

The **fgruler** package

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1 Introduction

The **fgruler** is an abbreviation for the *foreground ruler*. This package draws a horizontal and a vertical ruler on the foreground of every (or a given) page at absolute position. In this way, you can check the page layout dimensions.

Besides, you can draw various rulers in the text, too.

The **fgruler** package requires the services of the following packages: `kvoptions`, `etoolbox`, `xcolor`, `graphicx`, `eso-pic`.

2 Loading package

Load the package with

```
\usepackage[<options>]{fgruler}
```

or

```
\usepackage{fgruler}
\setfgruler{<options>}
```

The `\setfgruler` command is usable in the `document` environment, too.

3 Options

By default, the **fgruler** package draws a square ruler on the foreground of every page. The following package options set the parameters of these rulers.

`unit=<unit>`

Ruler unit. The `<unit>` legal values:

`cm` Metric ruler (centimeter). Default value.

`in` English ruler (inch).

`type=<type name>`

Origin, directions and lengths of the ruler. The `<type name>` legal values:

`upperleft` Default value. Origin: upper left corner of the paper. Directions: down and right. Lengths: paper sizes.

`upperright` Origin: upper right corner of the paper. Directions: down and left. Lengths: paper sizes.

`lowerleft` Origin: lower left corner of the paper. Directions: up and right. Lengths: paper sizes.

`lowerright` Origin: lower right corner of the paper. Directions: up and left. Lengths: paper sizes.

upperleftT Origin: upper left corner of the text area. Directions: down and right. Lengths: text area sizes.

upperrightT Origin: upper right corner of the text area. Directions: down and left. Lengths: text area sizes.

lowerleftT Origin: lower left corner of the text area. Directions: up and right. Lengths: text area sizes.

lowerrightT Origin: lower right corner of the text area. Directions: up and left. Lengths: text area sizes.

none Not drawing ruler.

user Each $\langle unit \rangle - \langle type name \rangle$ pair activates an $\text{\fgruler@}\langle unit \rangle @\langle type name \rangle @\text{fg}$ command, which is equivalent to $\text{\fgrulertype}\{\langle unit \rangle\} \{\langle type name \rangle\}$.

You can control the effect of this option by redefining the $\text{\fgruler@}\langle unit \rangle @\text{user@\text{fg}}$ commands, which are empty in the default case.

$\text{\def\fgruler@cm@\text{user@\text{fg}}\{\langle code \rangle\}}$ is equivalent to $\text{\fgrulerdefusercm}\{\langle code \rangle\}$.

Similarly, $\text{\def\fgruler@in@\text{user@\text{fg}}\{\langle code \rangle\}}$ is equivalent to $\text{\fgrulerdefuserin}\{\langle code \rangle\}$.

See 7.8–7.13 examples.

hshift= $\langle length \rangle$

Horizontal shift of the ruler, if the $\langle type name \rangle$ is **upperleft**, **lowerleft**, **upperright** or **lowerright**. The shift direction is right, if the $\langle type name \rangle$ is **upperleft** or **lowerleft**. The shift direction is left, if the $\langle type name \rangle$ is **upperright** or **lowerright**. Default: $\text{hshift}=0\text{cm}$.

vshift= $\langle length \rangle$

Vertical shift of the ruler, if the $\langle type name \rangle$ is **upperleft**, **lowerleft**, **upperright** or **lowerright**. The shift direction is down, if the $\langle type name \rangle$ is **upperleft** or **upperright**. The shift direction is up, if the $\langle type name \rangle$ is **lowerleft** or **lowerright**. Default: $\text{vshift}=0\text{cm}$.

color= $\langle color name \rangle$

Ruler color (see **xcolor** package). Default: $\text{color}=\text{black}$.

numsep= $\langle length \rangle$

Separation between number and ruler. Default: $\text{numsep}=3\text{pt}$.

markthick= $\langle length \rangle$

Mark thickness. Default: $\text{markthick}=0.4\text{pt}$.

marklength= $\langle length \rangle$

Mark length at integer units (see the red marks):  Default: $\text{marklength}=2\text{mm}$. See the length of the other marks in Section 6.

numfont= $\langle font type \rangle$

Number font type. Default: $\text{numfont}=\text{\scriptsize\sffamily}$. You can use this option only in **\setfgruler** command.

showframe or **showframe=true**

It draws visible frames for the text and margin area, and lines for the head and foot. Their color and thickness are determined by the **color** and the **markthick** options.

showframe=false

It deactivates the **showframe** option.

nonefgrulers

It kills all of the rulers on the foreground, including also those, which are generated by **\fgruler** (see Section 4). But the rulers, which were drawn by **\ruler** and **\squareruler** (see Section 5), do not disappear. Furthermore it deactivates the **showframe** option, too. In this case the **fgruler** package does not load the **eso-pic** package. This option works only in preamble.

It is recommended to use in two cases:

- To draw rulers only in text, there is no need for the checking function.
- To halt the checking function temporarily.

