

# GNU Texinfo Reference Card

(for Texinfo version 7.2)

<https://www.gnu.org/software/texinfo/>

## Texinfo document skeleton

Texinfo source files are plain text; extensions are `.texinfo`, `.texi` (recommended), and `.txi`. In the default case, the output file name is based on the input file name.

A Texinfo file must begin with:

```
\input texinfo.tex
... followed by the contents of the Texinfo document, ending with:
@bye
```

## Texinfo @-commands

### Beginning a Texinfo document

The commands in this section are given approximately in the order in which they conventionally appear.

**@setfilename** *info-file-name* Specify a different name to be used for the output files.

**@settitle** *title* Specify document *title* for page headers and document description.

**@copying** Specify copyright and licensing text. Pair with **@end copying**.

**@insertcopying** Insert text defined by **@copying**.

#### *Internationalization*

**@documentencoding** *enc* Declare the input encoding to be *enc*; see right after **@setfilename**. Default is UTF-8; other possibilities: US-ASCII, ISO-8859-1, koi8-r, ...

**@documentlanguage** *ll[\_cc]* Declare the current language as the two-character ISO-639 abbreviation *ll*, optionally followed by an underscore and a two-letter ISO 3166 two-letter country code (*cc*). Default is `en_US`.

**@frenchspacing** *on/off* Control spacing after punctuation.

#### *Category specifications*

**@dircategory** *category name* Specify a category for the manual. Can be repeated. We try to follow the categories in the Free Software Directory.

**@direntry** Begin the Info directory menu entries for this file. Pair with **@end direntry**.

#### *HTML document description*

**@documentdescription** Set the document description text for HTML; default is just the title of the document. Pair with **@end documentdescription**.

#### *Title pages*

**@shorttitlepage** *title* Generate a minimal title page, generally for the first page of output in a long printed manual.

**@center** *line-of-text* Center *line-of-text*, usually for titles.

**@titlefont** *{text}* Print *text* in a larger than normal font.

**@titlepage** Begin the title page. Write the command on a line of its own, paired with **@end titlepage**. For printed manuals only in the default case.

**@title** *title* Within **@titlepage**, display *title* appropriately.

**@subtitle** *subtitle* Within **@titlepage**, display *subtitle*.

**@author** *author* Within **@titlepage**, display *author*.

#### *Tables of contents*

**@shortcontents** Print a short table of contents (chapter-level entries only). Not relevant to Info, not implemented in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.

**@summarycontents** Synonym for **@shortcontents**.

**@contents** Print a complete table of contents. Not relevant to Info.

## Nodes

**@node** *name* Begin a new node.

**@top** *title* Mark the topmost **@node** in the file, which must be defined on the line immediately preceding **@top**. The *title* is formatted as a chapter-level heading. The contents of the Top node do not appear in printed output nor in DocBook output.

**@anchor** *{name}* Define *name* as the current location, for use as a cross-reference target.

**@novalidate** Suppress validation of node references and omit creation of auxiliary files with T<sub>E</sub>X.

**@nodedescription** *description* Provide description for menu references to this node.

**@nodedescriptionblock** ... **@end nodedescriptionblock** Provide description for menu references to this node across several lines.

## Chapter structuring

**@lowersections** Change subsequent chapters to sections, sections to subsections, and so on.

**@raisesections** Change subsequent sections to chapters, subsections to sections, and so on.

**@part** *title* Print part page, beginning a group of chapters; included in contents.

#### *Numbered, included in contents*

**@chapter** *title* Begin a numbered chapter; *title* appears in the table of contents.

#### *Context-dependent, included in contents*

**@section** *title* Begin a section within a chapter. Within **@chapter** and **@appendix**, the section is numbered; within **@unnumbered**, it is unnumbered.

**@subsection** *title* Begin a subsection within a section. Same context-dependent numbering as **@section**.

**@subsubsection** *title* Begin a numbered subsubsection within a subsection. Same context-dependent numbering as **@section**.

