Setting Up MiKTeX 2.8 on Windows

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1. Downloading and Installing MiKTeX 2.8

1. Download the Basic MiKTeX 2.8 Installer (101.62 MB) from `http://miktex.org/2.8/setup`.
2. Launch the installer, using the screen captures (Figures 1–6) as a guide for the settings.
3. Exit the installer when the installation progress has completed (Figures 7 and 8).

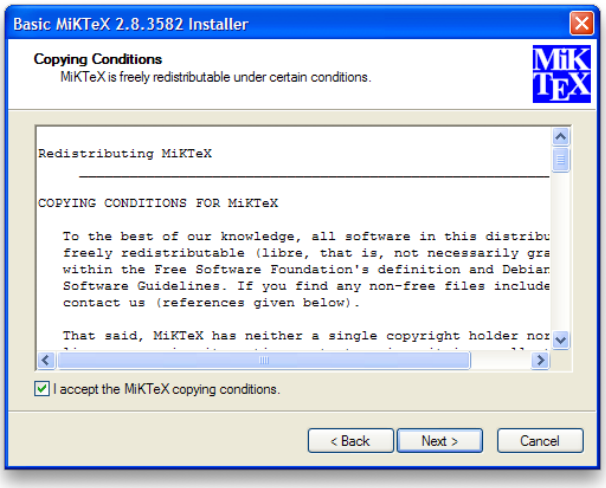


Figure 1: Review and Accept the T&C.

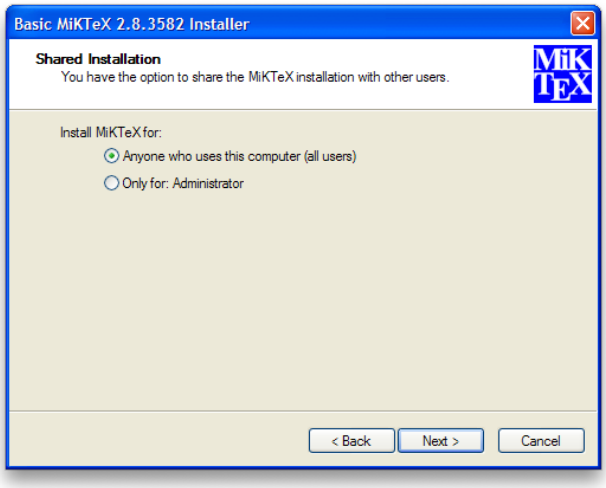


Figure 2: Install MiKTeX for all users.

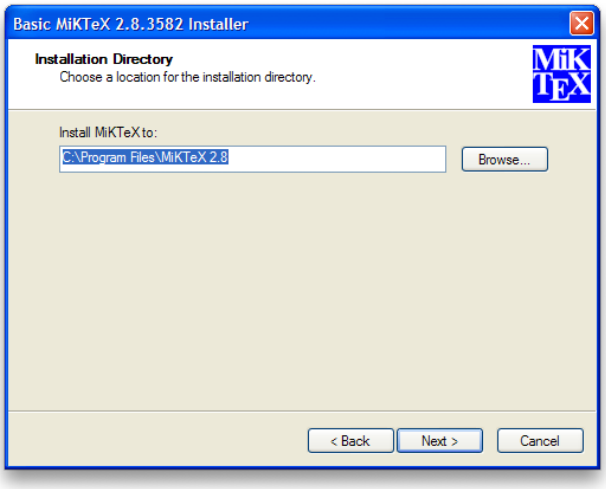


Figure 3: Select the installation path. Accept the default location.

