

Package **unhook** v. 1.0 Implementation

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September 2026

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Overview

The **unhook** package disables various $\text{\LaTeX}$ features to improve tracing. It is intended for $\text{\LaTeX} 2_{\epsilon}$ package developers to make debugging easier, and you should not load it for any other purpose because it breaks a lot of things. The package file is `unhook.tex`, so you should input it directly instead of calling `\usepackage`.

This file documents the code for the **unhook** package. It is not a user guide! For discussion of how **unhook** works and how to load it, see `unhook-user-guide.pdf`, which is included with the **unhook** installation and is available on CTAN. I believe the $\text{\LaTeX}$ team incorporated $\text{\LaTeX} 3$ into the kernel in August 2020, so developers probably won't gain anything when using **unhook** with an earlier $\text{\LaTeX}$ format. (But you should not be using a $\text{\TeX}$ distribution that is that old anyway.) We're skipping package declaration because we're not allowing users to load **unhook** with `\usepackage`, so it is a good idea to start with a check of the format. The first 59 lines of `unhook.tex` are comments. Before anything else, we save and set the catcode of `\%` to 14 in case we're loading the file in a situation where the catcode is something else, e.g. while using `docstrip`.

```
60 \edef\temp{\number\catcode`\%}
61 \catcode`\%=14\relax
62 \ifx\LaTeX\undefined
63   \begingroup
64   \newlinechar=``^^J
65   \errhelp{The file unhook.tex is for use with the LaTeX^^J%
66           format. I'm guessing you're using plain TeX,^^J%
67           in which case there's no point loading it, so^^J%
68           I'm going to stop reading it in. To resolve^^J%
69           this error, typeset your document with LaTeX.^^J}
```

We need an error message if **unhook** can't detect $\text{\LaTeX}$. This next code is based on `lterror.dtx` and incorporates what the documentation describes as a “horrible hack,” which I think is actually ingenious, to make an error message that looks like $\text{\LaTeX}$ errors, i.e. it ends in a line containing `\%` followed by a blank line. When $\text{\TeX}$ encounters `\errmessage`, it prints the argument of the control sequence on the terminal. If the `\errmessage` command appears inside a macro, $\text{\TeX}$ then prints the definition of the macro up to `\errmessage` on one line followed by any remaining portion of the macro definition on the next line. $\text{\TeX}$ may shorten this text by replacing some of it with an ellipsis. It follows that

1. If the macro name is stored internally as a space, the line with the macro definition will begin with a space followed by `\%` followed by a blank line.
2. If the final characters of `\errmessage` and the closing brace are stored internally as spaces, then the line with the macro definition will contain nothing after the `\%` followed by a blank line.
3. If `\errmessage` appears last in the macro, $\text{\TeX}$ will include a blank line after the error.

Warning! This package deliberately breaks certain functionality. Use only for debugging.

We can achieve these three conditions by (a) defining the error using ~; (b) using `\lccode` to turn ~ and } into a space; and (c) ending the `\errmessage` with a macro whose name ends in a large number of space characters and that expands to nothing. Inside `\errmessage`, the actual error message doesn't show the control sequence because it expands when `TEX` prints the message, and `TEX` doesn't show anything after the ... because all final characters of the definition of ~ are stored in memory as spaces.

```
70 \catcode`\~=13\relax
71 \lccode`\~=`\ %
72 \lccode`\}=`\ %
```

We set other `\lccode`'s so that `\lowercase` doesn't mess up the text of our error message.

```
73 \lccode`\P=`\P% Package
74 \lccode`\N=`\N% Needs
75 \lccode`\L=`\L% LaTeX
76 \lccode`\T=`\T%
77 \lccode`\X=`\X%
78 \lccode`\S=`\S% See
79 % \lccode`\T=`\T% Type (commented because we already did T)
80 \lccode`\H=`\H% H
81 \catcode`\ =11%
82 \def% |<---- These spaces are part of the control sequence name ---->|
83 \empty %
84 {}%
85 \lowercase{%
86 \def~{\errmessage{^^J^^JPackage unhook error: Needs LaTeX format^^J^^J%
87 See the unhook package documentation for explanation.^^J%
88 Type H<return> for immediate help%
89 \empty %
90 }}~%
```

