



A versatile and simple book class

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♦ MMXVI ♦



This class is intended to be an interpretation of the `mwbk` class from Marcin Woliński's `mwc\l`s classes. The `mwc\l`s classes are simple, yet powerful and customizable classes that allow the end user to customize the layout of headers, headings etc. They also have the benefit of being more economic in space than the most common \LaTeX classes, while keeping a clear appearance and a smooth flow.

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THE REASONS FOR THIS CLASS

Although many usual \LaTeX packages and classes offer a wide array of solutions for text block and margin specifications, and although some of them, notably Koma-Script (Kohm 2015) allow and facilitate the application of “classical” canons of page construction (Bringinghurst 2013; Tschichold 1975), one may have several reasons to avoid this aesthetic solution. One reason is that these page construction methods were intended, obviously, for handwritten or printed material. Even assuming the material is to be printed, one reason to find an alternative is economic and environmental: the more paper you print, the more it

will cost—both in terms of money and environmental impact. But the user also wishes to avoid a sloppy solution, squeezing as much content as possible onto the page just to save space. The compromise solution would be somewhat closer to what most commercial books look like—without jeopardizing legibility. In fact, it is rare to find a book that looks like it has been laid out according to the “canons”. That is one motive why I find the `mwcls` classes (Woliński 2009) useful. Besides, `mwcls` alternatives for basic classes (`mwart` for articles, `mwrep` for reports and `mwbk` for books) allow the user to easily modify headings, being somewhat more flexible and providing a simpler interface than many classes. The goal was to provide a more user-friendly syntax for some common tweaks and more alternatives to the end-user. (As for the `mwart` class, I did not find anything to be changed—although the user might adapt some of the options presented in the `ycbook` class.)

1. OPTIONS FOR CHAPTER AND SECTION

To add a rule below chapter and section titles, use `chapterrule` and `sectionrule`. Other sectional headings may be changed likewise:

`chapterrule`
`sectionrule`

```
\SetSectionFormatting{section}
{24pt plus5pt minus2pt} %space before
{\large\textbf{\ifHeadingNumbered
\HeadingNumber.\enspace\fi
\HeadingText}\\rule[10pt]{\hsize}{0.4pt}}
{10pt plus3pt}%space after
```

Or this, if you want unnumbered headings to be centralized:

```
\SetSectionFormatting[breakbefore,wholewidth]{chapter}
{12pt}
{\ifHeadingNumbered\FormatBlockHeading{\bfseries\LARGE}
\else \FormatBlockHeading{\centering\bfseries\LARGE}\fi}
{24pt plus9pt}
```

`chaptercentered`
`chapterleft`
`chapterright`

Options `chaptercentered`, `chapterleft`, and `chapterright` control chapter alignment.

Options `nochaptercentered`, `nochapterleft`, and `nochapterright` control chapter alignment and exclude the name “Chapter” from the entry. The default, as in the `mwcls` classes, is `chapterleft`.

`nochaptercentered`
`nochapterleft`
`nochapterright`
`nodots`

If you don’t want a dot after section numbers, you can invoke the option `nodots`. This option does not by itself affect the page headings.

2. PAGE STYLES

Several page styles are provided:

```
\pagestyle{headings}

\pagestyle{myheadings}
```

```
\pagestyle{headingsbeforeplain}

\pagestyle{myheadingsbeforeplain}

\pagestyle{uheadings} %for heading rules

\pagestyle{myuheadings} %for heading rules
```

The styles `headingsbeforeplain` and `myheadingsbeforeplain` have been added, in which an even empty page finishing a chapter takes the plain style. The default option is `headings`.

`\pagestyle{uheadings}` and `\pagestyle{myuheadings}` may be used instead, defaulting to more usual parameters, and in which the header is separated by a thin line.

All page styles have an option not to include the dot after the chapter/section number: just add `nodots` to the name of the usual style:

```
\pagestyle{headingsnodot}

\pagestyle{uheadingsnodot}

\pagestyle{headingsbeforeplainnodot}
```

And so on.

This class is somewhat compatible with the `scrlayer-scrpage` (formerly `scrpage2`) for headers and footers:

```
\usepackage{scrlayer-scrpage}
\clearpaïrofpagetypes
\pagestyle{scrheadings}
\ofoot{\pagemark}
\thead{A centered heading}
```

For additional information, see chapters 5 and 18 of the Koma-Script manual.

3. TABLE OF CONTENTS STYLES

The `titletoc` package can be used to customize the table of contents. As a convenience, the commands `\fancytoc` and `\traditionaltoc` can be used in the preamble to create predefined TOC styles. More styles will be added in the future.

4. MARGIN PARAGRAPHS AND FOOTNOTES

`sansserifnotes`

The option `sansserifnotes` changes all footnotes to sans serif.

You can choose to turn all footnotes into margin notes with the `footmisc` package:

```
\usepackage[side,ragged,flushmargin]{footmisc}
```

Margin paragraphs in two-side documents have been somewhat improved, but should not be overindulged. They don't work particularly well in smaller paper formats.

5. OTHER OPTIONS

All other options from the `mwcls` classes are available, e.g.:

- `floatssmall`;
- `floatsnormalsize`;
- `sfheadings`;
- `authortitle` (default);
- `titleauthor`;
- `\renewcommand{\sectsettings}{}`;
- `\SetTOCIndents`,
- `indentfirst` and `noindentfirst`,
- `wide`, for shorter margins, and
- font size and paper specifications (12pt, a5paper, etc.).

6. FIGURES SPREADING OVER TWO PAGES

Thanks to Martin Scharrer,¹ we also have `\twopagepicture` (for numbered pictures) and `\twopagepicturen` (for unnumbered pictures) to automatically split a picture on a spread (left and right pages).

It works thus: `\twopagepicture{image place regarding the caption}{text width or page width}{image}{caption}`:

- `\twopagepicture{b}{l}{image}{Test}`: image below caption (“b”), same width as text (“l”);
- `\twopagepicture{t}{l}{image}{Test}`: image above caption (“t”), same width as text (“l”);
- `\twopagepicture{b}{p}{image}{Test}`: image below caption (“b”), same width as page (“p”), and
- `\twopagepicture{t}{p}{image}{Test}`: image above caption (“t”), same width as page (“p”),

REFERENCES

- Bringhurst, Robert (2013). *The Elements of Typographic Style: Version 4.0: 20th Anniversary Edition*. Fourth Edition. Hartley and Marks Publishers.
- Kohm, Marcus (2015). *The Koma-script guide*. <http://mirrors.ctan.org/macros/latex/contrib/koma-script/doc/scrguien.pdf>.
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- Woliński, Marcin (2009). *CTAN: Package mwcls*. <http://mirrors.ctan.org/macros/latex/contrib/mwcls/mwclsdoc.pdf>.

¹ <http://tex.stackexchange.com/a/23865/9424>