

The `va` package^{*} for use with L^AT_EX2e

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1 Introduction

The fonts `va` and `vacal` provide glyphs for producing a handwritten writing. This package provides means to use those fonts.

This package has been created for an article in „Die T_EXnische Komödie“ [1]. This article contains some more details on the package and its use.

2 Usage

This file can be used as a package by placing its name in the argument of `\usepackage`. Afterwards the font families `va` and `vacal` are defined. This could also have been done by providing two font definition files.

The font definitions in this file scale down the original fonts to L^AT_EX choose the right `baselineskip`. The original size of the `va` fonts can be selected with the commands `\Large\va` or `\Large\vacal`.

`\va` The command `\va` changes the current font family to `va` and the encoding to T1. Usually this should be used in a T_EX group only.

The following example on the left produces the result on the right.

^{*}This file has version number v1.5, dated 2026/05/19.

```
{\va Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,
consectetur adipisicing elit, sed do
eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et
dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim
veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco
laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo
consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in
reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse
cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur.
Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non
proident, sunt in culpa qui officia
deserunt mollit anim id est laborum. }
```

*Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, con-
sectetur adipisicing elit, sed do eius-
mod tempor incididunt ut labore
et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim
ad minim veniam, quis nostrud ex-
ercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut
aliquip ex ea commodo consequat.
Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit
in voluptate velit esse cillum do-
lore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Ex-
cepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non
proident, sunt in culpa qui officia
deserunt mollit anim id est laborum.*

`\textva` The command `\textva` typesets its argument in the va font.

The following example on the left produces the result on the right.

```
\textva{ Lorem ipsum dolor sit} amet,
consectetur adipisicing elit, sed do
eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et
dolore magna aliqua.
```

*Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, con-
sectetur adipisicing elit, sed do
eiusmod tempor incididunt ut la-
bore et dolore magna aliqua.*

`\vacal` The command `\vacal` changes the current font family to vacal and the encod-
ing to T1. Usually this should be used in a TEX group only.

The following example on the left produces the result on the right.

```
{\vacal Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,
consectetur adipisicing elit, sed do
eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et
dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim
veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco
laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo
consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in
reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse
cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur.
Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non
proident, sunt in culpa qui officia
deserunt mollit anim id est laborum. }
```

*Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, con-
sectetur adipisicing elit, sed do eius-
mod tempor incididunt ut labore
et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim
ad minim veniam, quis nostrud ex-
ercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut
aliquip ex ea commodo consequat.
Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit
in voluptate velit esse cillum do-
lore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Ex-
cepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non
proident, sunt in culpa qui officia
deserunt mollit anim id est laborum.*

`\textvacal` The command `\textvacal` typesets its argument in the vacal font.

The following example on the left produces the result on the right.

```
\textvacal{ Lorem ipsum dolor sit} amet,
consectetur adipisicing elit, sed do
eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et
dolore magna aliqua.
```

*Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, con-
sectetur adipisicing elit, sed do
eiusmod tempor incididunt ut la-
bore et dolore magna aliqua.*

References

- [1] Gerd Neugebauer. Von „krakelig“ bis „wie gemalt“. *Die TEX nische Komödie*, 1/96:25–42, June 1996.

3 Implementation

First we declare a new font family for the va font.

```
\DeclareFontFamily{T1}{va}{}

```

This font is only available in the normal shape. Here we can get the desired font by (silently) scaling the only present va14. Since the design size is 14 we have to scale down the font.

```
\DeclareFontShape{T1}{va}{m}{n}{<->s*[0.7]va14}{}

```

Next we do the same things for the font family vacal.

```
\DeclareFontFamily{T1}{vacal}{}

```

This font is only available in the normal shape. Here we can get the desired font by (silently) scaling the only present vacal14. Since the design size is 14 we have to scale down the font.

```
\DeclareFontShape{T1}{vacal}{m}{n}{<->s*[0.7]vacal14}{}

```

Now we define font changing commands.

`\va` The macro `\va` selects the va family.

```
\DeclareRobustCommand\va{%
  \fontfamily{va}%
  \fontencoding{T1}%
  \selectfont}

```

`\textva` The macro `\textva` typesets its argument in the va font.

```
\newcommand\textva[1]{\begingroup\va #1\endgroup}

```

`\vacal` The macro `\vacal` selects the vacal family.

```
\DeclareRobustCommand\vacal{%
  \fontfamily{vacal}%
  \fontencoding{T1}%
  \selectfont}

```

`\textvacal` The macro `\textvacal` typesets its argument in the vacal font.

```
\newcommand\textvacal[1]{\begingroup\vacal #1\endgroup}

```

Change History

v1.0		robust.	1
	General: First release.	1	
v1.1		v1.4	
	General: Macros textva, textvacal	General: Address updated.	1
	added.	1	
v1.2		v1.5	
	General: Some commands made	General: Minor fixes for CTAN. . .	1

Index

Numbers written in italic refer to the page where the corresponding entry is described; numbers underlined refer to the definition; numbers in roman refer to the pages where the entry is used.

T		V	
<code>\textva</code> <i>2</i> , <u>3</u>	<code>\va</code> <i>1</i> , <u>3</u>
<code>\textvacal</code> <i>2</i>	<code>\vacal</code> <i>2</i> , <u>3</u>