Brace that matches `\lowercase{` appears on its own line so that the most recent line that `TEX` has scanned contains minimal text. This means `TEX` will print minimal extra text after the error message.

```
91 }
92 \endgroup
93 \expandafter\endinput % balance the conditional before \endinput
94 \fi
```

Now check that @ has catcode 11. If no, stop loading the package and print a warning message. We could change the catcode ourselves, but if we don't, it serves as a check to prevent casual users from loading the file. If someone needs to use this package, they will understand what to do without further explanation. Yes, I am deliberately making it inaccessible to load the package—if you are persistent enough to get this far and don't understand what's happening, feel free to email me, and I will explain in detail.

```
95 \ifnum\catcode`\@=11\relax
96 \else
```

Scan past the end of `\PackageError` so that minimal extra text (just a }) gets printed with the error message.

```

97   \csname @firstofone\endcsname{%
98   \PackageError{unhook}{Wrong catcode for @}
99   {The catcode of @ needs to be 11 when you load unhook.tex.^^J%
100   I'm going to stop reading in the package file now.^^J}}
101 }
102 \expandafter\endinput % balance the conditional before \endinput
103 \fi

```

Reset the primitives `\@@par`, `\everypar`, and `\shipout`. We reset `\@@par` because this is traditionally how the L^AT_EX kernel stores `\par`. We are assuming that if the L^AT_EX3 names of these primitives don't exist, then we don't need to restore the original control sequences.

```

104 \ifcsname tex_par:D\endcsname
105   \expandafter\let\expandafter\@@par\csname tex_par:D\endcsname
106 \fi
107 \ifcsname tex_everypar:D\endcsname
108   \expandafter\let\expandafter\everypar\csname tex_everypar:D\endcsname
109   \everypar{}
110 \fi
111 \ifcsname tex_shipout:D\endcsname
112   \expandafter\let\expandafter\shipout\csname tex_shipout:D\endcsname
113 \fi

```

More `\par` resetting. The kernel expects `\par` to be the same as `\@@par` by default, and `\endgraf` is a synonym for `\par`.

```

114 \let\par\@@par
115 \let\endgraf\@@par

```

Supporting macro that checks if the next token is `[` and gobbles an optional argument if yes.

```

116 \def\unhook@n@opt[#1]{%
117 \def\unhook@noopt{\ifnextchar[\unhook@n@opt\relax}

```

We disable some of the code for using hooks.

```

118 \protected\def\UseHook#1{%

```

The `WithArguments` hooks are harder because they have a variable number of arguments. We need to gobble the first argument, then process the second argument, which should be a number, and then remove that many arguments from the input stream.

```

119 \def\unhook@gobblex#1{%
120   \count@=\numexpr#1\relax

```

If the number of arguments is non-positive, we assume that means zero arguments, in which case we have nothing to do. Otherwise, we have to remove arguments from the input stream. If the user requested more than 9 arguments, raise an error and cap the request at 9.

```

121   \ifnum\count@>0\relax
122     \ifnum\count@>9\relax
123       \@latex@error{Hook limited to 9 arguments}\@ehc
124       \count@=9\relax
125   \fi

```

The next few lines get a bit wild. We are using parameter arguments to change the parameter specification of `\@tempa` from `#1#2#3#4#5#6#7#8#9` to only `\count@` arguments. Here is the

value of `\@tempa` immediately after each of the next three lines, where $\langle number \rangle$ is the value of `#1`:

1. `->####1<number>####2`
2. `#1<number>#2\@nil->#1<number>`
3. `#1#2...#<number>->`

