

# PixelArtTikz [en]

PixelArts, with TikZ,  
with solution and colors.

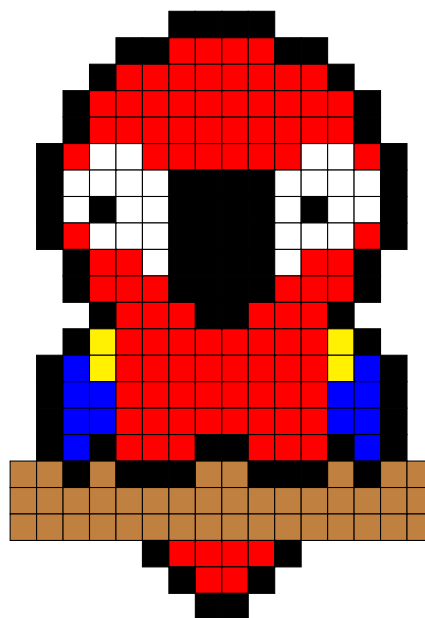
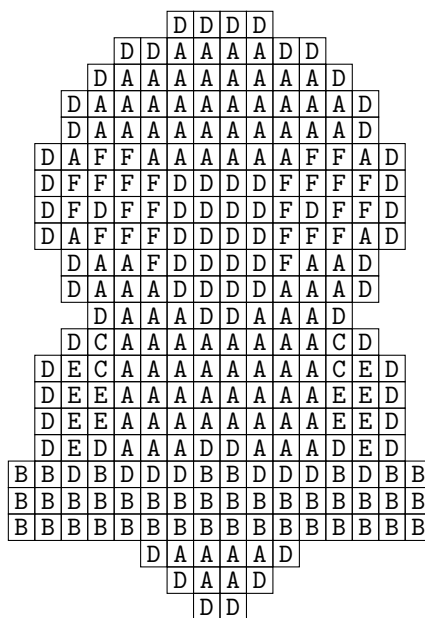
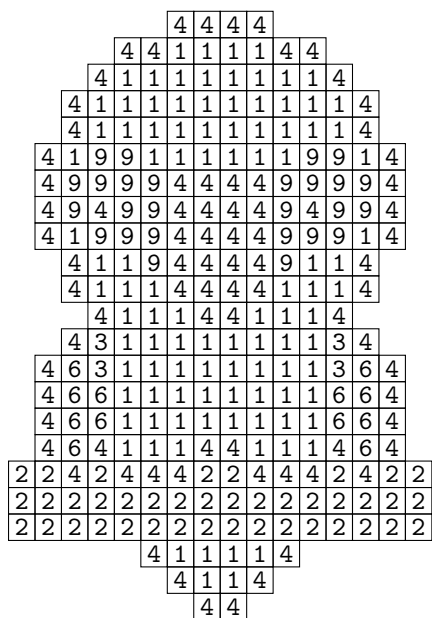
Version 0.1.2 - 12/10/2023

Cédric Pierquet

c pierquet - at - outlook . fr

<https://github.com/cpierquet/PixelArtTikz>

- Commands to display PixelArts.
- Environment to complete the PixelArt.



L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

pdfL<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

LuaL<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

TikZ

T<sub>E</sub>XLive

MiK<sub>T</sub>E<sub>X</sub>

# Contents

<b>I</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>The package PixelArtTikz</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1	Introduction . . . . .	3
1.2	Loading of the package, and option . . . . .	3
1.3	Used packages . . . . .	3
1.4	Macros and environment . . . . .	4
<b>2</b>	<b>Colors</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>II</b>	<b>Macros and environment</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Main macro</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	Example . . . . .	5
3.2	Options and keys . . . . .	6
3.3	Starred macro . . . . .	9
<b>4</b>	<b>PixelArt environment</b>	<b>10</b>
4.1	Usage . . . . .	10
4.2	Example . . . . .	10
<b>5</b>	<b>Macro for <i>mini</i>-PixelArt</b>	<b>11</b>
5.1	Idea . . . . .	11
5.2	Examples . . . . .	11
<b>III</b>	<b>History</b>	<b>12</b>

# Part I

## Introduction

### 1 The package PixelArtTikz

#### 1.1 Introduction

The idea is to *propose*, within a TikZ environment, a macro to generate PixelArt.

The data is *read* from a csv file, already existing in the folder of the tex file, or created on-the-fly by filecontents.

