

# The `Tabbing` package

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## Abstract

This package<sup>1</sup> provides a ‘`Tabbing`’ environment, analog to the  $\LaTeX$  standard ‘`tabbing`’ environment, but allowing accented letters. No more `\a’`, `\a’` and `\a=` needed.

## 1 The `Tabbing` package

$\LaTeX$  provides the `tabbing` environment. But it is not user-friendly when you must use accented letters, with the grave, acute and macron accents, `\’a á`, `\’a à` and `\=a ā`. Even when you use a good input encoding on 8 bits. So the `Tabbing` package offers a `Tabbing` environment, which is a slightly modified copy of the standard `tabbing` environment. In the `Tabbing` environment, the local commands `\>`, `\<`, `\=`, `\+`, `\-`, `\’` and `\’` are replaced by `\TAB>`, `\TAB<`, `\TAB=`, `\TAB+`, `\TAB-`, `\TAB’` and `\TAB’` respectively. Hence the conversion is rather easy. Acute and grave accents are very often used in french, this environment should be useful. In the example of Figure 1, the vertical rules mark the tab stops (with the macro `\tabrule`, which is not part of the package)

Note that the markup is more visible than in the `tabbing` environment, and the syntax of accented letters is *the same* outside and inside of the new `Tabbing` environment.

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```

\newcommand{\tabrule}[1]{\makebox[0pt]{\raisebox
{0pt}[0pt]{\rule{\fboxrule}{#1\baselineskip}}}}

\begin{Tabbing}
gnomon \TAB= agn\=ostic \TAB=      arma\TAB= dillo      \TAB= gnash \TAB= \kill
  \TAB>          \TAB> gnu      \TAB> gneisses \TAB>          \TAB> gnarl
  \\\*
  \TAB>          \TAB> \ 'ecole \TAB> \ 'el\ 'eve \TAB>          \TAB> examen
  \\\*
  \TAB>          \TAB> cole \TAB> lve      \TAB>          \TAB> examen
  \\\*
  \TAB>          \TAB> u      \TAB> e      \TAB> g      \TAB>
  \TAB'
\end{Tabbing}

```

		gnu gneisses gnarl		
		écoléève		examen
		cole lve		examen
		u e g		

Figure 1: A simple Tabbing environment

## 2 Implementation

```

1 (*package)
Tabbing We just copy the standard tabbing environment, and add the local macro \TAB
TAB who tests its argument. An error message has been added.
2 \gdef\Tabbing{\lineskip \z@skip
3 % % \let\>\@rtab
4 % % \let\<\@ltab
5 % % \let\=\@settab
6 % % \let\+\@tabplus
7 % % \let\-\@tabminus
8 % % \let\'\@tabrj
9 % % \let\'\@tablab
10 \def\tab##1{\ifx ##1>\@rtab\else
11 \ifx ##1<\@ltab\else
12 \ifx ##1=\@settab\else
13 \ifx ##1+\@tabplus\else
14 \ifx ##1-\@tabminus\else
15 \ifx ##1'\@tabrj\else
16 \ifx ##1'\@tablab\else
17 \PackageError{Tabbing}%
18 {Bad argument ##1 for Tabbing specification}
19 \fi\fi\fi\fi\fi\fi\fi}
20 \let\=\@tabcr
21 \global\@hightab\@firsttab
22 \global\@nxttabmar\@firsttab
23 \dimen\@firsttab\@totalleftmargin
24 \global\@tabpush\z@ \global\@rjfieldfalse
25 \trivlist \item\relax
26 \if@minipage\else\vskip\parskip\fi
27 \setbox\@tabfbox\hbox{\rlap{\indent\hskip\@totalleftmargin
28 \the\everypar}}\def\@itemfudge{\box\@tabfbox}%
29 \@startline\ignorespaces}
30 \gdef\endTabbing{%
31 \@stoptline\ifnum\@tabpush >\z@ \@badpoptabs \fi\endtrivlist}

```

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Numbers written in *italic* refer to the page where the corresponding entry is described; numbers underlined refer to the code line of the definition; numbers in **roman** refer to the code lines where the entry is used.

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## Change History

v1.0		v1.1	
General: First officially released		General: Added LPPL License. . . .	1
version. . . . .	1		