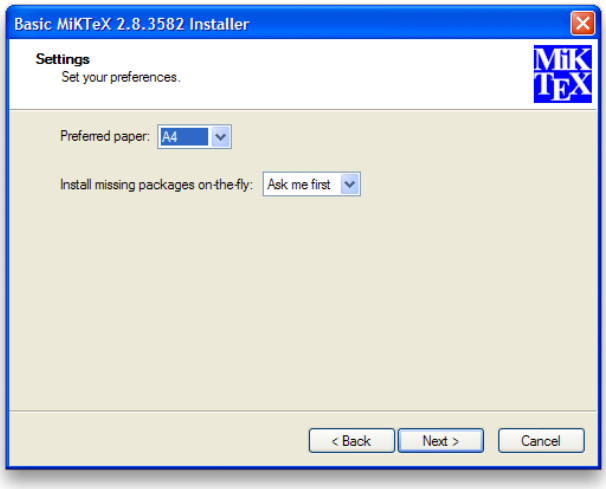


Figure 4: Set preferred paper size to A4 and "Ask me first" to install packages on-the-fly.

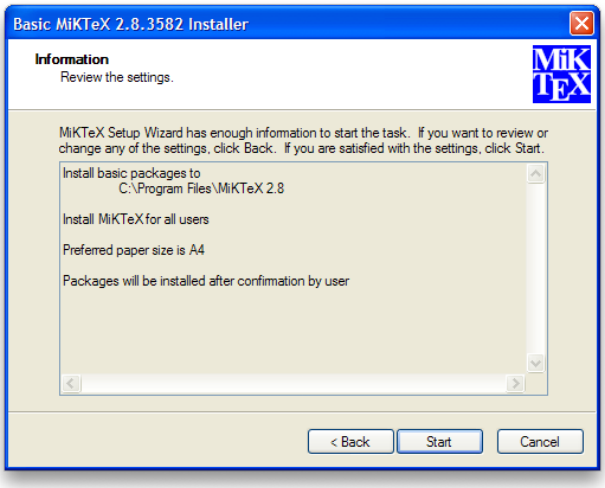


Figure 5: Review the installation settings. Click Start if all looks well.

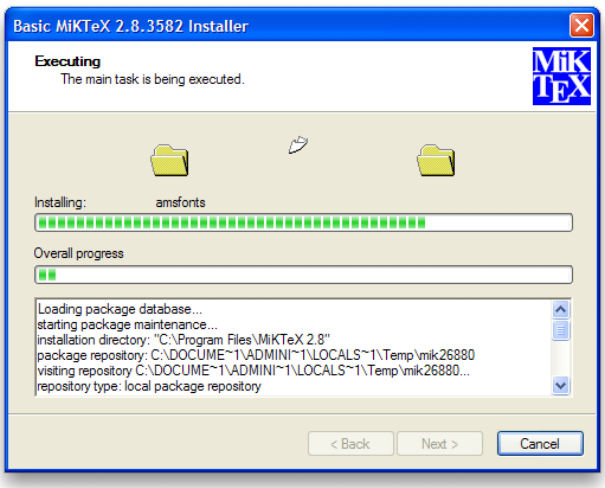


Figure 6: Let the installation proceed. This will take a few to 10 minutes.

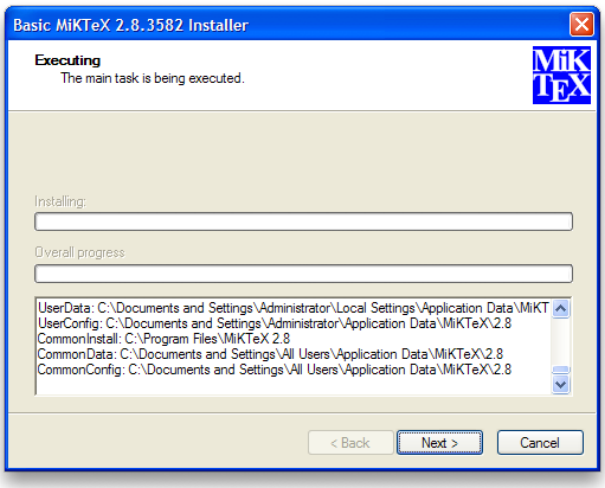


Figure 7: You'll know the installation has completed when the progress bars are blank, and the Next > button becomes clickable.

