ZzTEX

A Working Book in Plain TeX

A small technical-monograph starter

This document demonstrates the ZzTeX environment while keeping the entry point easy to edit. ZzTeX is designed to be paired with a publication's own design file; the plain-text body below is therefore deliberately separate from those design decisions.

A reliable chapter workflow

The first pass is for structure: establish chapters, sections, figures, tables, and the order in which readers encounter the material. ZzTeX's modules provide the production facilities beneath this simple Plain TeX entry point, while a publication-specific design file can define the exact page furniture and heading treatment.

A section with a worked idea

Suppose a measurement is repeated a fixed number of times. Its mean can be written in a short monospace line as

mean = total of observations / number of observations

and the accompanying text can explain the assumptions, units, and uncertainty without interrupting the book's visual rhythm. This starter leaves mathematical font choices to the publication design file, while ordinary paragraphs remain native Plain TeX material.

A short checklist

1. Write the chapter argument before tuning its design.
2. Use a publication design file to keep sectioning and running heads in sync.
3. Keep reusable design decisions in a separate module when the book grows.

Extending the manuscript

Add the publisher's design file and replace these manual headings with the documented chapter, section, and other ZzTeX blocks when a complete house style is available. The zz*.dat files in this download are the package's reference documentation; the source modules beside this file are kept intact.

End of starter