#### *Unnumbered, included in contents*

**@unnumbered** *title* Begin an unnumbered chapter.

**@unnumberedsec** *title* Begin an unnumbered section.

**@unnumberedsubsec** *title* Begin an unnumbered subsection.

**@unnumberedsubsubsec** *title* Begin an unnumbered subsubsection.

#### *Lettered and numbered, included in contents*

**@appendix** *title* Begin an appendix.

**@appendixsec** *title* Begin an appendix section within an appendix; **@appendixsection** is a synonym.

**@appendixsubsec** *title* Begin an appendix subsection;

**@appendixsubsubsection** is a synonym.

**@appendixsubsubsec** *title* Begin an appendix subsubsection;

**@appendixsubsubsubsection** is a synonym.

#### *Unnumbered, not in contents, no new page*

**@chapheading** *title* Print an unnumbered chapter-like heading.

**@majorheading** *title* Like **@chapheading**, but generate additional vertical whitespace before the heading.

**@heading** *title* Print an unnumbered section-like heading.

**@subheading** *title* Print an unnumbered subsection-like heading.

**@subsubheading** *title* Print an unnumbered subsubsection-like heading.

## Menus

**@menu** Mark the beginning of a menu of nodes. No effect in a printed manual and in DocBook. Not used in the default case in HTML output. Pair with **@end menu**.

**@detailmenu** Mark the (optional) detailed node listing in a master menu.

## Cross references

#### *To Texinfo manuals*

**@xref** *{node, [entry], [node-title], [info-file], [manual]}* Makes a reference that starts with ‘See’ in a printed manual. Follow command with punctuation. Only the first argument is mandatory.

**@pxref** *{node, [entry], [node-title], [info-file], [manual]}* Like **@xref**, but starts with ‘see’ instead of ‘See’, and must be used inside parentheses.

**@ref** *{node, [entry], [node-title], [info-file], [manual]}* Like **@xref**, but produces only the bare reference without ‘See’ or ‘see’; must be followed by a punctuation mark.

**@link** *{node, [label], [manual]}* Make a plain link, with no visible markup. Does nothing for Info.

References outside of the current manual, to a different Texinfo file have an `[info-file]` and/or a `[manual]` argument. The *node* argument can be omitted in that case to refer to a manual as a whole.

**@xrefautomaticsectiontitle** *on/off* By default, use the section title instead of the node name in cross references.

#### *Outside of the Texinfo system*

**@url** *{url, [displayed-text], [replacement]}* Make a hyperlink reference to a uniform resource locator. **@uref** is a synonym.

**@cite** *{title}* Indicate the name of a book or other reference that has no Info file; no hyperlink.

## Marking text

#### *Markup for regular text*

**@abbr** *{abbreviation, [meaning]}* Indicate a general abbreviation, such as ‘Comput.’

**@acronym** *{acronym, [meaning]}* Indicate an acronym written in all capital letters, such as ‘NASA’.

**@dfn** *{term}* Indicate the introductory or defining use of a technical term.

**@emph** *{text}* Emphasize *text*.

**@strong** *{text}* Emphasize *text* even more strongly.

**@sub** *{text}* Set *text* as a subscript.

**@sup** *{text}* Set *text* as a superscript.

**@var** *{metasyntactic-variable}* Indicate a meta variable (a name that stands for another piece of text).

#### *Markup for literal text*

**@code** *{sample-code}* Indicate an expression, a syntactically complete token, or a program name.

**@command** *{command-name}* Indicate a system command name, such as `ls`.

**@email** *{address, [displayed-text]}* Indicate an email address.

**@env** *{environment-variable}* Indicate an environment variable name, such as `PATH`.

**@file** *{filename}* Indicate the name of a file, buffer, node, directory, etc.

**@indicateurl** *{url}* Indicate a uniform resource locator, but without creating any hyperlink.

**@kbd** *{keyboard-characters}* Indicate characters of input to be typed by users.

**@key** *{key-name}* Indicate the name of a key on a keyboard.

**@option** *{option-name}* Indicate a command-line option, such as `-v` and `--help`.

**@samp** *{text}* Indicate a sequence of literal characters, in general.

**@verb** *{delimchar literal-text delimchar}* Output *literal-text*, delimited by the single character *delimchar*, exactly as is, including any whitespace or Texinfo special characters. Example: `@verb{|@ @|}`.

#### GUI sequences

**@arrow** *{}* Insert a right arrow glyph, `→`.

**@clicksequence** *{action @click{ } action ...}* Represent a sequence of GUI actions or clicks.

**@click** *{}* Represent a single ‘click’ in a `@clicksequence`.

**@clickstyle** *{cmd}* Execute `@cmd` for each `@click`; default is `@arrow`. Empty braces usually following `@cmd` are omitted here.

