

# The `l3opacity` package

## Experimental opacity (transparency) support

The L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X Project\*

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### 1 Selecting opacity

Opacity (transparency) shares many characteristics with color. However, limitations in terms of backends mean that it is not always possible to use a dedicated stack for tracking opacity. The best results when breaking pages are therefore likely to result using direct PDF output (pdfT<sub>E</sub>X, LuaT<sub>E</sub>X) or with recent versions of (x)dvipdfmx: these backends do offer the necessary support.

For users of PostScript-based routes, note that there are security restrictions which can prevent opacity being available in output. In particular, using Adobe Distiller, you will need to enable transparency in the (text-based) configuration: this is not selectable from the GUI.

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**`\opacity_select:n`**

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New: 2021-07-01

`\opacity_select:n`  $\{\langle expression \rangle\}$

Evaluates the  $\langle expression \rangle$ , which should yield a value in the range  $[0,1]$ . This is then activated as an opacity for both filling and stroking.

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**`\opacity_fill:n`**

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**`\opacity_stroke:n`**

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New: 2021-07-01

`\opacity_fill:n`  $\{\langle expression \rangle\}$

Evaluates the  $\langle expression \rangle$ , which should yield a value in the range  $[0,1]$ . This is then activated as an opacity for filling or stroking, respectively.

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