Defining Old Font Commands

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The package defines the old font commands \rm, \sf, \tt, \bf, \it, and \sc that became obsolete with \LaTeX{} 2ε and has been removed from the \LaTeX{} kernel. It also defines the old KOMA-Script font command \sfb. It can be useful if you use a class like the KOMA-Script classes, which do not define the old commands by default, and also an old \BibTeX{} style or package, that depends on these commands. However, it should be seen as an emergency workaround rather than a solution.

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1 What are the possible reasons for using package defoldfonts and how to do it?

\rm With \LaTeX{} 2ε in 1994 the font commands of \LaTeX{} 2.09 became obsolete. These are not longer defined in the \LaTeX{} kernel. Instead of them, you should use \rmfamily resp. \textrm.

\sf \texttt, \textsf, \textttfamily resp. \textsf, \textit, \textbf, \textttfamily resp. \texttt, \textbf, \textttfamily resp. \texttt, \textbf. The old KOMA-Script command \sfb should be replaced by a combination of \textsf and \textbf resp. \sfc and \textbf. But unfortunately not only some old \BibTeX{} styles but even some packages still use these obsolete commands. The standard classes therefore still define them.

\sfc The KOMA-Script classes also define them, but only to show an error message like:

Class scrartcl Error: undefined old font command ‘\bf’.

See the scrartcl class documentation for explanation.

Type \texttt{H} <return> for immediate help.

...
Within an interactive \LaTeX run you can get some more information typing `H' and pressing the return key:

You should note that since 1994 \LaTeXe provides a new font selection scheme called NFSS2 with several new, combinable font commands. KOMA-Script classes had defined the old font commands like `\bf' only for compatibility with old \LaTeX 2.09 document styles of Script 2.0. Nevertheless, these commands are deprecated and undocumented at least since 2003. Since 2013 KOMA-Script classes warned about soon removal of these deprecated commands. Now, after two decades of \LaTeXe and NFSS2, these commands will not work any more. If loading a package results in this error message, you should contact the author of that package and ask him to replace the deprecated font command `\bf', e.g., by `\normalfont \bfseries'. Otherwise you should reconfigure or replace the package. If you have used the old font command `\bf' yourself, you should replace it, e.g., by `\normalfont \bfseries'. To make it work for now, you can use the already also deprecated class option `enabledeprecatedfontcommands'.

So to fix the issue, you could load the class with option `enabledeprecatedfontcommands'. But because this option is also deprecated, this would result in warning messages like:

```
Class scrartcl Warning: deprecated option `enabledeprecatedfontcommands'.
```

```
Class scrartcl Warning: deprecated old font command `\bf' used.
```

and:

```
Class scrartcl Warning: deprecated option `enabledeprecatedfontcommands'.
```

```
Class scrartcl Warning: deprecated old font command `\bf' used.
```

You should note that since 1994 \LaTeXe provides a new font selection scheme called NFSS2 with several new, combinable font commands. New KOMA-Script classes defined the old font commands like `\bf' only for compatibility with \LaTeX 2.09 document styles of Script 2.0. These commands are deprecated and undocumented at least since 2003. Since 2013, KOMA-Script classes warned about soon removal of these deprecated commands. Now, after two decades of \LaTeXe, NFSS2, and KOMA-Script these commands will not work any longer. If loading a package results in this message you should contact the author of that package and ask him to replace the deprecated font command `\bf', e.g., by `\normalfont \bfseries'. Otherwise you should reconfigure or replace the package. If you have used the old font command `\bf' yourself you should replace it, e.g., by `\normalfont \bfseries' on input line ....
As an alternative you can load package defoldfonts.

The package should be loaded in the preamble using:

\usepackage{defoldfonts}

Usually the order of defoldfonts and other packages is irrelevant.

2 Implementation

\ProcessOptions\relax
\rm
\sf
\tt
\bf
\it
\sl
\sc
\sfb
\sf
\tt
\bf
\it
\sl
\sc
\sfb

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

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Change History

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General: start of KOMA-Script spin-off 1