In the third line below, the application of `\@tempa` yields

```
#1<-\def\@tempa##1 ... ##<number - 1>##
#2<-##<number + 1> ... ##9\@nil
```

so we end up with `\def\@tempa` followed by the correct number of parameters.

```
126 \edef\@tempa{####1\the\count@####2}%
127 \expandafter\edef\expandafter\@tempa\@tempa\@nil{##1\the\count@}%
128 \@tempa\def\@tempa##1##2##3##4##5##6##7##8##9\@nil{}%
```

Now we are ready to gobble from the input stream.

```
129 \expandafter\@tempa
130 \fi}
```

We can use this macro to disable the commands for using hook with arguments.

```
131 \protected\def\UseHookWithArguments#1{\unhook@gobblex}
132 \protected\def\UseOneTimeHookWithArguments#1{\unhook@gobblex}
```

Also disable code for modifying hooks.

```
133 \protected\def\AddToHook#1{\expandafter\@gobble\unhook@noopt}
134 \protected\def\AddToHookWithArguments#1{\expandafter\@gobble\unhook@noopt}
135 \protected\def\RemoveFromHook#1{\unhook@noopt}
136 \protected\def\AddToHookNext#1#2{}
137 \protected\def\AddToHookNextWithArguments#1#2{}
138 \protected\def\ClearHookNext#1{}
139 \protected\def\PushDefaultHookLabel#1\PopDefaultHookLabel{}
140 \protected\def\SetDefaultHookLabel#1{}
```

When I've seen `\IfHookEmptyTF`, it has come after `\romannumeral` to force expansion. If `\romannumeral` appears right before `\IfHookEmptyTF`, we want it to expand to 0 (or something negative) to satisfy `\romannumeral` and make it disappear. I believe this is the purpose of `\exp_end:`, which is defined as `\char"0` and appears in the original definitions of these macros.

```
141 \def\IfHookEmptyTF#1#2#3{0\relax}
142 \def\IfHookEmptyT#1#2{0\relax}
143 \def\IfHookEmptyF#1#2{0\relax}
```

Disable some of the code for using sockets.

```
144 \protected\def\UseSocket#1{}
145 \protected\def\UseTaggingSocket#1{}
```

I'm assuming it is the same situation for the checks of sockets.

```
146 \def\IfSocketExistsTF#1#2#3{0\relax}
147 \def\IfSocketPlugExistsTF#1#2#3#4{0\relax}
148 \def\IfSocketPlugAssignedTF#1#2#3#4{0\relax}
```

As far as I can tell, all the material for the beginning of the document gets stored in `\__hook_toplevel_begindocument`. We redefine `\UseOneTimeHook` to call this macro in place of processing the `begindocument` hook name and similarly for `enddocument`. For any other hook name, the macro gobbles its argument. We implement this approach by making `\@tempa` be `\relax` unless we're at the beginning or end of the document, in which case it holds the material from the hook.

```

149 \protected\def\UseOneTimeHook#1{%
150   \let\@tempa\relax
151   \def\@tempb{#1}%
152   \def\@tempc{begindocument}%
153   \ifx\@tempb\@tempc
154     \expandafter\let\expandafter\@tempa
155       \csname __hook_toplevel_begindocument\endcsname
156   \else
157     \def\@tempc{enddocument}%
158     \ifx\@tempb\@tempc
159       \expandafter\let\expandafter\@tempa
160         \csname __hook_toplevel_enddocument\endcsname
161     \fi
162   \fi
163   \@tempa}

```

We redefine `\AtBeginDocument` to append code to `\__hook_toplevel_begindocument`. This macro is global in the kernel, so we use `\xdef` when we redefine it. If the macro does not exist, we do not redefine it because that could mess up another implementation of `\AtBeginDocument`.

```

164 \ifcsname __hook_toplevel_begindocument\endcsname
165   \protected\def\AtBeginDocument#1{%
166     \bgroup
167     \toks\expandafter\expandafter\expandafter{%
168       \csname __hook_toplevel_begindocument\endcsname}%
169     \@temptokena{#1}%
170     \expandafter\xdef
171       \csname __hook_toplevel_begindocument\endcsname{%
172       \the\toks@\the\@temptokena}%
173     \egroup}
174 \fi

