

The `sansforgetica` package

Font-free pdfL^AT_EX support for Sans Forgetica

Maintained by erik@ctan.org

Version 0.1.0 2026-09-20

Abstract

The `sansforgetica` package provides a conventional T1 font-family interface for using a separately obtained Sans Forgetica installation with pdfL^AT_EX. The CTAN upload is intentionally font-free: it contains the package files, this manual and source, and a font sample whose text has been converted to vector paths. It contains no original or converted Sans Forgetica font program, metric, or map. The independently written material is licensed under LPPL 1.3c or later.

Contents

1	Scope of the CTAN upload	1
2	Licences, evidence, and attribution	2
3	Package interface	2
4	Preparing a local pdfL^AT_EX installation	3
5	Vector font sample	3
6	Encoding and PDF behaviour	4
7	Archive layout	4
8	Contact and reporting issues	4

1 Scope of the CTAN upload

The upload follows a compact wrapper-package layout modelled on the CTAN [Libertinus wrapper](#). It has a single top-level `sansforgetica/` directory with a README, documentation, and the LaTeX interface below `tex/`.

The archive deliberately contains none of the following:

- the original `SansForgetica-Regular.otf`;
- a converted Type 1 PFB or AFM;
- a TFM or another metric derived from the font;
- a pdfTeX font map or another embedded font program.

Consequently, installing the ZIP alone does not install the typeface. Users must obtain it lawfully and prepare the local font files required by their TeX setup. This separation keeps the LPPL package material independent from the font program. The included sample PDF represents all lettering as vector paths, so PDF font inspection reports no embedded fonts.

2 Licences, evidence, and attribution

The package support, documentation sources, tests, and build scripts are distributed under the LaTeX Project Public License, version 1.3c or later. The same licence applies to the independently written source and editorial layout of `font-sample-sansforgetica.tex`.

Sans Forgetica is a separate work. The original 2018 ZIP has no standalone licence file, and its OTF has no OpenType licence fields. Its metadata retains the notice “Copyright (c) 2018 Letterbox. All rights reserved.” and names Lan Huang as designer and Letterbox as manufacturer. The project was produced by RMIT University in collaboration with Naked Communications.

The licence version documented by this project is recorded in Figure 1 of Lucy Cui and Jereth Liu, “Recognition of Studied Words in Perceptual Disfluent Sans Forgetica Font,” *Vision* 6(3), 2022, article 52, doi:10.3390/vision6030052. The caption identifies Sans Forgetica as CC BY-NC and supplies the canonical CC BY-NC 3.0 URI, with an access date of 15 November 2018. Both the [ResearchGate figure page](#) and the [ResearchGate full-text study](#) are retained as evidence.

The study itself is published under CC BY 4.0. That licence covers the article; it does not replace the CC BY-NC 3.0 font licence stated in its Figure 1 caption. No right in the OTF is granted by the LPPL package files. The glyph forms converted to paths in the sample PDF originate from Sans Forgetica and remain attributed under CC BY-NC 3.0; conversion to paths removes the embedded font program but does not change the licence of those forms.

3 Package interface

After a compatible local font installation has been prepared, load the package in the usual way:

```
\usepackage{sansforgetica}
```

```
Normal text. {\sansforgetica Text in Sans Forgetica.}
```

The robust command `\sansforgetica` selects the T1 family `sforgetica`. Two package options are available:

Option	Effect
<code>\sfdefault</code>	Select Sans Forgetica as <code>\sfdefault</code> .
<code>default</code>	Select it as both <code>\sfdefault</code> and the document default.

The historical release contains Regular only. Requests for bold, italic, slanted, small-caps, or combined shapes therefore substitute Regular and produce LaTeX’s normal font-substitution warning.

4 Preparing a local pdfL^AT_EX installation

The maintained project source contains a reproducible conversion helper for a lawfully obtained copy of the original OTF. It requires LCDF Typetools and a TeX distribution containing the standard `ec.enc` encoding. In a repository checkout, place the OTF at the ignored path `vendor/SansForgetica-Regular.otf`, then run:

```
make fonts
make test
```

The build verifies this SHA-256 before deriving anything:

```
762820a564a1d588b2e1870825e319c381595cfe9761e310973391d04f9b7091
```

Generated PFB, TFM, and map files are written below `build/texmf`; they are not placed in the CTAN upload. For a temporary test, use that directory as `TEXMFHOME`. For a permanent local installation, copy the generated TDS tree into a personal TEXMF tree, refresh the filename database, and enable the generated `sansforgetica.map` according to the TeX distribution’s instructions.

For questions about the local conversion, contact erik@ctan.org.

5 Vector font sample

The upload includes the outlined sample PDF `doc/font-sample-sansforgetica.pdf`. Its complete LaTeX source is `doc/font-sample-sansforgetica.tex`. The sample tabulates the complete A–Z and a–z alphabets for every NFSS style declared by the package and adds German letters, accented Latin letters, digits, punctuation, and ligature words.

After preparing the local font tree, the complete sample is built with:

```
make sample
```

LaTeX first creates a private working PDF with the locally installed font. The uniquely named script `doc/outline-font-sample-sansforgetica.sh` then imports each page with Inkscape’s Poppler importer and exports it with text converted to paths. The outlined pages are combined, and Ghostscript plus the script’s deterministic trailer step normalize the timestamp and document identifier. A final `pdffonts` check must report no font rows. The working PDF is excluded.

6 Encoding and PDF behaviour

The local TFM name expected by the font-definition file is `sfr8t`; the LaTeX family name is `sforgetica`. The development conversion uses the standard `ec.enc` encoding supplied by TeX distributions. The `fi` and `fl` ligature rules are added explicitly. The original font has no `ff`, `ffi`, `ffl`, or `dotlessj` glyph.

Regression tests in the development repository compile local and document-wide examples with pdfL^AT_EX, check subsetted Type 1 embedding and ToUnicode information, and compare extracted German and accented Latin text with the source.

7 Archive layout

Item	File and purpose
README	README.md: overview, build commands, and licence boundary.
LPPL notice	LICENSE: licence for the independently written work.
Manual	doc/sansforgetica.pdf: this document.
Manual source	doc/sansforgetica.tex: complete LaTeX source.
Vector sample	doc/font-sample-sansforgetica.pdf: outlined alphabet and style table.
Sample source	doc/font-sample-sansforgetica.tex: complete LaTeX source.
Outline script	doc/outline-font-sample-sansforgetica.sh: converts text to vector paths.
Package	tex/latex/sansforgetica/: package and T1 family definition.

Both PDFs in the ZIP have their LaTeX sources beside them. The archive excludes Git metadata, build intermediates, tests, the private working sample PDF, and every original or converted Sans Forgetica font program.

8 Contact and reporting issues

Please send technical reports to erik@ctan.org and include the pdfL^AT_EX version, the relevant log excerpt, and the exact build command.

The initial implementation and documentation were developed with assistance from OpenAI ChatGPT. The maintainer remains responsible for review, licensing, releases, and maintenance.