

# The centernot package

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## Abstract

This package provides `\centernot` that prints the symbol `\not` on the following argument. Unlike `\not` the symbol is horizontally centered.

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## 1 User interface

If a negated relational symbol is not available, `\not` can be used to create the negated variant of the relational symbol. The disadvantage of `\not` is that it is put at a fixed location regardless of the width of the relational symbol. Therefore `\centernot` takes an argument and measures its width to achieve a better placement of the symbol `\not`. Examples:

symbol	<code>\not</code>	<code>\centernot</code>	
=	≠	≠	(definition)
<code>\parallel</code>	∦	∥	
<code>\longrightarrow</code>	↗	↘	

But do not forget that most negated symbols are already available, e.g.:

---

\*Please report any issues at <https://github.com/ho-tex/oberdiek/issues>

case	package	code	result
$\backslash$ parallel:	centernot	$\$A \backslash$ centernot $\backslash$ parallel B $\$$	$A \not\parallel B$
	amssymb	$\$A \backslash$ nparallel B $\$$	$A \not\parallel B$
$\backslash$ mid:	centernot	$\$A \backslash$ centernot $\backslash$ mid B $\$$	$A \not\mid B$
	amssymb	$\$A \backslash$ nmid B $\$$	$A \not\mid B$
	mathabx	$\$A \backslash$ notdivides B $\$$	$A \not\mid B$
$\backslash$ rightarrow:	centernot	$\$A \backslash$ centernot $\backslash$ rightarrow B $\$$	$A \not\rightarrow B$
	amssymb	$\$A \backslash$ nrightarrow B $\$$	$A \rightarrow B$
	mathabx	$\$A \backslash$ nrightarrow B $\$$	$A \rightarrow B$

## 2 Implementation

```

1 (*package)
2 \NeedsTeXFormat{LaTeX2e}
3 \ProvidesPackage{centernot}
4 [2016/05/16 v1.4 Centers the not symbol horizontally (HO)]%

```

$\backslash$ not is a  $\backslash$ mathrel atom with zero width. It prints itself outside its character box, similar to  $\backslash$ rlap. The next  $\backslash$ mathrel symbol is then print on top of it. T<sub>E</sub>X does not add space between two  $\backslash$ mathrel atoms. The following implementation assumes that the math font is designed in such a way that the position of  $\backslash$ not fits well on the equal symbol.

The blue boxes marks the character bounding boxes seen by T<sub>E</sub>X:

$\backslash$ not    =     $\backslash$ not=

$\backslash$ centernot  $\backslash$ centernot is not a symbol but a macro that takes one argument. It measures the width of the argument and places  $\backslash$ not horizontally centered on that argument. The result is a  $\backslash$ mathrel atom.

```

5 \newcommand*{\centernot}{%
6   \mathpalette\@centernot
7 }
8 \def\@centernot#1#2{%
9   \mathrel{%
10    \rlap{%
11      \settowidth\dimen@{\$m@th#1{#2}$}%
12      \kern.5\dimen@
13      \settowidth\dimen@{\$m@th#1=$}%
14      \kern-.5\dimen@
15      \$m@th#1\not$%
16    }%
17    {#2}%
18  }%
19 }
20 </package>

```

## 3 Installation

### 3.1 Download

**Package.** This package is available on CTAN<sup>1</sup>:

[CTAN:macros/latex/contrib/oberdiek/centernot.dtx](https://ctan.org/ctan/packages/macros/latex/contrib/oberdiek/centernot.dtx) The source file.

[CTAN:macros/latex/contrib/oberdiek/centernot.pdf](https://ctan.org/ctan/packages/macros/latex/contrib/oberdiek/centernot.pdf) Documentation.

<sup>1</sup>[CTAN:pkg/centernot](https://ctan.org/ctan/packages/pkg/centernot)

**Bundle.** All the packages of the bundle ‘oberdiek’ are also available in a TDS compliant ZIP archive. There the packages are already unpacked and the documentation files are generated. The files and directories obey the TDS standard.

[CTAN:install/macros/latex/contrib/oberdiek.tds.zip](#)

*TDS* refers to the standard “A Directory Structure for T<sub>E</sub>X Files” ([CTAN:pkg/tds](#)). Directories with `texmf` in their name are usually organized this way.

## 3.2 Bundle installation

**Unpacking.** Unpack the `oberdiek.tds.zip` in the TDS tree (also known as `texmf` tree) of your choice. Example (linux):

```
unzip oberdiek.tds.zip -d ~/texmf
```

## 3.3 Package installation

**Unpacking.** The `.dtx` file is a self-extracting `docstrip` archive. The files are extracted by running the `.dtx` through plain T<sub>E</sub>X:

```
tex centernot.dtx
```

**TDS.** Now the different files must be moved into the different directories in your installation TDS tree (also known as `texmf` tree):

```
centernot.sty → tex/latex/oberdiek/centernot.sty
centernot.pdf → doc/latex/oberdiek/centernot.pdf
centernot.dtx → source/latex/oberdiek/centernot.dtx
```

If you have a `docstrip.cfg` that configures and enables `docstrip`’s TDS installing feature, then some files can already be in the right place, see the documentation of `docstrip`.

## 3.4 Refresh file name databases

If your T<sub>E</sub>X distribution (T<sub>E</sub>X Live, MiK<sub>T</sub>E<sub>X</sub>, ...) relies on file name databases, you must refresh these. For example, T<sub>E</sub>X Live users run `texhash` or `mktexlsr`.

## 3.5 Some details for the interested

**Unpacking with L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.** The `.dtx` chooses its action depending on the format:

**plain T<sub>E</sub>X:** Run `docstrip` and extract the files.

**L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X:** Generate the documentation.

If you insist on using L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X for `docstrip` (really, `docstrip` does not need L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X), then inform the `autodetect` routine about your intention:

```
latex \let\install=y\input{centernot.dtx}
```

Do not forget to quote the argument according to the demands of your shell.

**Generating the documentation.** You can use both the `.dtx` or the `.drv` to generate the documentation. The process can be configured by the configuration file `ltxdoc.cfg`. For instance, put this line into this file, if you want to have A4 as paper format:

```
\PassOptionsToClass{a4paper}{article}
```

An example follows how to generate the documentation with pdfL<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X:

```
pdflatex centernot.dtx
makeindex -s gind.ist centernot.idx
pdflatex centernot.dtx
makeindex -s gind.ist centernot.idx
pdflatex centernot.dtx
```

## 4 History

[2006/12/02 v1.0]

- First version.

[2007/05/31 v1.1]

- Real symbols added in documentation part.

[2010/03/29 v1.2]

- Documentation fix: ‘negotiated’ to ‘negated’ (Hartmut Henkel).

[2011/07/11 v1.3]

- Superfluous `\makeatother` removed (Martin Münch).

[2016/05/16 v1.4]

- Documentation updates.

## 5 Index

Numbers written in *italic* refer to the page where the corresponding entry is described; numbers underlined refer to the code line of the definition; plain numbers refer to the code lines where the entry is used.

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