The `type=none` is not identical with `nonefgrulers` option. The differences:

- `type=none` does not kill the `\fgruler` command and the `showframe` option.
- `type=none` is alterable in any point of the document.
- `type=none` works in document environment, too.
- The `fgruler` package loads the `eso-pic` package, if you use the `type=none` option without `nonefgrulers`.

4 Drawing square rulers on the foreground of a given page

`\fgruler[<unit>]{<type name>}H{<hshift>}V{<vshift>}`

It draws a square ruler on the foreground of that page, where this command is expanded. You can use more `\fgruler` commands in the same page.

The package options (see Section 3) also work on this command, except for `unit`, `type`, `hshift` and `vshift`, since these are the parameters of the `\fgruler`.

If you use `nonefgrulers` option in preamble, then this command is effectless.

`<unit>` options:

- `cm` Metric ruler (centimeter). Default option.
- `in` English ruler (inch).

`<type name>` parameters:

- `upperleft` Origin: upper left corner. Directions: down and right.
- `upperright` Origin: upper right corner. Directions: down and left.
- `lowerleft` Origin: lower left corner. Directions: up and right.
- `lowerright` Origin: lower right corner. Directions: up and left.

`<hshift>` Horizontal shift. The shift direction is right, if the `<type name>` is `upperleft` or `lowerleft`, otherwise it is left.

`<vshift>` Vertical shift. The shift direction is down, if the `<type name>` is `upperleft` or `upperright`, otherwise it is up.

Example: `\fgruler[in]{upperright}{1in}{2.5in}`

5 Drawing rulers in the text

`\ruler[<unit>]{<type name>}H{<length>}`

It draws a horizontal or a vertical ruler. The bottom of the ruler is aligned to the baseline of the surrounding text. The package options (see Section 3) do not work on this command.

`<unit>` options:

- `cm` Metric ruler (centimeter). Default option.
- `in` English ruler (inch).

`<type name>` parameters:

- `downright` Direction: down. The numbers are on the right side.
- `downleft` Direction: down. The numbers are on the left side.
- `upright` Direction: up. The numbers are on the right side.
- `upleft` Direction: up. The numbers are on the left side.
- `rightdown` Direction: right. The numbers are on the down side.
- `rightup` Direction: right. The numbers are on the up side.
- `leftdown` Direction: left. The numbers are on the down side.
- `leftup` Direction: left. The numbers are on the up side.

`<length>` Ruler length.

Example: `\ruler[rightdown]{5cm} 0 cm 1 2 3 4 5`

`\ruler*[<unit>]{<type name>}H{<length>}`

It works like `\ruler`, but the top of the ruler is aligned to the baseline of the surrounding text.

Example: `\ruler*[rightdown]{5cm} 0 cm 1 2 3 4 5`

`\squareruler[unit]{type name}{width}{height}`

It draws a square ruler. The bottom of the square ruler is aligned to the baseline of the surrounding text. The package options (see Section 3) do not work on this command.

{unit} options:

`cm` Metric ruler (centimeter). Default option.

`in` English ruler (inch).

{type name} parameters:

`upperleft` Directions: down and right.

`upperright` Directions: down and left.

`lowerleft` Directions: up and right.

`lowerright` Directions: up and left.

{width} Square ruler width.

{height} Square ruler height.



Example: `\squareruler{upperleft}{5cm}{1cm}`

`\squareruler*[unit]{type name}{width}{height}`

It works like `\squareruler`, but the top of the square ruler is aligned to the baseline of the surrounding text.

Example: `\squareruler*{upperleft}{5cm}{1cm}`



`\rulerparams{markthick}{numfont}{color}{marklength}{numsep}`

It sets the parameters of the rulers, which are drawn by `\ruler` or `\squareruler`. If an argument is empty, then that parameter will not be changed.

{markthick} Mark thickness. Default: `0.4pt`

{numfont} Number font type. Default: `\scriptsize\sffamily`

{color} Ruler line color. Default: `black`

{marklength} Mark length at integer units. Default: `2mm`

{numsep} Separation between number and ruler. Default: `3pt`

For example, `\rulerparams{}{}{red}{}{}` changes the ruler color to red.

`\rulerparamsfromfg`

It sets the ruler parameters from the actual foreground ruler parameters.

`\rulernorotatenum`

By default, the numbers of the vertical rulers (which were generated by `\ruler` or `\squareruler`) are rotated by 90° . It kills this action. This command is usable only in `document` environment.



Example: `\rulernorotatenum\ruler{upright}{1cm}`

`\rulerrotatenum`

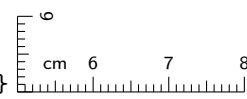
After `\rulernorotatenum`, it reactivates the number rotating. This command is usable only in `document` environment.

6 Additional setting commands

The following commands can work on all of the rulers, which are drawn by `fgruler` package.