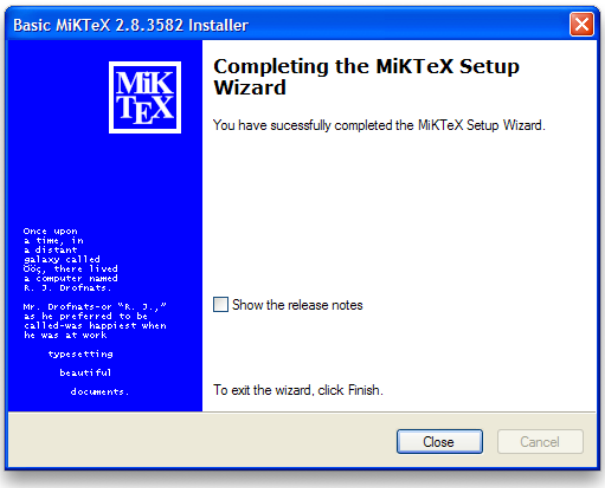


Figure 8: You may now exit the installer.

2. Configuring the Remote Package Repository

MiKTeX can automatically download and install missing LaTeX packages from remote package repositories on the Web. You can select a particular repository to download from.

1. Open MiKTeX's Settings via Windows Start› All Programs › MiKTeX 2.8 › Maintenance (Admin) › Settings (Admin).
2. Click on the Packages tab, as shown in Figure 9.
3. Now click the Change... button under Package repository.
4. Select Packages should be installed from the Internet (Figure 10).
5. Choose a repository (Figure 11), preferably one in Malaysia, Singapore or Indonesia. (From my experience, if no mirror server from these countries is available, the Japanese mirrors offers a good speed, too.)
6. After MiKTeX finishes downloading the package database from the selected repository (Figure 12), you may exit the MiKTeX Options window (Figure 13).

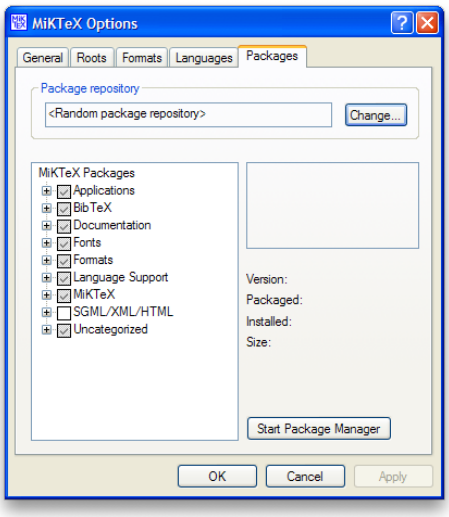


Figure 9: MiKTeX's Packages setting tab.

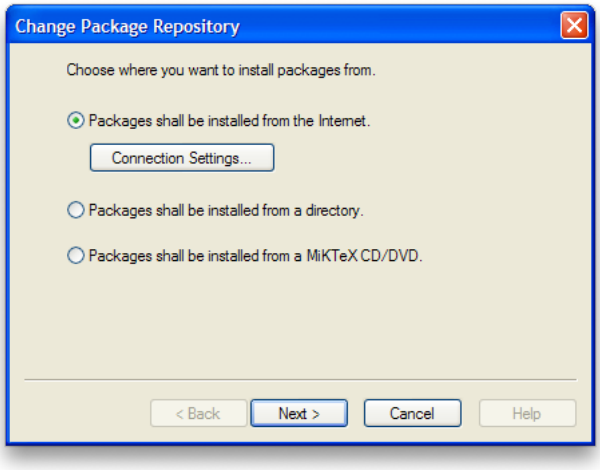


Figure 10: Choose to install packages from the Internet.