Some advices about the cvs file :

- the csv file must use "," as separator;
- empty cells are coded by "-".

```
\begin{filecontents*}{filename.csv}
  A,B,C,D
  A,B,D,C
  B,A,C,D
  B,A,D,C
\end{filecontents*}
```

Code  $\LaTeX$

While compiling, the file filename.csv will be created, and the option  $\langle$ **[overwrite]** $\rangle$  will propagate the modifications!

#### 1.2 Loading of the package, and option

The package csvsimple is necessary in order to read the csv file.

The package is available in two versions, one written in  $\LaTeX 2_{\epsilon}$  and the other in  $\LaTeX 3$ . By default, PixelArtTikz loads the  $\LaTeX 3$  version, but an *option* is available to work with the  $\LaTeX 2_{\epsilon}$  version.

The option  $\langle$ **[csvii]** $\rangle$  forces the usage of the  $\LaTeX 2_{\epsilon}$  version.

```
\usepackage{PixelArtTikz}           %package latex3
%which loads
%\RequirePackage{expl3}
%\RequirePackage[13]{csvsimple}

\usepackage[csvii]{PixelArtTikz}   %package latex2
%which loads
%\RequirePackage[legacy]{csvsimple}
```

Code  $\LaTeX$

#### 1.3 Used packages

It's fully compatible with usual  $\LaTeX$  engines, such as latex, pdflatex, lualatex or xelatex.


It loads the following packages and libraries:

- tikz, xintexpr et xinttools;
- xstring, xparse, simplekv and listofitems.

## 1.4 Macros and environment

There are two ways to create PixelArt:

- with an independent macro;
- with a TikZ environment in order to add code afterwards.

Code 

```
%Independent macro
\PixelArtTikz[keys]<options tikz>{file.csv}

%Semi-independent macro, in a tiks environment
\PixelArtTikz*[keys]{file.csv}

%environment
\begin{EnvPixelArtTikz}[keys]<options tikz>{file.csv}
  %tikz code
\end{EnvPixelArtTikz}
```

## 2 Colors

Concerning colors: the user can use all colors provided by loaded packages!

Without extra packages, the available colors are:

magenta	cyan	blue	green	red	darkgray	olive	lime	brown	lightgray
white	gray	black	yellow	violet	teal	purple	pink	orange	

# Part II

## Macros and environment

### 3 Main macro

#### 3.1 Example

The macro `\PixlArtTikz` needs :

- the file `csv`;
- the list (by a string) of codes used in the file `csv` (e.g. `234679` or `ABCDJK...`);
- the list of symbols (if needed) to print in the cells, e.g. `25,44,12` or `AA,AB,AC`;
- the list of colors (for the correction), same order as the codes.

We can begin by creating the file `csv`, directly within the `tex` code, or with a external file.

```
%creation of the csv
\begin{filecontents*}[overwrite]{base.csv}
  A,B,C,D
  A,B,D,C
  B,A,D,C
  C,A,B,D
\end{filecontents*}
```

Code  $\LaTeX$

```
%instructions and pixelarts
\begin{center}
  \begin{tblr}{colspec={*{4}{Q[1.25cm,c,m]}},hlines,vlines,rows={1.15em}}
    \SetCell[c=4]{c} Instructions & & & \\
    A & B & C & D \\
    45 & 22 & 1 & 7 \\
    Black & Green & Yellow & Red \\
  \end{tblr}
\end{center}

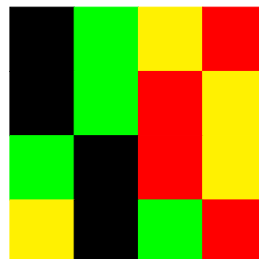
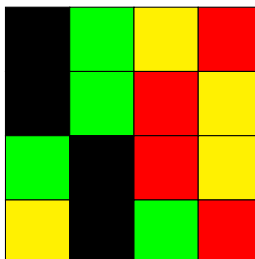
\PixlArtTikz[Codes=ABCD,Style=\large\sffamily,Unit=0.85]{base.csv}
~~
\PixlArtTikz[Codes=ABCD,Symbols={45,22,1,7},Symb,Style=\large\sffamily,Unit=0.85]{base.csv}
~~
\PixlArtTikz[Codes=ABCD,Colors={black,green,yellow,red},Correction,Unit=0.85]{base.csv}
~~
\PixlArtTikz[Codes=ABCD,Colors={black,green,yellow,red},Correction,Border=false,Unit=0.85]{base.csv}
```

