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**Placing the Title Page Directory in
Multi-column and Boxing in the Directory
using Web**

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Directory

- **Table of Contents**
- **Begin Article**
- **The Web package is part of [AeB](#). [Get it here!](#)**

Table of Contents

1. Introduction
2. Placing Directory in Multi-column
3. Boxing in the Directory

1. Introduction

Version 4.2b of the Web package introduces some additional controls over the directory. This article demonstrates how to place the directory in a multi-column format. These new commands include

- `\priorDirMatter` and `\afterDirMatter`: Hooks that are placed before and after the directory
- `\vspaceAfterDirName`: The vertical skip that is inserted just after the directory name. The default is `\vspaceAfterDirName{-3pt}`.
- `\priorDirList` and `\afterDirList`: Hooks that are placed before and after the directory listing.

2. Placing Directory in Multi-column

The commands were used to create the directory listing found on the first page, one other command that was used is `\addtoDirList`, used to add an item to the directory listing. The code found in the preamble is

```

1 \priorDirMatter{\begin{center}\begin{minipage}{.7\linewidth}}
2 \afterDirMatter{\end{minipage}\end{center}}
3 \renewcommand\vspaceAfterDirName{Opt}
4 \setlength{\multicolsep}{3pt}
5 \setlength{\columnsep}{0pt}

```

```

6 \priorDirList{\begin{multicols}{2}}
7 \afterDirList{\end{multicols}}
8 \addtoDirList{The \textsf{Web} package is part of
9   \textcolor{blue}{AeB.}
10  \href{http://www.math.uakron.edu/~dpstory/webeq.html}{Get it here!}}
```

In order to get tighter, nicer looking columns, I've inserted `center` and `minipage` environments using `\priorDirMatter`, and closed them with `\afterDirMatter`, in lines (1) and (2). In line (3), I set the space between the directory name and the beginning of the lists to `Opt`. In lines (4)–(5), I set some `multicol` parameters; adjusting the separation between the text before and `multicols`. In lines (6)–(7), we begin the `multicols` environment. Finally, we add an item to the directory list.

3. Boxing in the Directory

Other things can be done to the directory, if you are knowledgeable enough on \TeX and on the controls provided; for example, place a color rule box around the directory:

Directory

- **Table of Contents**
- **Begin Article**

The code for the above directory box is

```
1 \directoryhook{%  
2     \begin{center}  
3     \setlength{\topsep}{0pt}%  
4     \fcolorbox{red}{webyellow}{%  
5     \parbox{.4\linewidth}{#1}}%  
6     \end{center}  
7 }
```

Here, I have used another command `\directoryhook`. This command operates on the directory as a whole. The parameter `#1` gets replaced by `\webdirectory`, which is the internal name for the directory. I've set, in line (3), `\topsep` to `0pt` to get a tighter fit of the color box around the `\parbox`.

The other stuff you see in the source file are commands necessary to display the directory out of its natural environment, namely, the title page. If you place the `\directoryhook` code in the preamble, what you'll get is what you see above. Notice, too, that I've centered the color box as well.

Now, back to my retirement.