

**Demonstrating using
ms macros
for a slideshow**

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1. **The Basics**

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Using *ms* to write a presentation slideshow is easy.

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1.1. Configure the paper size

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1.1. Configure the paper size

```
.pl 9c  
.nr PO 1c  
.nr LL 14c  
.nr LT 14c  
.nr HM 1c  
.nr FM .5c  
.RP no  
.P1  
.nop \!x X papersize=16c,9c
```

The final command sets the pdf page size, suitable for a 16:9 ratio screen.

1.2. Specify the presentation transitions

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```
.pdftransition PAGE Box .5 . 0  
.pdftransition BLOCK Wipe 1
```

A description of the allowed parameters is in the [gropdf\(1\)](#) man page. The parameters applied to **PAGE** are used when the transition is to a new slide, and **BLOCK** sets the transition for any separate blocks in the slide.

Note: Not all possible transitions are supported by every PDF reader.

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1.3. Use Blocks

A Block is a portion of the slide which you want to appear separately on the screen when you click the mouse or press the space bar. After the text which you want to appear simply insert a pause:-

```
.pdfpause
```

1.4. Printing the slides

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If the presentation contains blocks it may be difficult to print the slides in a format so they may be given as a handout. The solution is to define GROPDF_NOSLIDE as true before invoking groff:-

```
GROPDF_NOSLIDE=1 groff -Tpdf -ms filename.ms > filename.pdf
```

The pdf file produced will not be in presentation mode so can be printed normally but you may need to select 'scale to fit' and 'landscape' to fit the actual paper size.

2. Other PDF considerations

1.4. Printing the slides

If the presentation contains blocks it may be difficult to print the slides in a format so they may be given as a handout. The solution is to define `GROPDF_NOSLIDE` as true before invoking `groff`:-

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```

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2. Other PDF considerations

This demo has other features which take advantage of calls to the `gropdf` device which may be useful.

2.1. PDF overview and clickable TOC

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I included a custom .HEAD macro which creates a heading, adds it to the overview panel in the pdf reader, adds a clickable link in the TOC and pauses:-

```
.de HEAD
.  NH \\$1
.  shift
\\m[pdf:href.colour]\\$*\\m[ ]
.  fl
.  pdfbookmark -T bm\\n+[bm] \\n[nh*h1] \\*[SN-STYLE] \\$*
.  XS \\n[%]
.  pdfhref L -D bm\\n[bm] -- \\*[SN-STYLE] \\$*
.  XE
.  pdfpause
..
```

It should be called as:

```
.HEAD 2 PDF overview and clickable TOC
```

2.2. Move TOC to page after TITLE

It should be called as:

```
.HEAD 2 PDF overview and clickable TOC
```

2.2. Move TOC to page after TITLE

First insert the following just before the `.TL` section at the top of the file.

```
.pdfpagename TITLE
```

Then insert these lines at the end of your `ms` file:-

```
.pdfswitchtopage after TITLE  
.TC
```