Code  $\LaTeX$

Instructions			
A	B	C	D
45	22	1	7
Black	Green	Yellow	Red

A	B	C	D
A	B	D	C
B	A	D	C
C	A	B	D

45	22	1	7
45	22	7	1
22	45	7	1
1	45	22	7



## 3.2 Options and keys

```
\PixlArtTikz[keys]<options tikz>{file.csv}
```

Code  $\LaTeX$

The first argument, *optional* and between [...] proposes the keys:

- the key **<Codes>** with the *string* of *simple* codes of the csv file;
- the key **<Colors>** with the *list* of colors;
- the key **<Symbols>** with the *optional list* of alt. symbols for the cells;
- the boolean **<Correction>** to color the PixelArt; default false
- the boolean **<Symb>** to print the symbols; default false
- the boolean **<Border>** to print borders of the cells; default true
- the key **<Style>** to specify the style of the text. default \scriptsize

The second argument, *optional* and between <...>, are TikZ options to pass on to the environment which creates the PixelArt.

The third argument, *mandatory*, is the filename of the csv.

```
%creation of the csv
\begin{filecontents*}[overwrite]{test1.csv}
  -,,-,-,-,4,4,4,4,-,-,-,-,-
  -,,-,-,4,4,1,1,1,1,4,4,-,-,-
  -,,-,-,4,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,4,-,-,-
  -,,-,4,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,4,-,-
  -,,-,4,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,4,-,-
  -,4,1,9,9,1,1,1,1,1,1,9,9,1,4,-
  -,4,9,9,9,9,4,4,4,4,9,9,9,9,4,-
  -,4,9,4,9,9,4,4,4,4,9,4,9,9,4,-
  -,4,1,9,9,9,4,4,4,4,9,9,9,1,4,-
  -,,-,4,1,1,9,4,4,4,4,9,1,1,4,-,-
  -,,-,4,1,1,1,4,4,4,4,1,1,1,4,-,-
  -,,-,-,4,1,1,1,4,4,1,1,1,4,-,-,-
  -,,-,4,3,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,3,4,-,-
  -,4,6,3,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,3,6,4,-
  -,4,6,6,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,6,6,4,-
  -,4,6,6,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,6,6,4,-
  -,4,6,4,1,1,1,1,4,4,1,1,1,4,6,4,-
  2,2,4,2,4,4,4,2,2,4,4,4,2,4,2,2
  2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2
  2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2
  -,,-,-,-,4,1,1,1,1,4,-,-,-,-,-
  -,,-,-,-,-,4,1,1,4,-,-,-,-,-,-
  -,,-,-,-,-,4,4,-,-,-,-,-,-,-
\end{filecontents*}
```

Code  $\LaTeX$

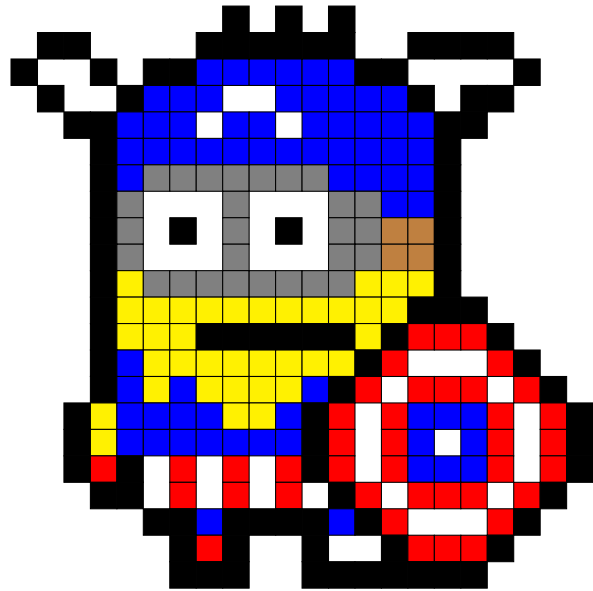
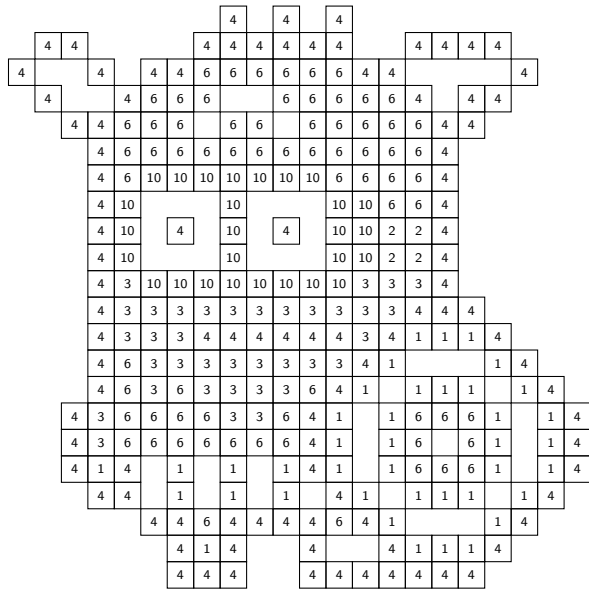