#### Math

**@math** *{math}* Format the given math (inline); `\` becomes an escape character, and all plain TeX math is available.

**@displaymath** Create a display math environment. Pair with `@end displaymath`.

**@minus** *{}* Insert a minus sign, ‘`-`’.

**@\** Inside `@math`, insert a math backslash, `\`.

**@geq** *{}* Insert a greater-than-or-equal sign, `≥`.

**@leq** *{}* Insert a less-than-or-equal sign, `≤`.

#### Explicit font selection

**@b** *{text}* Set *text* in a bold font.

**@i** *{text}* Set *text* in an italic font.

**@r** *{text}* Set *text* in the regular roman font.

**@sansserif** *{text}* Set *text* in a sans serif font if possible.

**@sc** *{text}* Set *text* in a small caps font in printed output, and uppercase in Info. No other font command has any effect in Info.

**@slanted** *{text}* Set *text* in a slanted (oblique) font if possible.

**@t** *{text}* Set *text* in a fixed-width, typewriter-like font.

## Block environments

‘Environments’ in Texinfo begin with `@envname` on a line of its own and continue through the following lines of input until the corresponding `@end envname` is seen.

**@cartouche** Highlight a block of text by drawing a box with rounded corners around it. Pair with `@end cartouche`. In HTML, a normal rectangle is drawn.

**@xindent** *line-of-text* Output *line-of-text* without any indentation.

**@indent** Insert normal paragraph indentation.

**@noindent** Omit the normal indentation when starting a new paragraph; often used after environments.

#### Normally-filled displays using regular text fonts

The text of those environments is processed like normal text (regular font, text is filled).

**@quotation** [*leading-text*] Indent on left. May also be indented on right. Often used for quoting text. The author of the quotation may be specified with the `@author` command. Pair with `@end quotation`.

**@smallquotation** [*leading-text*] Like `@quotation`, but select a smaller (text) font where possible. Pair with `@end quotation`.

**@indentedblock** Indent on left (but not right). Pair with `@end indentedblock`.

**@smallindentedblock** Like `@indentedblock`, but select a smaller (text) font where possible. Pair with `@end smallindentedblock`.

**@raggedright** Leave right end ragged, but otherwise fill text; retain normal text font. Pair with `@end raggedright`.

#### Line-for-line displays using regular text fonts

In these environments, each line of input is a line of output; that is, the text is not filled.

**@display** Begin displayed text: do not fill, but indent text on left; retain normal text font. Pair with `@end display`.

**@smalldisplay** Like `@display`, but select a smaller (text) font where possible. Pair with `@end smalldisplay`.

**@format** Begin formatted text: do not fill, retain normal margins and normal text font. Pair with `@end format`.

**@smallformat** Like `@format`, but select a smaller (text) font where possible. Pair with `@end smallformat`.

**@flushleft** Left justify lines, leaving the right end ragged: do not fill text, retain normal margins and normal text font. Pair with `@end flushleft`.

**@flushright** Right justify lines, leaving the left end ragged: do not fill text, retain normal margins and normal text font. Pair with `@end flushright`.

#### Displays using fixed-width fonts

In these environments also, each line of input is a line of output; that is, the text is not filled.

**@example** [*arg*] \* Begin an example. Indent text, do not fill, and select fixed-width font. It is recommended that the first argument, if given, specifies the language of the example code. Pair with `@end example`.

**@smallexample** Like `@example`, but where possible, print text in a smaller font. Pair with `@end smallexample`.

**@lisp** Like `@example`, but specifically for an example of Lisp code. Pair with `@end lisp`.

**@smalllisp** Begin an example specifically of Lisp code; same effects as `@smallexample`. Pair with `@end smalllisp`.

**@verbatim** Output the text of the environment exactly as is, without indentation. Pair with `@end verbatim`.

## Lists and tables

**@itemize** *mark-command* Begin an unordered list, using `@item` for each entry, which consist of indented paragraphs, with a mark such as `@bullet` inside the left margin at the beginning of each item. Pair with `@end itemize`.

