

The `jiffy` Package

A Modern, TikZ-based Page-Layout Diagnostic

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1 Introduction

The `jiffy` package provides a highly robust, mathematically accurate, and visually clean miniaturized map of a document's physical page geometry. It serves as a modern alternative to the classic `layout` package.

Built on top of PGF/TikZ, `jiffy` solves several historical limitations of layout diagnostics by offering:

- **Mathematical Accuracy:** Direct access to TeX primitives ensures flawless conversion between points, millimeters, and inches.
- **Dynamic Anti-Collision:** Metric labels are dynamically staggered, preventing visual overlap even on highly customized or extreme paper sizes.
- **Active Diagnostics:** The package mathematically checks for out-of-bounds geometry (e.g., text blocks extending off the page) and generates automated diagnostic warnings.
- **Native Localization:** Built-in language support for English, Vietnamese, Spanish, German, French, and Dutch makes the output accessible to the global publishing community.

2 Usage

To use the package, simply include it in your preamble and call the `\jiffy` command anywhere in your document environment. It will generate a three-page signature containing the Verso diagram, Recto diagram, and a comprehensive Data Sheet.

```
\documentclass[twoside]{book}
\usepackage[
  precision=3,
  display-language=english-us
]{jiffy}

\begin{document}
```

```
\jiffy
\end{document}
```

3 Package Options

The package accepts options via the standard `key=value` interface.

3.1 `precision`

Controls the number of decimal places displayed for the inch and millimeter conversions on the layout map and Data Sheet. The default is 3.

```
\usepackage[precision=4]{jiffy}
```

3.2 `display-language`

Translates all diagram labels, table headers, and diagnostic warnings into the selected language. This allows publishers and editors to review physical layout diagnostics in their native vocabulary while the underlying LaTeX code remains untouched.

```
\usepackage[display-language=vietnamese]{jiffy}
```

Supported languages include:

- `english-us` (default)
- `vietnamese`
- `spanish`
- `german`
- `french`
- `dutch`

4 Requirements

The `jiffy` package requires the following standard packages, all of which are included in modern TeX distributions: `tikz`, `xcolor`, `nextpage`, `iftex`, `pgfopts`, and `pdflscape`. It is compatible with pdfTeX, XeTeX, and LuaTeX.