In the following example, the *symbols* to print can't be used for the *codes*, so we can use the keys **(Symbols)** and **(Symb)** to bypass this limitation.

```
%symbols associated to codes

\begin{filecontents*}[overwrite]{cap.csv}
-,--,--,--,--,D,--,D,--,D,--,--,--,--,--,
-,D,D,--,--,--,D,D,D,D,D,--,D,D,D,D,--,
D,--,D,--,D,D,F,F,F,F,F,D,D,--,--,D,--,
-,D,--,D,F,F,F,--,F,F,F,F,D,--,D,D,--,
-,D,D,D,F,F,F,--,F,F,--,F,F,F,F,D,D,--,
-,--,D,F,F,F,F,F,F,F,F,F,F,D,--,--,
-,--,D,F,J,J,J,J,J,J,J,F,F,F,D,--,--,
-,--,D,J,--,--,J,--,--,J,J,F,D,--,--,
-,--,D,J,--,D,--,J,--,D,--,J,J,B,B,D,--,--,
-,--,D,J,--,--,J,--,--,J,J,B,B,D,--,--,
-,--,D,C,J,J,J,J,J,J,J,C,C,C,D,--,--,
-,--,D,C,C,C,C,C,C,C,C,C,C,C,D,D,--,
-,--,D,C,C,C,D,D,D,D,D,C,D,A,A,A,D,--,
-,--,D,F,C,C,C,C,C,C,C,D,A,--,A,D,--,
-,--,D,F,C,F,C,C,C,C,F,D,A,--,A,A,A,--,A,D,
-,D,C,F,F,F,F,C,C,F,D,A,--,A,F,F,F,A,--,A,D
-,D,C,F,F,F,F,F,F,D,A,--,A,F,--,F,A,--,A,D
-,D,A,D,--,A,--,A,--,A,D,A,--,A,F,F,F,A,--,A,D
-,--,D,D,--,A,--,A,--,A,--,D,A,--,A,A,A,--,A,D,
-,--,--,D,D,F,D,D,D,D,F,D,A,--,A,D,
-,--,--,D,A,D,--,D,--,D,A,A,A,D,--,
-,--,--,D,D,D,--,D,D,D,D,D,D,--,
\end{filecontents*}

\PixelArtTikz [Codes=ABCDJ,Symbols={1,2,3,4,6,10},Symb,Style=\tiny\sfamily,Unit=0.35]{cap.csv}
~~
\PixelArtTikz [Codes=ABCDJ,Colors={red,brown,yellow,black,blue,gray},Correction,Unit=0.35]{cap.csv}
```