`\fgrulerstartnum{num}`

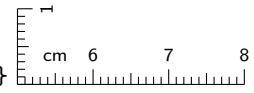
The *{num}* is a nonnegative integer, which will be the starting number on the horizontal and vertical rulers. Default: `\fgrulerstartnum{0}`



Example: `\fgrulerstartnum{5}\squareruler{lowerleft}{3cm}{1cm}`

\fgrulerstartnumh{<num>}

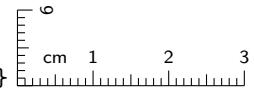
The `<num>` is a nonnegative integer, which will be the starting number on the horizontal rulers.
Default: \fgrulerstartnumh{0}



Example: {\fgrulerstartnumh{5}\squareruler{lowerleft}{3cm}{1cm}}

\fgrulerstartnumv{<num>}

The `<num>` is a nonnegative integer, which will be the starting number on the vertical rulers.
Default: \fgrulerstartnumv{0}



Example: {\fgrulerstartnumv{5}\squareruler{lowerleft}{3cm}{1cm}}

\fgrulernoborderline

By default, there is a borderline on one side of the ruler. It disappears by this command.

Example: {\fgrulernoborderline\ruler{rightup}{3cm}}



\fgrulerborderline

After \fgrulernoborderline, it reactivates the previous default effect.

\fgrulercaptioncm{<caption>}

Unit caption in metric ruler. Default: \fgrulercaptioncm{cm}

Example: {\fgrulercaptioncm{}\ruler{rightup}{3cm}}



\fgrulercaptionin{<caption>}

Unit caption in English ruler. Default: \fgrulercaptionin{inch}

\fgrulerdefnum{<definition>}

The ruler numbers are determined by the `fgrulernum` counter. Its current value is printed by the `\the\fgrulernum`. Its default definition is \def\the\fgrulernum{\arabic{fgrulernum}}, which is equivalent to \fgrulerdefnum{\arabic{fgrulernum}}.

Example: {\fgrulerdefnum{}\fgrulercaptioncm{}\ruler{rightdown}{2cm}}

\fgrulerratiocm{<ratio1>}{<ratio2>}

Mark length ratios in metric rulers. If an argument is empty, then that parameter will not be changed.

`<ratio1>` Mark length ratio at $k/10$ cm, where k is positive integer and not divisible by 5.



For example, if this ratio is 0.5 and the mark length at integer unit is 2 mm, then this mark length will be $0.5 \cdot 2$ mm = 1 mm.

`<ratio2>` Mark length ratio at $k/2$ cm, where k is positive odd integer.

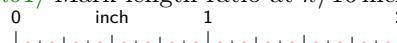


Default: \fgrulerratiocm{0.5}{0.75}

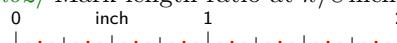
\fgrulerratioin{<ratio1>}{<ratio2>}{<ratio3>}{<ratio4>}

Mark length ratios in English rulers. If an argument is empty, then that parameter will not be changed.

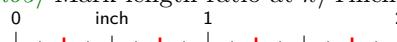
`<ratio1>` Mark length ratio at $k/16$ inch, where k is positive odd integer.



`<ratio2>` Mark length ratio at $k/8$ inch, where k is positive odd integer.



`<ratio3>` Mark length ratio at $k/4$ inch, where k is positive odd integer.



`<color1>` Mark color at $k/16$ inch, where k is positive odd integer.

`<color2>` Mark color at $k/8$ inch, where k is positive odd integer.

`<color3>` Mark color at $k/4$ inch, where k is positive odd integer.

`<color4>` Mark color at $k/2$ inch, where k is positive odd integer.

`<color5>` Mark color at integer units.

The default values are given by `<color>` of `\rulerparams`, respectively by `color` option.

Example:

```
{\fgruler{colorin{yellow}{orange}{green}{blue}{red}}  
 \rulerparams{1pt}{}{}{5mm}{}  
 \fgruler[noborderline]  
 \ruler[in]{rightdown}{3in}}
```



\fgrulerreset

It sets all options and parameters to default values. This command is usable only in `document` environment.

A All setting commands obey the normal scoping rules, i.e. if you use them inside a group, then the changing of the parameters is not valid outside the group.

7 Examples

7.1 Default case

The output of the following example is the ruler in this page. It is the default case.

```
5 \documentclass{article}
6 \usepackage{fgruler}
7 \begin{document}
8 ...
9 \end{document}
```

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3 **7.2 The showframe and color options**
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```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage[color=red,showframe]{fgruler}
\begin{document}
...
\end{document}
```

7.3 Shift in default case

```
1 \documentclass{article}
2 \usepackage[hshift=1cm,vshift=2cm]{fgruler}
3 \begin{document}
4 ...
5 \end{document}
```



25 **7.5 Shift in case type=lowerleft option**

```
24 \documentclass{article}
25 \usepackage[type=lowerleft,hshift=1cm,vshift=2cm]{fgruler}
26 \begin{document}
27 ...
28 \end{document}
```

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7.6 Shift in case type=lowerright option

```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage[type=lowerright,hshift=1cm,vshift=2cm]{fgruler}
\begin{document}
...
\end{document}
```

0 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 cm

0 cm 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

7.7 The `type=upperleftT` option