**@enumerate** [*number-or-letter*] Begin a numbered list, using `@item` for each entry. Optionally, start list with *number-or-letter* and count from there; by default, number consecutively from ‘1’. Pair with `@end enumerate`.

**@table** *formatting-command* Begin a two-column table (description list), using `@item` for each entry. Write each first column entry on the same line as `@item`. *formatting-command* is applied to each first column entry. Pair with `@end table`.

**@ftable** *formatting-command* Like `@table`, but automatically enter each first column entry in the function index.

**@vtable** *formatting-command* Like `@table`, but automatically enter each first column entry in the variable index.

**@multitable** *column-width-spec* Begin multi-column table; start rows with `@item` or `@headitem`. Pair with `@end multitable`.

**@tab** Separate columns in a row of a multitable.

**@item** Begin an item for the list and table commands.

**@itemx** Used only with `@table`. Like `@item` but do not generate extra preceding vertical space. When several items have the same description, use `@item` for the first and `@itemx` for the rest.

**@headitem** Used only for multitable. Like `@item`, but indicates a heading row.

**@headitemfont** *{text}* Set *text* in the heading row font.

**@asis** *text* Prints *text* as-is; used as *formatting-command* for tables when no highlighting is desired.

## Floating displays

**@float** [*label*], [*type*] Environment enclosing material which can float. Pair with `@end float`.

**@listoffloats** [*type*] Generate a list of floats for a given float type.

**@caption** Define the full caption for a `@float` anywhere in the float environment.

**@shortcaption** Define the short caption for a `@float`, used in the list of floats.

**@image** *{filename, [width], [height], [alt], [ext]}* Include graphics image in external *filename* scaled to the given width and/or height, using alt text and looking for ‘*filename.ext*’ first. Can occur inline or by itself on the page.

#### Footnotes

**@footnote** *{text-of-footnote}* Insert a footnote: *text-of-footnote* appears at the bottom of the page in printed output formats. In online formats (HTML and Info), the footnote text is located at either (by default) the end of the current node, or in a separate node.

**@footnotestyle** *style* Specify footnote style: ‘end’ or ‘separate’.

## Indices

**@cindex** *entry* Add entry to the index of concepts.

**@findex** *entry* Add entry to the index of functions.

**@kindex** *entry* Add entry to the index of keys.

**@pindex** *entry* Add entry to the index of programs.

**@tindex** *entry* Add entry to the index of data types.

**@vindex** *entry* Add entry to the index of variables.

**@subentry** *entry* Separate parts of a multilevel index entry.

**@defindex** *newidx* Define a new index and its indexing command. Format entries as regular text.

**@defcodeindex** *newidx* Define a new index and its indexing command (namely, `@newidxindex`). Format entries in this index with `@code`.

**@syncodeindex** *from-index to-index* Merge the contents of *from-index* into *to-index*, formatting the entries in *from-index* with `@code`.

**@synindex** *from-index to-index* Merge the contents of *from-index* into *to-index*; no special formatting.

**@printindex** *index-name* Generate an alphabetized index.

**@sortas** *{key}* Specify a string by which to sort an index entry.

**@seealso** *{entry}* Refer to another relevant index entry.

`@seeentry {entry}` Redirect to another index entry.

## Insertions within a paragraph

*Characters special to Texinfo*

`@@`, `@atchar{}` Insert an at sign, ‘@’.

`@{`, `@lbracechar{}` Insert a left brace, ‘{’.

`@}`, `@rbracechar{}` Insert a right brace, ‘}’.

`@backslashchar{}` Insert a typewriter backslash, ‘\’.

`@&`, `@ampchar{}` Insert an ampersand, ‘&’.

`@comma{}` Insert a comma character; needed only when a literal comma would be an argument separator, as in `@xref`.

`@hashchar{}` Insert a hash character, ‘#’; needed only when a literal hash would introduce a `#line` directive.

`@whitespace` An `@` followed by a space, tab, or newline produces a normal, stretchable, interword space.

*Spacing refinements*

`@:` Tell printed output processors to refrain from inserting extra whitespace after an immediately preceding period, question mark, exclamation mark, or colon.

`@.` Insert a period that ends a sentence; typically needed after an end-of-sentence capital letter.

`@?` Insert a question mark that ends a sentence.

`@!` Insert an exclamation point that ends a sentence.

