

# The **fancytabs** package\*

Raphaël Pinson  
raphink@gmail.com

1.8 from 2012/09/17

## Abstract

The **fancytabs** package allows to insert tabs on the border of pages.

## 1 Usage

### 1.1 Adding a tab

\fancytab The \fancytab macro adds a new tab. It takes two arguments: \fancytab{<text>}{<position>} and displays the text in the tab, on given vertical position.

### 1.2 Adding a tab to all odd pages with scrpage2

The following code adds a tab with the chapter name, positioned by chapter order, on each odd page.

```
\documentclass{scrbook}
\usepackage{scrpage2}
\usepackage{fancytabs}
\usepackage{lipsum}

% Capture chapter head
\let\oldchapter\chapter
\newcommand\temphead{}
\newcommand\chaphead{}
\renewcommand\chapter[2]{[\temphead]%
\renewcommand\temphead{\#2}%
\renewcommand\chaphead{\#2}%
\oldchapter[\#1]{\#2}%

% Set central right header to display tab
% for both scrplain and scrheadings
\cohead[\fancytab{\chaphead}{\thechapter}]
\fancytab{\chaphead}{\thechapter}}
```

---

\*This document corresponds to fancytabs 1.8, dated 2012/09/17.

```
\renewcommand*\chapterpagestyle{scrplain}
\pagestyle{scrheadings}

\begin{document}
\chapter{A chapter}

\lipsum
\lipsum

\end{document}
```

### 1.3 Parameters

<code>\fancytabsStyle</code>	The style of the text in the tab. Default is <code>\Large\scshape</code> .
<code>\fancytabsHeight</code>	Define the height of the tab. Default is <code>4cm</code> .
<code>\fancytabsWidth</code>	Define the height of the tab. Default is <code>1cm</code> .
<code>\fancytabsCount</code>	Define the maximum amount of tabs on a page. After <code>\tabcount</code> tabs are displayed, the next tab is displayed on top of the page again. Default is <code>6</code> .
<code>\fancytabsLeftColor</code>	Define the left color for the tab gradient. Default is <code>white</code> .
<code>\fancytabsRightColor</code>	Define the right color for the tab gradient. Default is <code>gray!50</code> .
<code>\fancytabsTop</code>	Define margin on top of the top tab. Default is <code>\tab@height</code> .
<code>\fancytabsTextVPos</code>	Define the relative vertical position of the text in the tab. Default is <code>0.5</code> .
<code>\fancytabsTextHPos</code>	Define the relative horizontal position of the text in the tab. Default is <code>\tab@textvpos</code> .
<code>\fancytabsGap</code>	Define the gap between two tabs. Default is <code>0in</code> .
<code>\fancytabsFloor</code>	Define the starting number for incrementation. This is useful if you want to pass for example <code>\arabic{chapter}</code> as counter but not put tabs for previous chapters. Default is <code>0</code> .

## 2 Implementation

```
1 \ProvidesPackage{fancytabs}
2 \RequirePackage{tikz}

Variables
3 \newcommand{\tab@style}{\Large\scshape}
4 \newlength{\tab@height}
5 \setlength{\tab@height}{4cm}
6 \newlength{\tab@width}
7 \setlength{\tab@width}{1cm}
8 \newcommand{\tab@count}{6}
9 \newcommand{\tab@leftcolor}{white}
10 \newcommand{\tab@rightcolor}{gray!50}
11 \newlength{\tab@top}
12 \setlength{\tab@top}{\the\tab@height}
13 \newcommand{\tab@textvpos}{0.5}
14 \newcommand{\tab@texthpos}{\tab@textvpos}
```

```

15 \newlength{\tab@gap}
16 \setlength{\tab@gap}{0in}
17 \newcommand{\tab@floor}{0}

Accessors

18 \newcommand{\fancytabsStyle}[1]{\renewcommand{\tab@style}{#1}}
19 \newcommand{\fancytabsHeight}[1]{\setlength{\tab@height}{#1}}
20 \newcommand{\fancytabsWidth}[1]{\setlength{\tab@width}{#1}}
21 \newcommand{\fancytabsCount}[1]{\renewcommand{\tab@count}{#1}}
22 \newcommand{\fancytabsLeftColor}[1]{\renewcommand{\tab@leftcolor}{#1}}
23 \newcommand{\fancytabsRightColor}[1]{\renewcommand{\tab@rightcolor}{#1}}
24 \newcommand{\fancytabsTop}[1]{\setlength{\tab@top}{#1}}
25 \newcommand{\fancytabsTextVPos}[1]{\renewcommand{\tab@textvpos}{#1}}
26 \newcommand{\fancytabsTextHPos}[1]{\renewcommand{\tab@texthpos}{#1}}
27 \newcommand{\fancytabsGap}[1]{\setlength{\tab@gap}{#1}}
28 \newcommand{\fancytabsFloor}[1]{\renewcommand{\tab@floor}{#1}}

```

- Babel safety** Some babel packages (such as `frenchb`) handle semi-colons which is incompatible with `tikz`. This part disables semi-colon handling by babel locally.

```

29 \AtBeginDocument{%
30   \if@ifpackageloaded[babel]{%
31     \g@addto@macro\tikz@installcommands{%
32       \shorthandoff{;}}%
33     \g@addto@macro\tikz@uninstallcommands{%
34       \shorthandon{;}}%
35   }%
36 }%
37 }

```

- \fancytab** We define the `\fancytab` macro to generate a new tab.

```

38 \newcommand{\fancytab}[2]{%
39   \begin{tikzpicture}[remember picture,overlay]%
40     \node[yshift=-1*(\the\tab@top+\the\tab@height/2+
41           mod(#2-1-\tab@floor,\tab@count)*
42           (\the\tab@height+\the\tab@gap)),
43           xshift=-0.5*\the\tab@width]
44     at (current page.north east) {
45       \tikz\shade[shading=axis,bottom color=\tab@leftcolor,
46                   top color=\tab@rightcolor,shading angle=-90]
47       (0,0) rectangle (\the\tab@width,\the\tab@height)
48       node[rotate=0]
49         at (\tab@texthpos*\the\tab@width,\tab@textvpos*\the\tab@height)
50           {\rotatebox{90}{\tab@style#1}};%
51     };%
52   \end{tikzpicture}%
53 }

```