

# Preparing LaTeX manuscripts for ESA journals

## Font size

A 12pt font size can be specified in the `documentclass` statement in the document preamble:

```
\documentclass[12pt,english]{article}
```

## Set margins and page size

Margins (1 inch or 2.54 cm) and paper size (letter) can be specified using the `geometry` statement in the preamble:

```
\geometry{verbose,letterpaper,tmargin=2.54cm,bmargin=2.54cm,lmargin=2.54cm,rmargin=2.54cm}
```

## Specify double spacing

Default double spacing in LaTeX is roughly four lines per inch. To specify double spacing at three lines per inch (12 lines/10 cm), first include the `setspace` package in the preamble:

```
\usepackage{setspace}
```

Then, define the spacing within the manuscript text (between the `\begin{document}` and `\end{document}` statements):

```
\begin{document}
\begin{spacing}{1.9}
  (...text...)
\end{spacing}
\end{document}
```

## Add line numbering

Line numbering can be incorporated by using the `lineno` package. Add these statements in the preamble:

```
\usepackage{lineno}
\linenumbers
```

## Left-justify the text

By default the text will be justified on both sides. Once the command `\geometry{...}` is added, another command is needed for the justification of the text to the left side:

```
\begin{flushleft}
  (...text...)
\end{flushleft}
```