```
1 \documentclass{article}
2 \usepackage[type=upperleftT]{fgruler}
3 \begin{document}
4 ...
5 \end{document}
```

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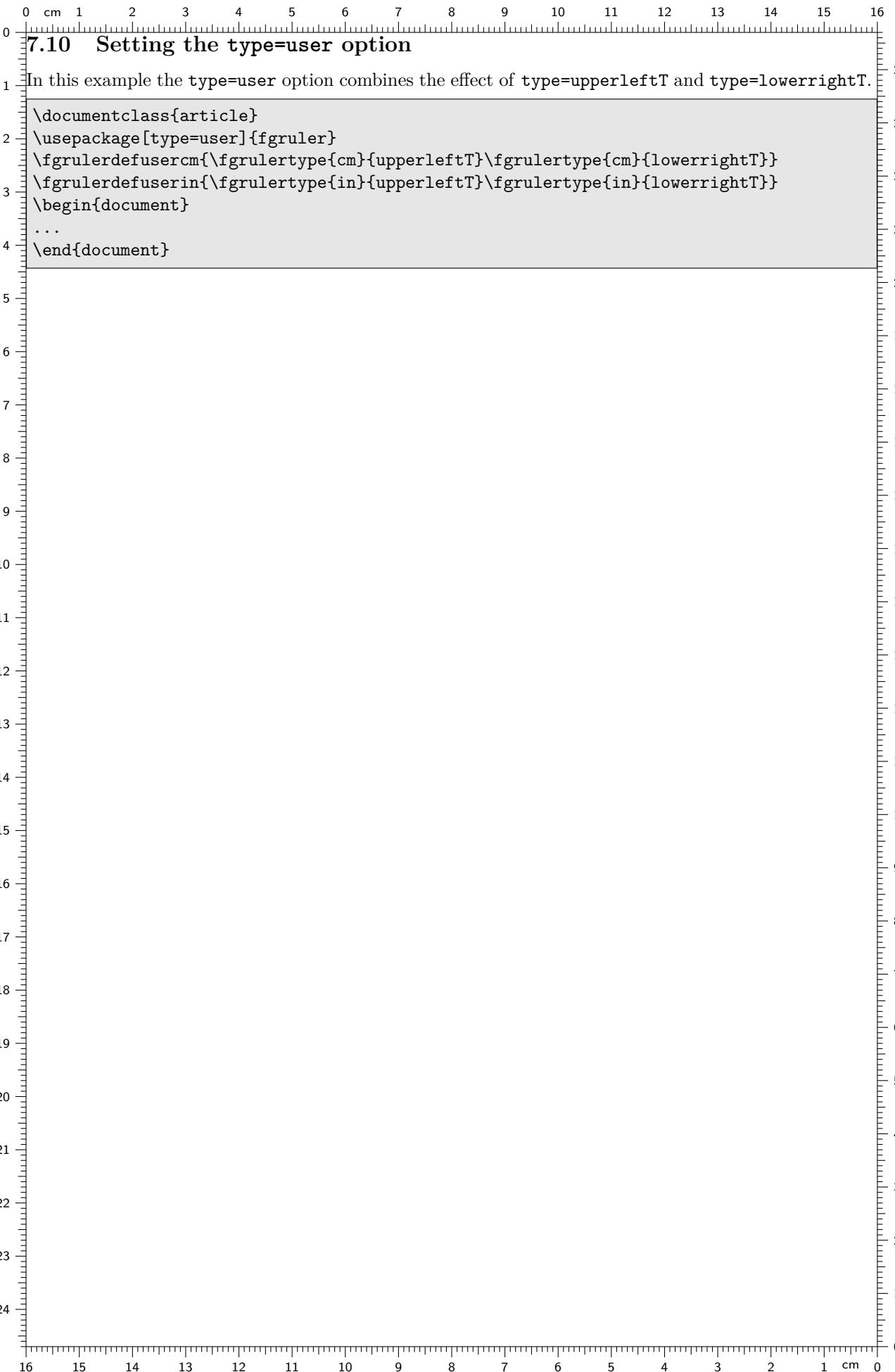
24

7.8 Setting the `type=user` option

In the next example the `type=user` option activates `type=upperright` or `type=upperleft`, depending on the page number is odd or even.