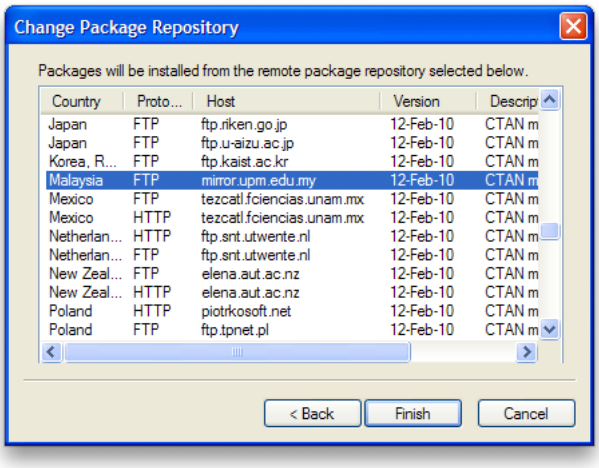


Figure 11: Selecting a remote repository.

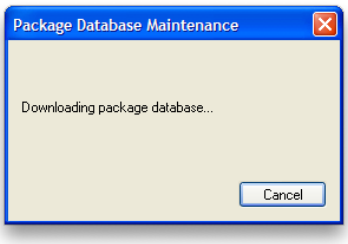


Figure 12: Wait while MiKTeX downloads the package database from the selected repository.

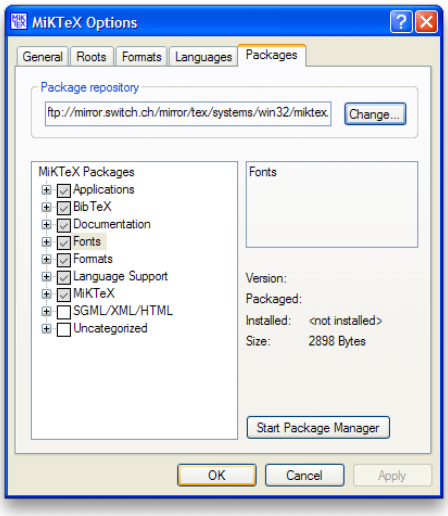
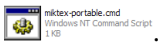


Figure 13: You may now exit the MiKTeX Options window by clicking OK.

3. Alternative: Setting up a Portable MiKTeX Installation

Yep, you can carry a complete MiKTeX installation around in a thumb drive, so that you can work on any Windows (2000/XP/Vista/7) machine even if you do not have administrator privileges.

1. Download MiKTeX Portable (97.82 MB) from `http://miktex.org/portable/about`.
2. Connect your thumb drive; let's assume it's now E:.
3. Run the downloaded .exe file. Specify a directory on your thumb drive to unzip the contents to, e.g. `E:\miktex-portable`.
4. To run MiKTeX, go into `E:\miktex-portable`, and double-click on `miktex-portable.cmd` 

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5. A MiKTeX icon should show up in the taskbar tray, like this: 

6. Right-click on the MiKTeX taskbar icon, and click Settings. Continue with steps 2–6 in section 2.
7. **Important:** Before disconnecting your thumb drive, right-click on the MiKTeX taskbar icon and click Exit.

4. Testing the Installation: `HelloWorld.tex` → `HelloWorld.pdf`

1. Launch the TeXworks editor.
   - Stand-alone installation: Windows Start› MiKTeX 2.8 › TeXworks.
   - Portable installation: Right-click on the MiKTeX taskbar icon. Click TeXworks.
2. Create a simple LaTeX file with the following contents.

```
1 \documentclass{article}
2
3 \begin{document}
4 Hello World!
5 \end{document}
```

3. Save the file as `HelloWorld.tex`.
4. Typeset the file via Typeset › Typeset or Ctrl + T . (Make sure pdfLaTeX+MakeIndex+BibTeX is selected, Figure 14.)
5. If MiKTeX has been successfully set up and there is no error in `HelloWorld.tex`, the typeset result `HelloWorld.pdf` will be displayed in a separate window (Figure 15).

