

Announcement: 4allTeX CD-ROM

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4TeX: a TeX Workbench for MS-DOS PC's

TeX and all its companions offer an enormous amount of possibilities. This is both an advantage and a disadvantage. The advantage is that almost anything is possible. The disadvantage is that you need detailed knowledge of all related programs to fully exploit the possibilities.

4TeX is an attempt to integrate all major TeX related programs in a shell that shields you from the tedious and frustrating job of setting environment variables and program parameters.

In 4TeX all functions are available through simple menus, so profound knowledge of all underlying programs is no longer required.

4allTeX: the NTG distribution set

At the end of 1993 the NTG (the Dutch language oriented TeX users group) released the package 4allTeX. It consists of a set of 31 diskettes, on which the most important TeX and L^AT_EX related packages are assembled in well structured modules. The set is especially interesting to MS-DOS users because it contains the complete 4TeX workbench. Others will also find it valuable because of the 'public domain' system independant parts of it. This includes of course TeX and L^AT_EX files, but also PostScript fonts.

4allTeX: the NTG CD-ROM

To simplify the distribution of 4allTeX, a CD-ROM will be released in June! This CD-ROM should enable you to set up a 4TeX system with minimal effort.

The CD-ROM will *at least* contain:

- a fully installed 4TeX 3.20 workbench, ready for use;
- the complete 4allTeX distribution set;
- the MAPS (NTG's 'Minutes & Appendici', articles on TeX related topics, mostly in English) of all years in PostScript format;
- all TEX-NL, UK-TEX, TEXHAX and TEXMAG mailing list discussions of recent years;
- extra documentation, such as:
 - 'The TeXbook' and 'The METAFONT book' in TeX code,
 - TeX, L^AT_EX and METAFONT introductions,
 - very extensive bibliographies on miscellaneous TeX related topics in BiTeX format,
 - indexes to TeX macros and to files on the Comprehensive TeX Archive Network;

- extra programs, such as:
 - GNUpot,
 - GhostScript,
 - dvi utilities,
 - PostScript utilities,
 - Polish and Cyrillic TeX packages,
 - WEB: literate programming.

The CD-ROM will include the updated documentation on 4TeX, an A5 sized booklet of approx. 120 pages, that explains how 4TeX works in depth. The price of the CD plus booklet is set at Dfl. 60,- or US \$ 35.

The CD will be put out in a limited edition, and no reprint is scheduled as yet.

Therefore it is wise to make reservations.

For users in The Netherlands and Belgium this is done by sending e-mail to the NTG secretary (P.O. Box 394, NL-1740 AJ Schagen, The Netherlands) or the NTG board (cgl@riscl.rug.nl), specifying how many CD-ROMs you want. Those who pay *before April 15* (postgiro 1306238, att. penningmeester NTG, Zoetermeer, The Netherlands, specifying 'CD-ROM' and the desired number) have first rights.

Orders from outside The Netherlands are in principle only accepted from the local user groups. These groups are requested to contact the NTG board (cgl@riscl.rug.nl) also before April 15. For local users groups there will be a special high volume discount.

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