`@dmn {dimension}` Format a unit of measure, as in ‘12 pt’. Insert a thin space before *dimension* in printed output, and no space in other output formats.

*Accents*

Braces are optional for the arguments to the accent commands, with the exception of `@tieaccent`.

`@" c` Generate an umlaut, ö.

`@' c` Generate an acute accent, ó.

`@, c` Generate a cedilla accent, ç.

`@= c` Generate a macron accent, ô.

`@^ c` Generate a circumflex (hat) accent, ô.

`@' c` Generate a grave accent, ó.

`@~ c` Generate a tilde accent, õ.

`@dotaccent c` Generate a dot (over) accent, ô.

`@H c` Generate a long Hungarian umlaut accent, ő.

`@ogonek c` Generate an ogonek diacritic, ą.

`@ringaccent c` Generate a ring accent, ô.

`@tieaccent {cc}` Generate a tie-after accent, õ; argument must be given in braces.

`@u c` Generate a breve accent, ö.

`@ubaraccent c` Generate an underbar accent, ȳ.

`@udotaccent c` Generate an underdot accent, ȳ.

`@v c` Generate a check (hacek) accent, ȳ.

*Non-English characters*

`@AA {}`, `@aa {}` Generate uppercase Å and lowercase å.

`@AE {}`, `@ae {}` Generate uppercase Æ and lowercase æ.

`@DH {}`, `@dh {}` Generate uppercase Ð and lowercase ð.

`@L {}`, `@l {}` Generate uppercase L and lowercase l.

`@O {}`, `@o {}` Generate uppercase Ø and lowercase ø.

`@OE {}`, `@oe {}` Generate uppercase Œ and lowercase œ.

`@TH {}`, `@th {}` Generate uppercase Þ and lowercase þ.

`@dotless {i|j}` Generate dotless i and j.

`@exclamdown {}` Generate an upside-down exclamation point, ¡.

`@ordf {}`, `@ordm {}` Generate <sup>a</sup> and lowercase <sup>a</sup>.

`@questiondown {}` Generate an upside-down question mark, ¿.

`@ss {}` Generate the German sharp-S (es-zet) letter, ß.

*Other text characters and logos*

`@LaTeX {}` Insert the L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X logo.

`@TeX {}` Insert the T<sub>E</sub>X logo.

`@bullet {}` Insert a large round dot, ● (\* in Info).

`@copyright {}` Insert the copyright symbol, ©.

`@dots {}` Insert an ellipsis, ‘...’.

`@enddots {}` Insert an end-of-sentence ellipsis, ‘...’ (more following space.)

`@euro {}` Insert the Euro currency sign, €.

`@guillemetleft{}` `@guillemetright{}` `@guillemotleft{}`

`@guillemotright` `@guilsinglleft{}` `@guilsinglright{}`

`@quotedblbase{}` `@quotedblleft` `@quotedblright{}`

`@quoteleft{}` `@quoteright{}` `@quotingslbase{}` Insert various quotation marks: « » « > > „ “ ” ’ , ,

`@pounds {}` Insert the pounds sterling currency sign, £.

`@registeredymbol {}` Insert the registered symbol, ®.

`@textdegree {}` Insert the degree symbol, °.

`@today {}` Insert the current date, in ‘1 Jan 2000’ style.

`@U {x}` Insert Unicode character U+x (hex).

*Glyphs for code examples*

`@equiv {}` Indicate equivalence of two forms, ≡.

`@error {}` Indicate an error message, `error`.

`@expansion {}` Indicate the result of a macro expansion, ⇒.

`@point {}` Indicate the position of point in a buffer, ★.

`@print {}` Indicate printed output, ⇐.

`@result {}` Indicate the result of an expression, ⇒.

## Making and preventing breaks

`@*` Force a line break.

`@/` Generates no output, but allows a line break.

`@-` Insert a discretionary hyphenation point.

`@hyphenation {hy-phen-a-ted words}` Explicitly define hyphenation points.

`@tie {}` Generate a normal interword space at which a line break is not allowed.

`@w {text}` Disallow line breaks within *text*.

*Vertical space*

`@group ...@end group` In T<sub>E</sub>X output, disallow page breaks in enclosed text; ignored otherwise.

`@need mils` Start a new page in a printed manual if fewer than *mils* thousandths of an inch remain on the current page. Ignored in other formats.

