

# Week Two: Running TeX and Spacing of Your Input

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This week is focused on running TeX and getting the basic commands down. In this course we will mostly be using TeXshop to write and typeset our TeX documents, but it is good to know the basic steps that TeXshop is doing and how to produce readable documents without TeXshop.

Note throughout chapter 6 there is mention of “turning you TeX document into a hard copy”, we are going to do this, but it will involve doing things a bit differently then the book talks about. We won’t run the *tex* command on the documents we create. This outputs .dvi documents and it is much more conventional to create .pdf documents so we will write documents in our favorite text editor, then save as a .tex document. Once that is completed you simply need to run:

```
pdftex nameoffile.tex
```

in the terminal, and your document will become a pdf if the document contains no TeX errors. Now if you want to view them just open them in your favorite pdf viewer (adobe acrobat, preview, etc).

## Readings

This week please read **pg. 23–39, 43–46, 51–55**, please remember you don’t have to read sections marked with a double dangerous curve sign

## Key Concepts

- How to parse basic errors in TeX, one of the most fundamental things about learning a new language especially when self teaching.
- How to prepare and actually use TeX documents.
- What are the 16 character codes.

## Exercise 1 (Exercises from the Reading)

- Chapter 6: 6.1, 6.2
- Chapter 7: 7.1, 7.2
- Chapter 8: 8.1
- Chapter 9: 9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4 (for this actually do it in a TeX document it will be faster then explaining how to write them), 9.7