```

And do `\AtEndDocument`.

```

175 \ifcsname __hook_toplevel_enddocument\endcsname
176   \protected\def\AtEndDocument#1{%
177     \bgroup
178     \toks\expandafter\expandafter\expandafter{%
179       \csname __hook_toplevel_enddocument\endcsname}%
180     \@temptokena{#1}%
181     \expandafter\xdef
182       \csname __hook_toplevel_enddocument\endcsname{%
183       \the\toks@\the\@temptokena}%

```

```
184 \egroup}
185 \fi
```

If the next few commands are undefined, letting them `\relax` or `\@gobble` their argument shouldn't be a problem.

```
186 \let\@expl@sys@load@backend@@ \relax
187 \let\@kernel@before@begindocument \relax
188 \let\@kernel@after@begindocument \relax
189 \let\@kernel@after@begindocument@before \relax
190 \let\@kernel@before@enddocument \relax
191 \let\@kernel@after@enddocument \relax
192 \let\@kernel@before@enddocument@afterlastpage \relax
193 \let\@kernel@after@enddocument@afterlastpage \relax
194 \let\@kernel@before@para@before \relax
195 \let\@kernel@before@para@begin \relax
196 \let\@kernel@after@para@after \relax
197 \let\@kernel@after@para@end \relax
198 \let\@execute@begin@hook \@gobble
```

We also need to restore a small piece of the output routine.

```
199 \def\@opcol{%
200   \if@twocolumn
201     \@outputdblcol
202   \else
203     \@outputpage
204   %\global\@colht\textheight
205   \fi
206   \global\@mparbottom\z@
207   \global\@textfloatsheight\z@
208   \@floatplacement}
```

The rest of the code here is from an older version of `ltfiles.dtx`. We start with `\@iinput`, which is from the $\text{\LaTeX}$ version of `\input` when followed by a square bracket.

```
209 \def\@iinput#1{%
210   \InputIfFileExists{#1}{}%
211   {\filename@parse{#1}%
212    \edef\reserved@a{\noexpand\@missingfileerror
213     {\filename@area\filename@base}%
214     {\ifx\filename@ext\relax tex\else\filename@ext\fi}}%
215    \reserved@a}}
```

The next two macros are the “safe” file-loading commands.

```
216 \long\def\InputIfFileExists#1#2{%
217   \IfFileExists{#1}%
218   {#2\@addtofilelist{#1}\@input\@filef@und}}
219 \long\def\IfFileExists#1#2#3{%
220   \openin\@inputcheck#1 %
221   \ifeof\@inputcheck
222     \ifx\input@path\@undefined
223       \def\reserved@a{#3}%

```

```

224     \else
225       \def\reserved@a{\@iffileonpath{#1}{#2}{#3}}%
226     \fi
227   \else
228     \closein\@inputcheck
229     \edef\@filef@und{#1 }%
230     \def\reserved@a{#2}%
231   \fi
232   \reserved@a}

```

Macro for handling file paths.

```

233 \long\def\@iffileonpath#1{%
234   \let\reserved@a\@secondoftwo
235   \expandafter\@tfor\expandafter\reserved@b\expandafter
236     :\expandafter=\input@path\do{%
237     \openin\@inputcheck\reserved@b#1 %
238     \ifeof\@inputcheck\else
239       \edef\@filef@und{\reserved@b#1 }%
240       \let\reserved@a\@firstoftwo%
241       \closein\@inputcheck
242       \@break@tfor
243     \fi}%
244   \reserved@a}