```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage[type=user]{fgruler}
\fgrulerdefusercm{%
    \ifodd\value{page}\fgrulertype{cm}{upperright}%
        \else\fgrulertype{cm}{upperleft}\fi}
\fgrulerdefuserin{%
    \ifodd\value{page}\fgrulertype{in}{upperright}%
        \else\fgrulertype{in}{upperleft}\fi}
\begin{document}
...
\end{document}
```





7.11 Setting the type=user option

In the next example the type=user option places a vertical ruler at the left border of the text area.

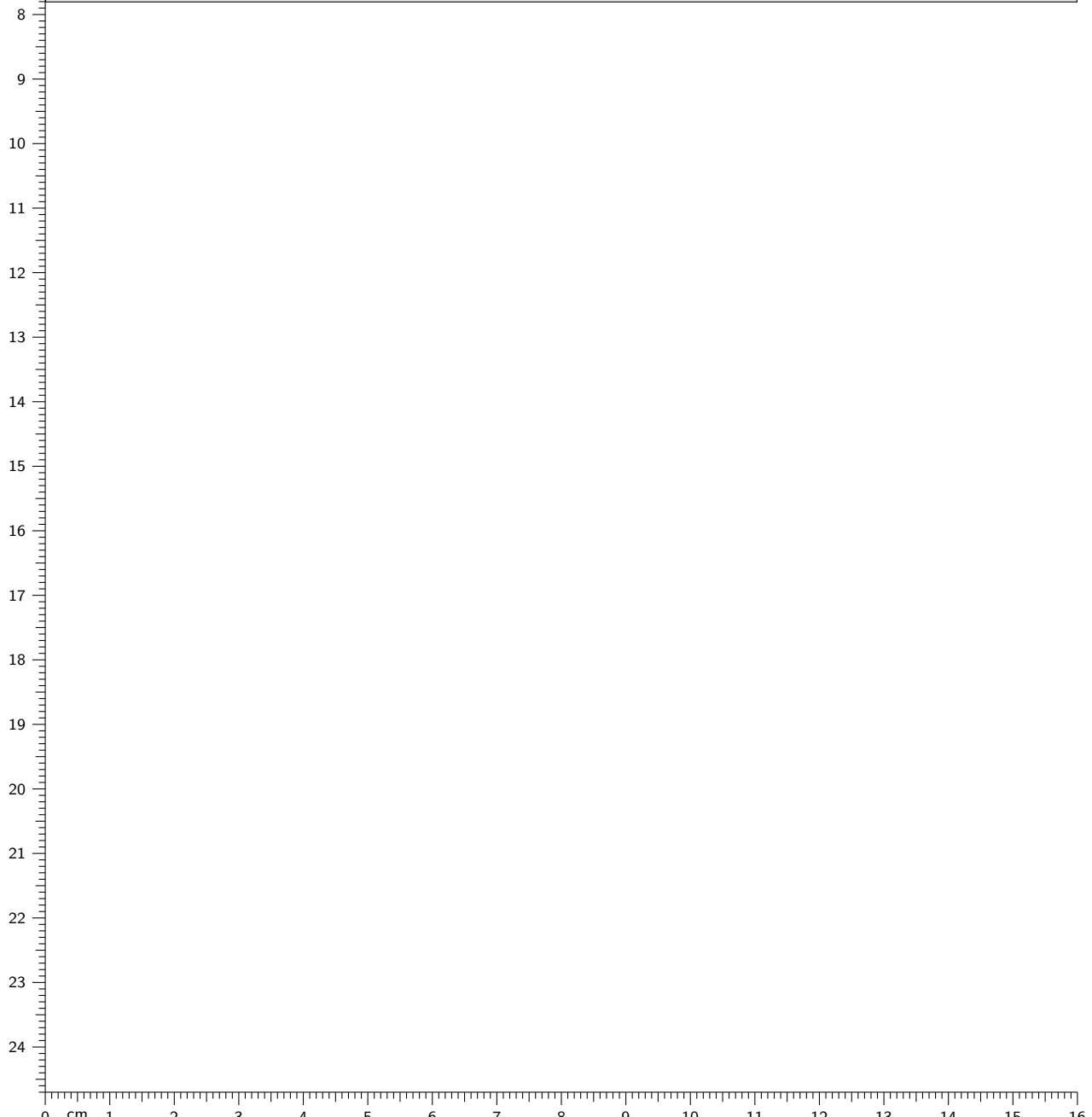
```
0   \documentclass{article}
cm  \usepackage[type=user]{fgruler}
1   \newcommand{\fgruleruser}[1]{%
2       \AtTextLowerLeft{%
3           \ruleparamsfromfg%
4           \llap{\rule[#1]{downleft}{\textheight}}%
5       }%
6   }
7   \fgrulerdefusercm{\fgruleruser{cm}}
8   \fgrulerdefuserin{\fgruleruser{in}}
9   \begin{document}
10  ...
11  \end{document}
```

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0 cm 7.12 Setting the type=user option

1 In the next example the type=user option places rulers at the right and bottom borders of the text area.