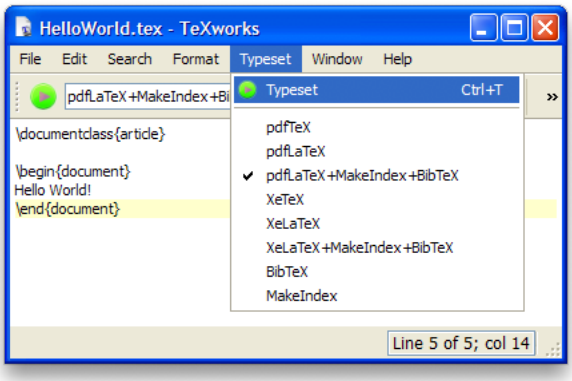

Figure 14: Typesetting a LaTeX source with `pdflatex` in TeXworks.

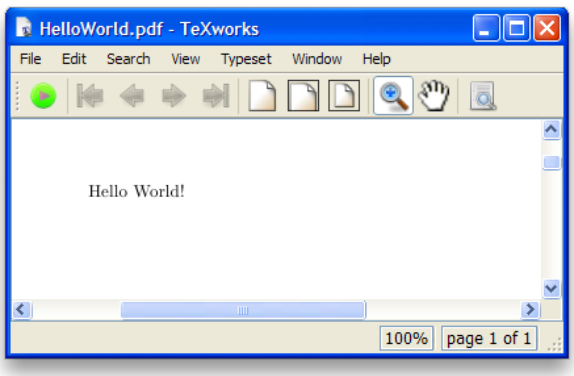

Figure 15: The typeset PDF file is shown alongside the source file.

5. Testing On-the-Fly Installation of Missing Packages

1. Add the lines in red in HelloWorld.tex and typeset the file again (Ctrl + T as in step 4).

```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage{marvosym}

\begin{document}
Hello World! \Smiley
\end{document}
```

2. As our basic installation does not include the marvosym package, MiKTeX will prompt you to confirm its download and installation (Figure 16). Click Install .

3. You may have to wait a few minutes while the package is downloaded, depending on the size of the package, your network connection speed, and the chosen package repository. *Be patient*, or try cancelling the process, and try again with a different repository.

4. Once the package(s) are downloaded and install, MiKTeX will continue the typesetting process and the final PDF will be displayed when it has completed.

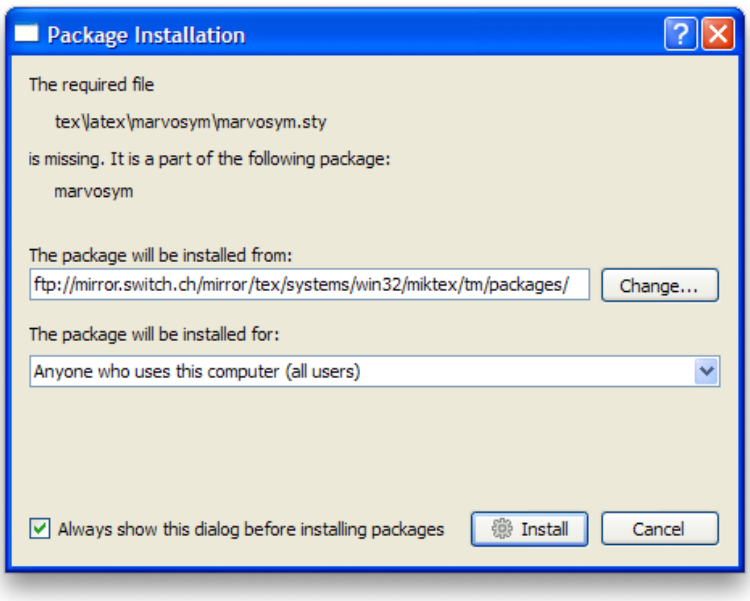

Figure 16: Confirmation to install missing package.

6. Installing JabRef

JabRef is a BibTEX bibliography management system. You will need a Java Runtime Environment (JRE) to run it.

1. If you do not already have a JRE installed, download one from http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp and install it. You can accept all the default settings.

2. Download JabRef from http://jabref.sourceforge.net/download.php and install it. You can accept all the default settings.