`@page` Start a new page in a printed manual. Ignored in other formats.

`@sp n` Skip *n* blank lines.

`@vskip amount` In a printed manual, insert whitespace *amount*. Ignored in other formats.

## Definition commands

The ...*x* variant of each command is analogous to `@itemx`, leaving no extra space above. All definition commands must be written entirely on one line, a lone ‘@’ at the end of each line allowing definition lines to be continued (only in this context). Multiword arguments must be enclosed in braces. Descriptive text follows, ended by ‘@end *defcmdname*’.

*Function-like definitions with simple arguments*

`@deffn[x]` *category name arguments* Format a description for a function, interactive command, or similar entity that may take arguments. Its arguments are the *category* of entity being described, the *name* of this particular entity, and the entity’s *arguments*, if any.

`@defun[x]` *name arguments* Format a description for a function; equivalent to ‘@deffn **Function** ...’.

`@defmac[x]` *name arguments* Format a description for a macro; equivalent to ‘@deffn **Macro** ...’.

`@defspec[x]` *name arguments* Format a description for a special form; equivalent to ‘@deffn **{Special Form}** ...’.

*Function-like definitions, generic case*

`@deftypefn[x]` *category data-type name arguments* Like `@deffn`, but with return information. The return information can be empty as ‘{}’. Suitable for typed entities and complex arguments.

`@deftypefun[x]` *data-type name arguments* Like `@defun`, but with return information; equivalent to ‘@deftypefn **Function** ...’.

*Variable-like definitions, untyped*

`@defvr[x]` *category name* Format a description for any kind of variable. Its arguments are the *category* of the entity and the *name* of this particular entity.

`@defvar[x]` *name* Format a description for a variable; equivalent to ‘@defvr **Variable** ...’.

`@defopt[x]` *name* Format a description for a user option; equivalent to ‘@defvar **{User Option}** ...’.

*Variable-like definitions, typed*

`@deftypevr[x]` *category data-type name* Like `@defvr`, but for typed entities.

`@deftypevar[x]` *data-type name* Like `@defvar`, but for typed entities; equivalent to ‘@deftypevr **Variable** ...’.

*Type definitions*

`@deftp[x]` *category name attributes* Format a description for a data type. Its arguments are the *category*, the *name* of the type (e.g., ‘int’), and then the *attributes* of objects of that type.

*Object-oriented entities with simple arguments*

`@defcv[x]` *category class name* Format a description for a variable associated with a class in object-oriented programming.

`@defivar[x]` *class name* Format a description for an instance variable *name* in object-oriented programming; equivalent to ‘@defcv **{Instance Variable of}** ...’.

`@defmethod[x]` *class name arguments* Format a description for method *name*; equivalent to ‘@defop **{Method on}** ...’.

`@defop[x]` *category class name arguments* Format a description for an operation in object-oriented programming. Its arguments are the *category* of the variable, the *class* to which it belongs, its *name*, and any *arguments*.

*Object-oriented entities, generic case*

`@deftypecv[x]` *category class datatype name* Like `@defcv`, but with return information. Suitable for typed entities and complex arguments.

`@deftypeivar[x]` *class data-type name* Like `@defivar`, but with return information.

`@deftypemethod[x]` *class data-type name arguments* Format a description for method with a return information in object-oriented programming; equivalent to ‘@deftypeop **{Method on}** ...’.

**@deftypeop***[x]* *category class data-type name arguments* Format a description for an operation with return information in object-oriented programming.

#### Generic definition commands

**@defblock** ... **@end ignore** Create a block that can contain definitions.

**@define** *category name arguments* Like **@defn**, but without creating an index entry.

**@deftypeline** *category type name arguments* Like **@deftypeln**, but without creating an index entry.

## Conditionally (in)visible text

**@comment** *comment* Begin a comment in Texinfo. The rest of the line is not visible in any output.

**@c** *comment* Synonym for **@comment**. DEL also starts a comment.

**@ignore** ... **@end ignore** Text that will not appear in any output.

#### Output formats

**@ifdocbook** ... **@end ifdocbook** Texinfo text to appear only in Docbook output.

**@ifhtml** ... **@end ifhtml** Text to appear only in HTML output.

**@ifinfo** ... **@end ifinfo** Text to appear in both Info and (for historical compatibility) plain text output.

**@ifplaintext** ... **@end ifplaintext** Text to appear only in plain text output.

**@iftex** ... **@end iftex** Text to appear only in the T<sub>E</sub>X output.

**@iflatex** ... **@end iflatex** Text to appear only in the L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X output.

