

Produce an *unordered list*, sometimes called a bullet list. There must be at least one `\item` within the environment; having none causes the L^AT_EX error ‘Something’s wrong--perhaps a missing `\item`’.

This gives a two-item list.

```
\begin{itemize}
  \item Pencil and watercolor sketch by Cassandra
  \item Rice portrait
\end{itemize}
```

With the default locale—without loading e.g. `babel` package with another language than USenglish—as a top-level list each label would come out as a bullet, **•**. The format of the labeling depends on the nesting level; see below.

Start list items with the `\item` command (see Section 8.16.1 [`\item`], page 66). If you give `\item` an optional argument by following it with square brackets, as in `\item[Optional label]`, then by default *Optional label* will appear in bold and be flush right, so it could extend into the left margin. For labels that are flush left see the Section 8.4 [`description`], page 52, environment. Following the `\item` is the text of the item, which may be empty or contain multiple paragraphs.

Unordered lists can be nested within one another, up to four levels deep. They can also be nested within other paragraph-making environments, such as `enumerate` (see Section 8.7 [`enumerate`], page 54).

The `itemize` environment uses the commands `\labelitemi` through `\labelitemiv` to produce the default label (note the convention of lowercase roman numerals at the end of the command names that signify the nesting level). These are the default marks at each level.

1. **•** (bullet, from `\textbullet`)
2. **--** (bold en-dash, from `\normalfont\bfseries\textendash`)
3. ***** (asterisk, from `\textasteriskcentered`)
4. **.** (vertically centered dot, from `\textperiodcentered`)

Change the labels with `\renewcommand`. For instance, this makes the first level use diamonds.

```
\renewcommand{\labelitemi}{\diamond}
```

The distance between the left margin of the enclosing environment and the left margin of the `itemize` list is determined by the parameters `\leftmargini` through `\leftmarginiv`. (This also uses the convention of using lowercase roman numerals at the end of the command name to denote the nesting level.) The defaults are: 2.5em in level 1 (2em in two-column mode), 2.2em in level 2, 1.87em in level 3, and 1.7em in level 4, with smaller values for more deeply nested levels.

For other major L^AT_EX labeled list environments, see Section 8.4 [`description`], page 52, and Section 8.7 [`enumerate`], page 54. The `itemize`, `enumerate` and `description` environment use the same list layout parameters. For a description, including the default values, and for information about customizing list layout, see Section 8.16 [`list`], page 62. The package `enumitem` is useful for customizing lists.

This example greatly reduces the margin space for outermost itemized lists.

```
\setlength{\leftmargini}{1.25em} % default 2.5em
```