```

The next three macros are for loading package and class files and handling their options.

```

245 \def\@fileswith@ptions#1[#2]#3[#4]{%
246   \ifx#1\@clsextension
247     \ifx\@classoptionslist\relax
248       \xdef\@classoptionslist{\zap@space#2 \@empty}%
249       \def\reserved@a{%
250         \@onefilewithoptions#3[#{#2}][#{#4}]#1%
251         \@documentclasshook}%
252     \else
253       \def\reserved@a{%
254         \@onefilewithoptions#3[#{#2}][#{#4}]#1}%
255     \fi
256   \else
257     \def\reserved@b##1,{%
258       \ifx\@nnil##1\relax
259       \else
260         \ifx\@nnil##1\@nnil
261         \else
262           \noexpand\@onefilewithoptions##1[#{#2}][#{#4}]%
263           \noexpand\@pkgextension
264         \fi
265         \expandafter\reserved@b
266       \fi}%
267     \edef\reserved@a{\zap@space#3 \@empty}%
268     \edef\reserved@a{\expandafter\reserved@b\reserved@a,\@nnil,}%

```

```

269 \fi
270 \reserved@a}
271 \let\@@fileswith@ptions\@fileswith@ptions
272 \def\@onefilewithoptions#1[#2][#3]#4{%
273 \@pushfilename
274 \xdef\@currname{#1}%
275 \global\let\@currentx#4%
276 \expandafter\let\csname\@currname.\@currentx-h@@k\endcsname\@empty
277 \let\CurrentOption\@empty
278 \@reset@ptions
279 \makeatletter
280 \def\reserved@a{%
281 \@ifl@aded\@currentx{#1}%
282 {\@if@ptions\@currentx{#1}{#2}{}}%
283 {\@latex@error
284 {Option clash for \@cls@pkg\space #1}%
285 {The package #1 has already been loaded
286 with options:\MessageBreak
287 \space\space[\@optionlist{#1.\@currentx}]\MessageBreak
288 There has now been an attempt to load it
289 with options:\MessageBreak
290 \space\space[#2]\MessageBreak
291 Adding the global options:\MessageBreak
292 \space\space\@optionlist{#1.\@currentx},#2\MessageBreak
293 to your \noexpand\documentclass declaration may fix this.%
294 \MessageBreak
295 Try typing \space <return> \space to proceed.}}}%
296 {\@pass@ptions\@currentx{#2}{#1}%
297 \global\expandafter
298 \let\csname ver@\@currname.\@currentx\endcsname\@empty
299 \InputIfFileExists
300 {\@currname.\@currentx}%
301 {}%
302 {\@missingfileerror\@currname\@currentx}%
303 \let\@unprocessedoptions\@unprocessedoptions
304 \csname\@currname.\@currentx-h@@k\endcsname
305 \expandafter\let\csname\@currname.\@currentx-h@@k\endcsname\@undefined
306 \@unprocessedoptions}
307 \@ifl@ter\@currentx{#1}{#3}{}%
308 {\@latex@warning@no@line
309 {You have requested,\on@line,
310 version\MessageBreak
311 `#3' of \@cls@pkg\space #1,\MessageBreak
312 but only version\MessageBreak
313 ` \csname ver@#1.\@currentx\endcsname'\MessageBreak
314 is available}}}%
315 \ifx\@currentx\@clsextension\let\LoadClass\@twoloadclasserror\fi

```

```
316 \popfilename
317 \resetoptions}%
318 \reserved@a}
```

Macro for passing options to a class or package file.

```
319 \def\@passoptions#1#2#3{%
320 \expandafter\xdef\csname opt@#3.#1\endcsname{%
321 \@ifundefined{opt@#3.#1}\@empty
322 {\csname opt@#3.#1\endcsname,}%
323 \zap@space#2 \@empty}}
```

The last three macros are for handling the filename stack.

```
324 \def\@pushfilename{%
325 \xdef\@currnamestack{%
326 {\@currname}%
327 {\@currentx}%
328 {\the\catcode`\@}%
329 \@currnamestack}}
330 \def\@popfilename{\expandafter\@p@pfilename\@currnamestack\@nil}
331 \def\@p@pfilename#1#2#3#4\@nil{%
332 \gdef\@currname{#1}%
333 \gdef\@currentx{#2}%
334 \catcode`\@#3\relax
335 \gdef\@currnamestack{#4}}
```

And reset %

```
336 \catcode`\%=\temp\relax
```

Finished!

Version History

New features and updates with each version. Listed in no particular order.

1.0 September 2026
—initial release