**@ifxml** ... **@end ifxml** Text to appear only in XML output.

**@ifnotdocbook** **@ifnothtml** **@ifnotplaintext** **@ifnottex**

**@ifnotlatex** **@ifnotxml** ... **@end ifnotformat** Begin text to be ignored in one output format but no others: **@ifnothtml** text is omitted from HTML output, etc.

**@ifnotinfo** ... **@end ifnotinfo** Like the other **@ifnot**... commands, but omit from plain text output as well as Info.

**@inlinfmt** {*format, text*} Include Texinfo *text* only in *format* output.

**@inlinfmtifelse** {*format, then-text, else-text*} Include either *then-text* or *else-text* according to whether *format* is output.

#### Raw formatter text

**@latex** ... **@end latex** Enter L<sub>A</sub>T<sub>E</sub>X completely.

**@docbook** ... **@end docbook** Enter Docbook completely.

**@html** ... **@end html** Enter HTML completely.

**@tex** ... **@end tex** Enter T<sub>E</sub>X completely (e.g., \ becomes an escape character).

**@xml** ... **@end xml** Enter XML completely.

**@inlineraw**{*format, text*} Include raw *text* only in *format* output.

#### Document variables

**@set** *name* [*string*] Define the Texinfo variable *name*, optionally to the value *string*.

**@clear** *name* Undefine *name*.

**@value** {*name*} Insert the value of *name*.

**@ifset** *name* ... **@end ifset** If *name* is set, format enclosed text.

**@ifclear** *name* ... **@end ifclear** If *name* is not set, format enclosed text.

**@inlineifset** {*name, text*} If *name* is set, format *text*.

**@inlineifclear** {*name, text*} If *name* is not set, format *text*.

#### Testing for commands

**@ifcommanddefined** *cmd* ... **@end ifcommanddefined**

Text to appear only if *cmd* is defined ...

**@ifcommandnotdefined** *cmd* ... **@end ifcommandnotdefined**

... or not defined.

**txicommandconditionals** Texinfo variable predefined to true.

## Defining new Texinfo commands

**@alias** *new=existing* Make the command *new* a synonym for the existing command *existing*.

**@macro** *macroname* {*params*} ... **@end macro** Define a new Texinfo command *macroname*.

**@unmacro** *macroname* Undefine *macroname* if it is defined.

**@linemacro** *macroname* {*params*} ... **@end linemacro** Define a new Texinfo command using the rest of the line for arguments.

## File inclusion

**@include** *filename* Read the contents of Texinfo source file *filename*.

**@verbatiminclude** *filename* Incorporate the contents of *filename* in the output, as is, as if in a ‘**@verbatim**’ block.

## Formatting printed output

**@allowcodebreaks** *true|false* Control breaks at - and \_ in T<sub>E</sub>X; default *true*.

**@finalout** Omit large black rectangles at overfull lines in T<sub>E</sub>X output.

**@fonttextsize** 10|11 Change size of main body font in printed output.

**@microtype** *on|off* Turn microtypography on or off in printed output.

#### Paper sizes

The default paper size is US letter-size, 8x11in.

**@smallbook** Format for a 7x9.25in trim size.

**@fourpaper**, **@fivepaper**, **@sixpaper** Format for A4, A5 and B6 paper sizes.

**@fourlatex** Variant for A4 with more whitespace.

**@fourwide** Format for A4 in landscape.

**@pagesizes** [*width*][, *height*] Format for the explicitly given page dimensions, *width* by *height*.

#### Page headers and footers

**@oddfooting** [*left*] @| [*center*] @| [*right*]  
**@oddheading** [*left*] @| [*center*] @| [*right*] Specify page footings resp. headings for odd-numbered (right-hand) pages.

**@evenfooting** [*left*] @| [*center*] @| [*right*]  
**@evenheading** [*left*] @| [*center*] @| [*right*] Specify page footings resp. headings for even-numbered (left-hand) pages.