```
2 \documentclass{article}
3 \usepackage[type=user]{fgruler}
4 \newcommand{\fgruleruser}[1]{%
5   \AtTextLowerLeft{%
6     \rulerparamsfromfg%
7     \rulernorotatenum%
8     \llap{\ruler[#1]{downleft}{\textheight}}%
9     \ruler*[#1]{rightdown}{\textwidth}%
10   }%
11 }
12 \fgrulerdefusercm{\fgruleruser{cm}}
13 \fgrulerdefuserin{\fgruleruser{in}}
14 \begin{document}
15 ...
16 \end{document}
```

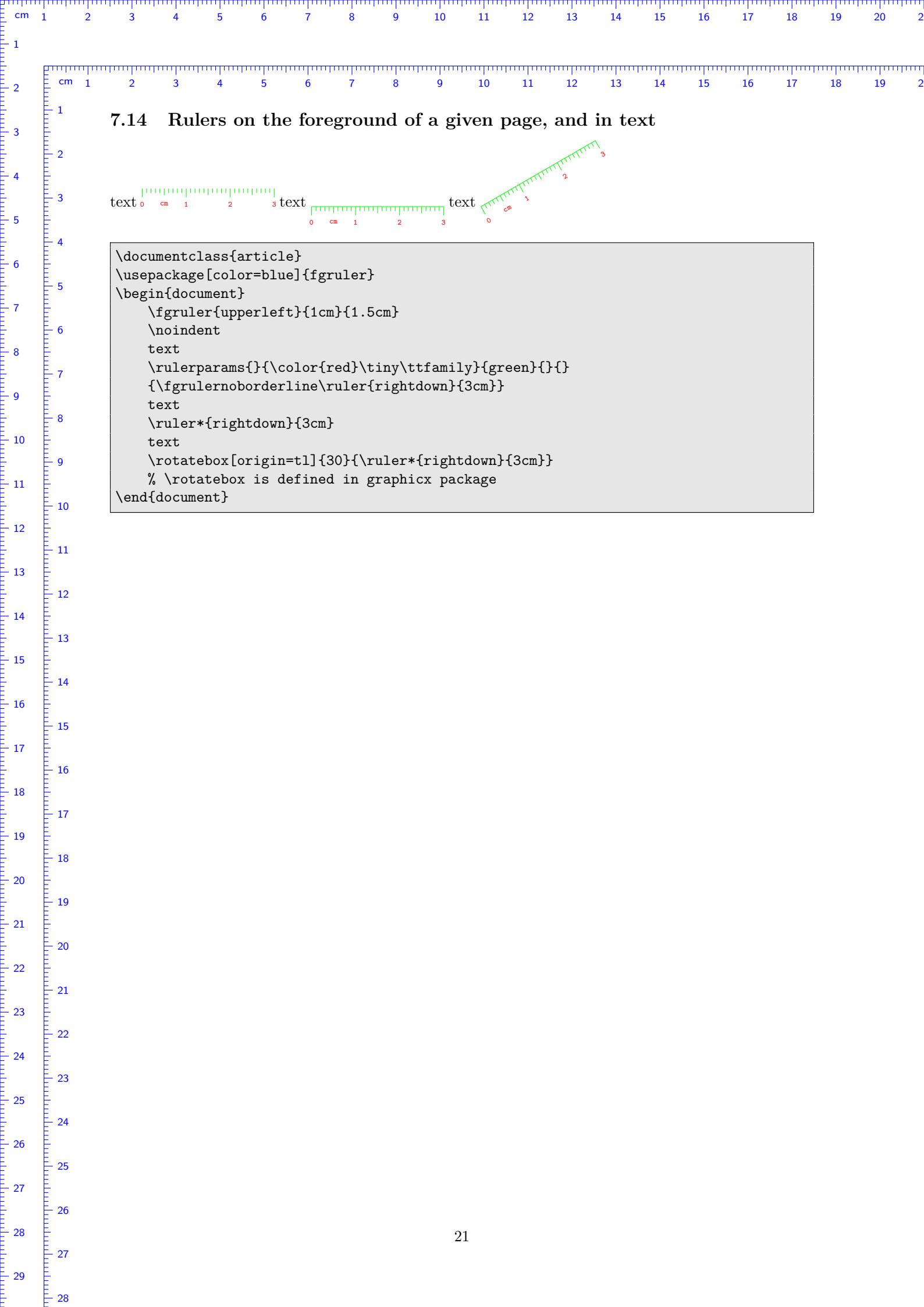




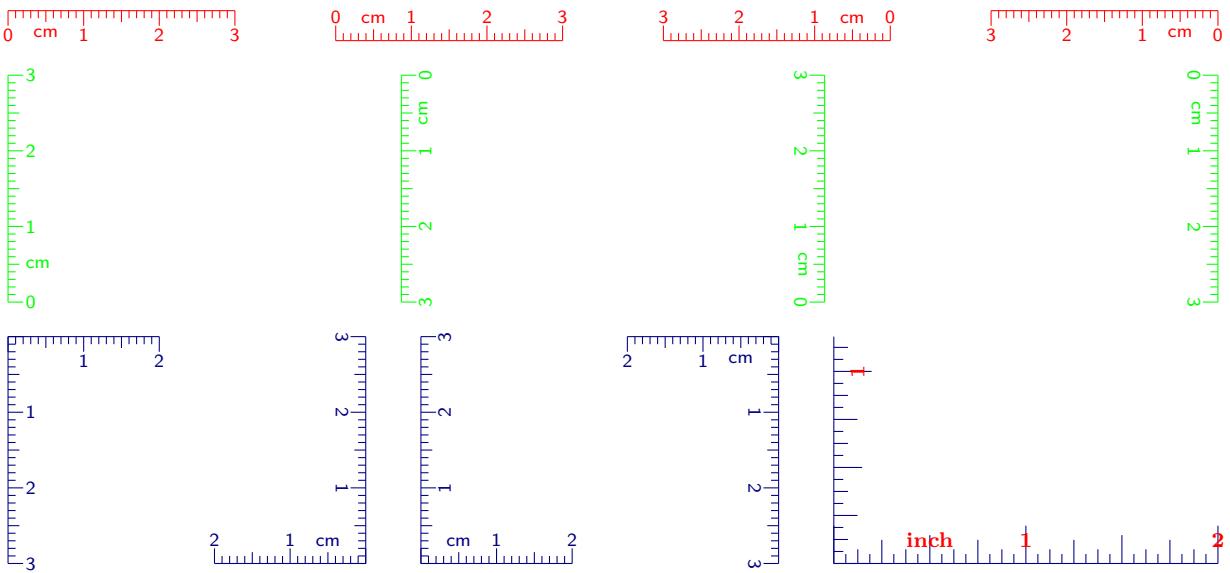
7.13 Setting the type=user option

In the next example the `type=user` option places rulers at the right and top borders of the text area.

