXDist-2022.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<sub>E</sub>XShop 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<sub>E</sub>XShop as a front end to the T<sub>E</sub>X typesetting system;
2. Build L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X 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<sub>E</sub>X Live 2022 T<sub>E</sub>X Distribution packages using the TeX Live Utility.

Those just starting out with T<sub>E</sub>X 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<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X;
- duplicates of some of the GUI applications for those who already have a T<sub>E</sub>X 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<sub>E</sub>X; Plain T<sub>E</sub>X, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, ConT<sub>E</sub>Xt, X<sub>Y</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X and X<sub>Y</sub>L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.

### 3.2 Documentation

Some URL files for further information about T<sub>E</sub>X on Mac OS X on the internet as well as instructions for finding “A (Not So) Short Introduction to L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X” in several languages.

### 3.3 Extras

The Extras<sup>1</sup> folder contains several sub-folders with:

- alternates to the GUI applications installed by the MacT<sub>E</sub>X installer; and
- additional software that a T<sub>E</sub>Xer might find useful.

#### 3.3.1 Bibliography

Bibliography programs for building and maintaining BibT<sub>E</sub>X databases.

#### 3.3.2 Browsers

Programs to browse, look at documentation for and download extensions to L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X. Also a widget for many symbols.

#### 3.3.3 Editors & Front Ends

Alternative Editors, Typesetters and Previewers for T<sub>E</sub>X. These range from “WYSIWYM (What You See Is What You Mean)” to a Programmer’s Editor which interacts with the T<sub>E</sub>X system via script extensions.

#### 3.3.4 Equation Editors

These allow the user to create beautiful equations, etc., that may be exported for use in other applications; e.g., illustration and presentation software.

#### 3.3.5 Previewers

Separate DVI and PDF previewers for use as external viewers with other editors.

#### 3.3.6 Scripts

Files to integrate some external programmer’s editors with the T<sub>E</sub>X system.

#### 3.3.7 Spell Checkers

Alternate T<sub>E</sub>X, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X and ConT<sub>E</sub>Xt aware spell checkers.

## 4 In Closing

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

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<sup>1</sup>See the file Extras Folder.pdf for more information about Operating System version dependencies.