**@everyfooting** [*left*] @| [*center*] @| [*right*]  
**@everyheading** [*left*] @| [*center*] @| [*right*] Specify page footings resp. headings for every page.

**@thischapter**, **@thischaptername**, **@thischapternum**,  
**@thissection**, **@thissectionname**, **@thissectionnum**,  
**@thisfile**, **@thispage**, **@thistitle** These commands are only allowed in a heading or footing. They stand for, respectively, the number and name of the current chapter (in the format ‘Chapter 1: Title’), the current chapter name only, the current chapter number only, the number and name of the current section, the current section name only, the current section number only, the filename, the current page number, and the title of the document.

## Document preferences

It is usually best to omit any of these (merely preferential) settings from the Texinfo document, so users can easily override the defaults when processing the document.

**@codequoteundirected** *on|off* Use undirected single quote for ‘; default *off*.

**@codequotebacktick** *on|off* Use backtick (standalone grave accent) for ‘; default *off*.

**@deftypelnnewline** *on|off* Put return type on a line by itself; default *off*.

**@exampleindent** *indent* Indent example-like environments by *indent* number of spaces (perhaps 0).

**@firstparagraphindent** *insert|none* Indent first paragraphs after section headings, or not.

**@headings** *on|off|single|double* Turn page headings on or off, specify single-sided or double-sided page headings for printing.

**@kbdinputstyle** *code|distinct|example* Specify font for **@kbd**: normal **@code** font, a distinct (slanted) typewriter font, or a distinct font only within **@example** and similar.

**@paragraphindent** *indent* Indent paragraphs by *indent* number of spaces (perhaps 0); preserve source file indentation if *indent* is the string *asis*.

**@setchapternewpage** *on|off|odd* Specify whether chapters start on new pages, and if so, whether on odd-numbered (right-hand) new pages; also set page headings accordingly.

**@urefbreakstyle** *after|before|none* Specify how **@uref** should break at special characters; default *after*.

## Ending a Texinfo document

**@bye** End reading the Texinfo source. Any following text in the file is ignored.

Finally, this meta-command doesn’t fit anywhere else:

**@errormsg** [*msg*] Report *msg* as an error.

## Reading Info files

There are two main Info readers: `M-x info` (`C-h i`) in GNU Emacs, and the standalone `info` program. These basic keystrokes work in both.

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <code>q</code>         | Quit Info altogether.  |
| <code>h</code>         | Invoke the Info tutorial.  |
| <code>Up</code>        | Move up one line.  |
| <code>Down</code>      | Move down one line.  |
| <code>DEL</code>       | Scroll backward one screenful.   |
| <code>SPC</code>       | Scroll forward one screenful.  |
| <code>Home, b</code>   | Go to the beginning of this node.  |
| <code>End</code>       | Go to the end of this node.  |
| <code>TAB</code>       | Skip to the next hypertext link.   |
| <code>RET</code>       | Follow the hypertext link under the cursor.  |
| <code>l</code>         | Go back to the last node seen in this window.  |
| <code>[</code>         | Go to the previous node in the document.   |
| <code>]</code>         | Go to the next node in the document.   |
| <code>p</code>         | Go to the previous node on this level.   |
| <code>n</code>         | Go to the next node on this level.   |
| <code>u</code>         | Go up one level.   |
| <code>t</code>         | Go to the top node of this document.   |
| <code>d</code>         | Go to the main ‘directory’ node.   |
| <code>1 . . . 9</code> | Pick the first...ninth item in this node’s menu.   |
| <code>0</code>         | Pick the last item in this node’s menu.  |
| <code>m</code>         | Pick a menu item specified by name.  |
| <code>f</code>         | Follow a cross reference specified by name.  |
| <code>g</code>         | Go to a node specified by name.  |
| <code>s</code>         | Search forward for a specified string.   |
| <code>{</code>         | Search for previous occurrence.  |
| <code>}</code>         | Search for next occurrence.  |
| <code>i</code>         | Search for a specified string in the index, and select the node referenced by the first entry found. |
| <code>I</code>         | Synthesize menu of matching index entries.   |
| <code>C-g</code>       | Cancel the current operation.  |

The Texinfo manual is available via `info texinfo` (and at <https://www.gnu.org/software/texinfo/manual>).

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for Texinfo version 7.2, 2024  
by Robert D. Solimeno  
and the Texinfo maintainers

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