```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage[type=user]{fgruler}
\newcommand{\fgruleruser}[1]{%
    \AtTextUpperLeft{%
        \rule[0pt]{#1}{\textheight}%
    }%
}
\fgrulerdefusercm{\fgruleruser{cm}}
\fgrulerdefuserin{\fgruleruser{in}}
\begin{document}
...
\end{document}
```



7.15 Ruler types in text

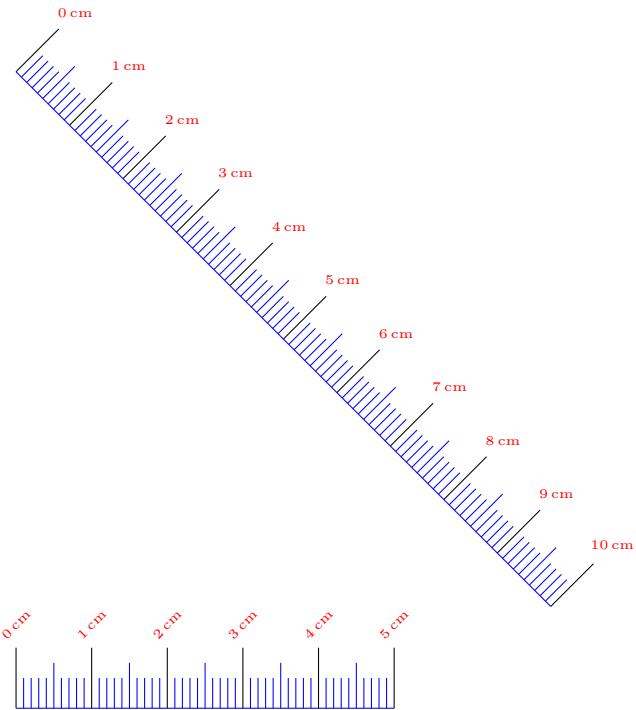


```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage[nonefgrulers]{fgruler}
\begin{document}
\noindent
\rulerparams{}{}{red}{}{1pt}
\ruler{rightdown}{3cm}
\hfill
\ruler{rightup}{3cm}
\hfill
\ruler{leftup}{3cm}
\hfill
\ruler{leftdown}{3cm}

\bigskip\noindent
\rulerparams{}{}{green}{}{}
{\rulernorotatenum\ruler{upright}{3cm}}
\hfill
\ruler{downright}{3cm}
\hfill
\ruler{upleft}{3cm}
\hfill
\ruler{downleft}{3cm}

