

# The `quotchap` document style\*

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## Abstract

This document describes the `quotchap` document style. This style redefines the `\chapter` and `\chapter*` commands to create fancy chapter head pages with huge chapter numbers (possibly greyed) and provides commands for adding quotations in the upper left corner of these pages.

## 1 Introduction

Using the package `quotchap` does not make any structural sense, it is just prepared for matters of taste: I felt it was high time to do some visual formatting and build some fancy and attractive chapter headings for my documents.

The `quotchap` package buries the original `\chapter[*]`-commands to provide a new style: Chapter number and title are set flush right, on separate lines, and much huger as normal: The title is to be `\Huge`, the number is set in 100pt size, and possibly in 60% grey (not to blacken the page more than necessary). This means, of course, that some scalable font had to be chosen. We offer to use all the postscript fonts in the `PSNFSS` package, defaulting to Adobe's Bookman for matters of personal taste.

## 2 Quotations

Perhaps even more interesting is the “include some quotations right before the beginning of the chapter” feature. An environment is given to save quotes to be used at the beginning of the next chapter, and an additional command gives an easy way to provide author information to the quotes.

`savequote`

The `savequote` environment should appear at the top level, not in the document's preamble (i.e., after `\begin{document}`) and before the start of the chapter you want to decorate. It has one optional argument that provides the width of the quotation paragraph. The default is 10cm (approx. 3.94in). Possibly you may want to set your quote in “quotation marks”, as these marks differ from country to country, it is left to you.

`qauthor`

Each quotation can consist of several paragraphs, but must end with a

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`\qauthor{A. U. Thor}` command. This is not only provided to uphold the principles of “honour whom honour is due” but to provide the right author name formatting and inter quotation spacing. The quotes can follow each other immediately.

The whole bunch of quotation is deleted after it has been printed once, so you have to rewrite them when you find no way past repeating them. When you give no quotations for some chapter, the upper left area of the corresponding page will be simply void.

### 3 Examples

Let’s take a look at an example:

```

\begin{savequote}[45mm]
  ---When shall we three meet again
  in thunder, lightning, or in rain?

  ---When the hurlyburly’s done,
  when the battle’s lost and won.
  \qauthor{Shakespeare, Macbeth}
  Cookies! Give me some cookies!
  \qauthor{Cookie Monster}
\end{savequote}

```

*—When shall we three meet again  
in thunder, lightning, or in rain?  
—When the hurlyburly’s done,  
when the battle’s lost and won.  
Shakespeare, Macbeth  
  
Cookies! Give me some cookies!  
Cookie Monster*

```

\chapter{Classic Sesame Street}

```

(chapter start page not demonstrated—  
try for yourself.)

### 4 Document Options

Printing the chapter number in bold and that big a font is quite some ink on the paper. Thus it is strongly recommended to use the **grey** option (which is enabled by default and disabled by specifying **nogrey**) that improves the quality by printing the number in 60% grey. The `color` package is used to set the colour `chaptergrey`, redefining this colour may produce even more colourful effects. It is dismissable by simply not selecting the option for two reasons: First some printer drivers may not know about printing or rastering colours, second, the widely available `xdvi` program spits errors on errors on colour specials.

The `color` package is `\Required` without any option, if you want to specify some, include the `color` package before the `quotchap` package.

The other options are used to select a title font, they are all self-explaining and thus simply listed here:

**charter** Bitstream’s Charter BT

**palatino** Adobe’s Palatino

**avantgarde** Adobe’s Avantgarde

**bookman** Adobe’s Bookman

**courier** Adobe’s Courier

**helvetica** Adobe's Helvetica

**newcentury** Adobe's New Century Schoolbook, a. k. a. "nentrskb"

**times** Adobe's Times

**utopia** Adobe's Utopia

## 5 Implementation

Ok, here comes the code.

### 5.1 Option parsing

The first part is about parsing the options. We may not `\RequirePackages` in here and thus define a flag: `@usecolor` is true whenever the `grey` option is specified.

```
1 \newif\if@usecolor\@usecolortrue
2 \DeclareOption{grey}{\@usecolortrue}
3 \DeclareOption{nogrey}{\@usecolorfalse}
```

For the fonts, there follows a bunch of options that are all meant to be specified exclusively. It would have been possible to use `\newcommand` to ensure this, but it gives cryptic errors. Rather check this first.

```
4 \newcommand*{\@newfontcmd}{\@ifundefined{@defaultcnfont}{\newcommand*}{%
5   \PackageWarning{quotchap}{%
6     You have tried to specify more than one font to be\MessageBreak
7     used for the chapter numbers. I ignore the font\MessageBreak
8     '\CurrentOption'}}
9   \providecommand*}}
```

Next is defining the font options. We set `@defaultcnfont` according to Karl Berry's font name scheme. Providing more than one font gives an error (due to defining an already defined command); the options exclude each other.

```
10 \DeclareOption{charter}{\@newfontcmd{\@defaultcnfont}{bch}}
11 \DeclareOption{palatino}{\@newfontcmd{\@defaultcnfont}{ppl}}
12 \DeclareOption{avantgarde}{\@newfontcmd{\@defaultcnfont}{pag}}
13 \DeclareOption{bookman}{\@newfontcmd{\@defaultcnfont}{pbk}}
14 \DeclareOption{courier}{\@newfontcmd{\@defaultcnfont}{pcr}}
15 \DeclareOption{helvetica}{\@newfontcmd{\@defaultcnfont}{phv}}
16 \DeclareOption{newcentury}{\@newfontcmd{\@defaultcnfont}{pnc}}
17 \DeclareOption{times}{\@newfontcmd{\@defaultcnfont}{ptm}}
18 \DeclareOption{utopia}{\@newfontcmd{\@defaultcnfont}{put}}
```