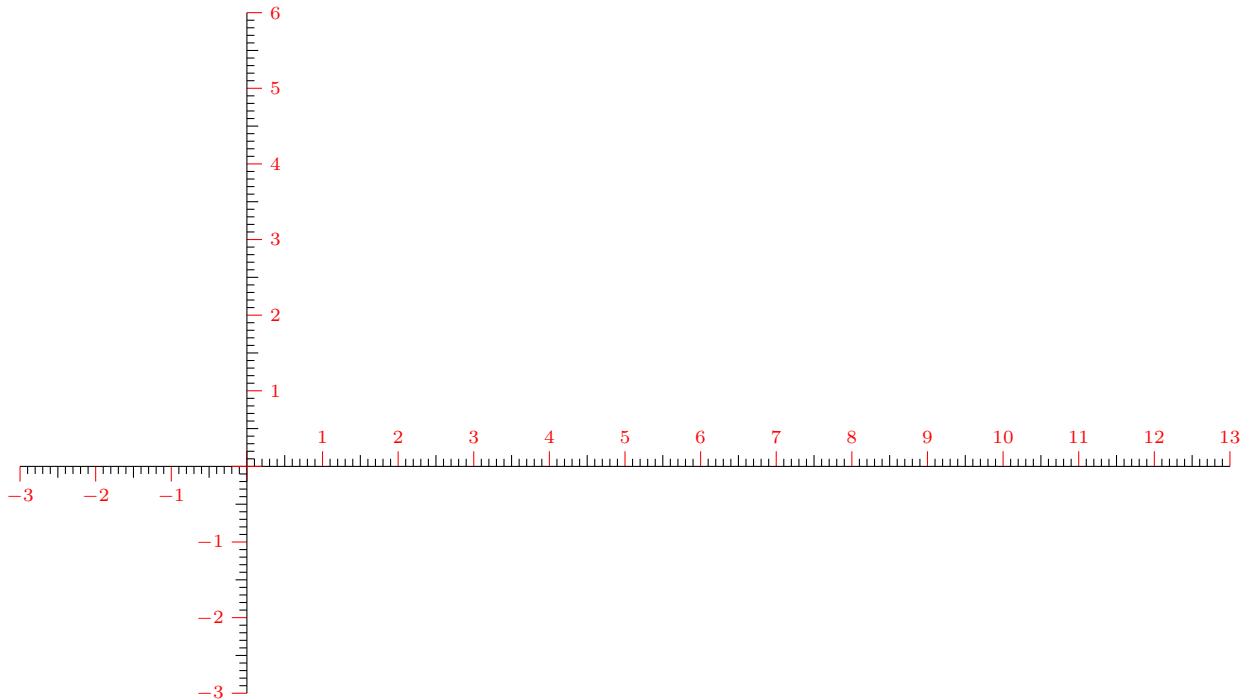
\bigskip\noindent
\rulerparams{}{}{blue!50!black}{}{}
{\rulernorotatenum\fgrulercaptioncm{}\siqueruler{upperleft}{2cm}{3cm}}
\hfill
\siqueruler{lowerright}{2cm}{3cm}
\hfill
\siqueruler{lowerleft}{2cm}{3cm}
\hfill
\siqueruler{uppright}{2cm}{3cm}
\hfill
{\rulerparams{}{\footnotesize\bfseries\color{red}}{}{5mm}{-8pt}
\siqueruler[in]{lowerleft}{2in}{3cm}}
\end{document}
```

7.16 Mark length and rotating



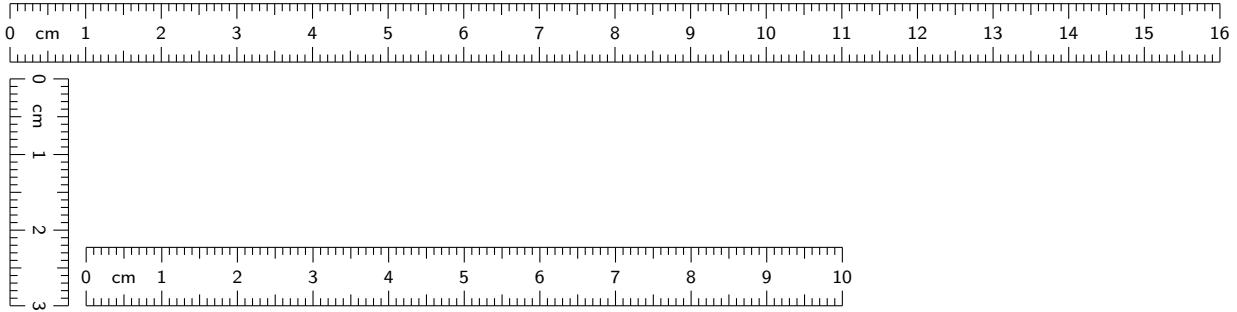
```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage[nonefgrulers]{fgruler}
\begin{document}
\noindent
\fgrulerdefnum{\rotatebox{45}{\arabic{fgrulernum}\,cm}}
\fgrulercaptioncm{}
\rulerparams{}{\tiny\color{red}}{\blue}{8mm}={}
\fgrulerbcm{}{\black}
\rotatebox{-45}{\ruler{rightup}{10cm}}\\
\ruler{rightup}{5cm}
\end{document}
```

7.17 Coordinate system



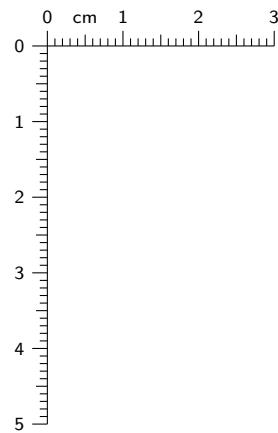
```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage[nonefgrulers]{fgruler}
\begin{document}
    \noindent
    \rulernorotatenum
    \fgrulercaptioncm{}
    \fgrulercolorcm{}{}{red}
    \rulerparams{}{\scriptsize\color{red}}{}{}{%
        {\fgrulerdefnum{$-\arabic{fgrulernum}$}\sqruler*{uppright}{3cm}{3cm}}%
        \sqruler{lowerleft}{13cm}{6cm}}
\end{document}
```

7.18 Tape measure



```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage[a4paper,margin=25mm]{geometry}
\usepackage[nonefgrulers]{fgruler}
\newcommand{\tapemeasure}[1]{%
\parbox{#1}{%
\fgrulerdefnum{}\fgrulercaptioncm{}\ruler{rightdown}{#1}\\"[2pt]
\ruler{rightup}{#1}}}
\begin{document}
\noindent
\tapemeasure{\textwidth}\\"[2pt]
\rotatebox[origin=br]{-90}{\tapemeasure{3cm}}
\tapemeasure{10cm}
\end{document}
```

7.19 A new square ruler type



```
\documentclass{article}
\usepackage[type=none]{fgruler}
\newcommand{\usersquareruler}[2]{
    {\rulernorotate\noexpand\fgruler{#1}{#2}}
    \ruler{rightup}{#1}
}
\begin{document}
\usersquareruler{3cm}{5cm}
\end{document}
```