We can now let the options be processed. If no postscript font has been specified, the default is Adobe's Bookman.

```
19 \ProcessOptions\relax
20 \providecommand*{\@defaultcnfont}{pbk}
```

If nobody said **nogrey**, we fetch the `color` package and define our colour. If the `color` package is not included until now, we define `\color` to do nothing but gobble up its argument. An error is issued when `grey` is turned on and the `color` package is nonexistent. When you read the documentation because of this: `color.sty` is included in the graphics bundle to be found at CTAN.

```

21 \if@usecolor
22   \IfFileExists{color.sty}{%
23     \RequirePackage{color}
24     \definecolor{chaptergrey}{rgb}{0.6,0.6,0.6}}{%
25     \PackageError{quotchap}{%
26       The color package is apparently unavailable.\MessageBreak
27       Turn off the ‘grey’ option and come back again}{%
28       Since you did not say ‘nogrey’, quotchap defined chapter
29       numbers to appear\MessageBreak grey. You do not need a color
30       printer, since most printing devices can cope\MessageBreak with
31       grey scales, but you need the color package coming with the
32       graphics\MessageBreak bundle available from CTAN.}}
33 \else
34   \providecommand*{\color}[1]{}
35 \fi

```

Yow! Now we are ready to give the final font declarations. The commands `\sectfont` and `\chapterhead{start|end}vskip` are defined in the KOMA-Script classes the chapter is based on, they are provided in case `quotchap` is used with other, e. g. the default classes. If we are building a report, there is no `\frontmatter`, `\mainmatter` and `\backmatter` resp. everything is `\mainmatter`, thus we have to provide the corresponding switch used in the `\chapter` command.

```

36 \AtEndOfPackage{%
37   \newcommand*{\chapnumfont}{%
38     \usefont{T1}{\@defaultcfnfont}{b}{n}\fontsize{100}{130}\selectfont%
39     \color{chaptergrey}}
40   \let\size@chapter\huge
41   \providecommand*{\chapterheadstartvskip}{\vspace*{2.3\baselineskip}}
42   \providecommand*{\chapterheadendvskip}{\vspace{1.7\baselineskip}}
43   \providecommand*{\sectfont}{\relax}
44   \ifundefined{@mainmattertrue}{\newif\if@mainmatter\@mainmattertrue}{}}

```

## 5.2 User Level Commands

`savequote` Here go the top level command declarations (and definitions, too). We use the `lrbox` environment to save the contents of the whole environment in a horizontal box. The quotes are effectively a paragraph box typeset in footnote size and oblique style, to the width given as a parameter, while any spacing at the beginning and the end of the environment is ignored. Since `\newenvironment` implies a group, we have to make the box `\@quotebox` global explicitly.

Finally, we enable the box insertion command that is disabled initially and after each chapter heading. (Possibly it is faster to delete the save box contents and insert a nearly-empty vertical box at each chapter—profilers to the front.)

```

45 \newenvironment{savequote}[1][10cm]{%
46   \begin{lrbox}{\@quotebox}
47     \begin{minipage}[t]{#1}\footnotesize\slshape
48       \ignorespaces}{%
49     \unskip\end{minipage}\end{lrbox}
50   \global\setbox\@quotebox\copy\@quotebox
51   \global\let\@printcites\@iprintcites
52   \ignorespacesafterend}

```

`\qauthor` The `\qauthor` command simply selects some font and skip—lets the name be set in roman letters and flush right at two ems distance from the margin.

```
53 \newcommand{\qauthor}[1]{%
54   \par\smallskip
55   {\raggedleft\upshape #1\quad\hbox{\par}\bigskip}
```

### 5.3 Making up the chapter heading

Here are the modification to the chapter command definitions of the KOMA-Script document classes. This package was originally designed to co-operate only with them; therefore we have to provide some measurement defined only there. We insert the citations (if available) by calling the insert box or do nothing wrapper.

The second modification is the formatting of the heading. If there is a chapter number to be printed, our really huge font is selected and the number is typeset to the right margin, followed by the title, as usual.

```
56 \newsavebox{\@quotebox}
57 \let\@printcites\relax
58 \renewcommand\chapter{%
59   \ifopenright\cleardoublepage\else\clearpage\fi
60   \thispagestyle{plain}%
61   \global\@topnum\z@
62   \@printcites
63   \@afterindentfalse
64   \secdef\@chapter\@schapter}
65 \renewcommand{\@makechapterhead}[1]{\chapterheadstartvskip%
66   {\size@chapter{\sectfont\raggedleft
67     {\chapnumfont
68       \ifnum \c@secnumdepth >\m@ne%
69         \if@mainmatter\thechapter%
70         \fi\fi
71         \par\nobreak}%
72     {\raggedleft\advance\leftmargin10em\interlinepenalty\@M #1\par}}
73   \nobreak\chapterheadendvskip}}
74 \renewcommand{\@makeschapterhead}[1]{%
75   {\let\c@secnumdepth\m@ne\@makechapterhead{#1}}}
76 \newcommand*{\@iprintcites}{%
77   \vbox to\z@{\copy\@quotebox\vss}
78   \global\let\@printcites\relax}
```

And this is it. Happy T<sub>E</sub>Xing!