### 3.3 Starred macro

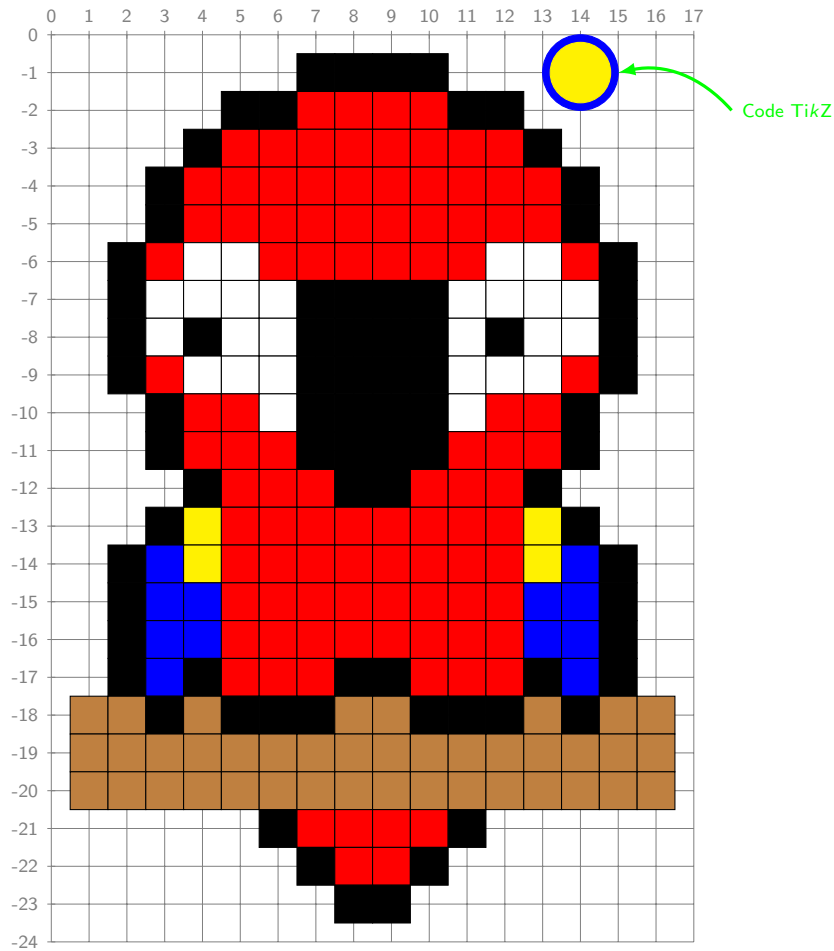
The starred macro `\PixelArtTikz*` is to be used within an already created environment. It can be useful for adding code after the `PixelArt`.

In this case:

- the *optional* argument between `<...>` is discarded;
- the key `<Unit>` is discarded too (units can be configured in the environment!)

Code `MTX`

```
\begin{center}
  \begin{tikzpicture}[scale=0.5]
    %grid to show positioning
    \draw[very thin,gray,xstep=1,ystep=1] (0,0) grid (17,-24) ;
    \foreach \x in {0,1,...,17} \draw[very thin,gray] (\x,-3pt)--(\x,3pt)%
    node[above,font=\scriptsize\sffamily] {\x} ;
    \foreach \y in {0,-1,...,-24} \draw[very thin,gray] (3pt,\y)--(-3pt,\y)%
    node[left,font=\scriptsize\sffamily] {\y} ;
    %le PixelArt
    \PixelArtTikz*[Codes=123469,Colors={red,brown,yellow,black,blue,white},Correction]{test1.csv}
    %added code
    \filldraw[blue] (14,-1) circle[radius=1] ;
    \filldraw[yellow] (14,-1) circle[radius=0.8] ;
    \draw[green,very thick,<,>=latex] (15,-1) to[bend left=30] (18,-2)%
    node[right,font=\scriptsize\sffamily] {Code Ti\textit{k}Z} ;
  \end{tikzpicture}
\end{center}
```



## 4 PixelArt environment

### 4.1 Usage

The package PixelArtTikz provides an environment to create a PixelArt and add code afterwards.

- The environment is created within TikZ and additional code is passed on to the TikZ environment!
- The additional code will be printed on top of the PixelArt!

```
\begin{EnvPixelArtTikz}[keys]<options tikz>{filename.csv}
  %tikz code(s)
\end{EnvPixelArtTikz}
```

Code  $\LaTeX$

The first argument, *optional* and between [...], proposes the keys:

- the key **<Codes>** with the *string* of *simple* codes of the csv file;
- the key **<Colors>** with the *list* of colors;
- the key **<Symbols>** with the *optional list* of alt. symbols for the cells;
- the boolean **<Correction>** to color the PixelArt; default false
- the boolean **<Symb>** to print the symbols; default false
- the boolean **<Border>** to print borders of the cells; default true
- the key **<Style>** to specify the style of the text. default \scriptsize

The second argument, *optional* and between <...>, is for TikZ options to be passed on to the environment which creates the PixelArt.

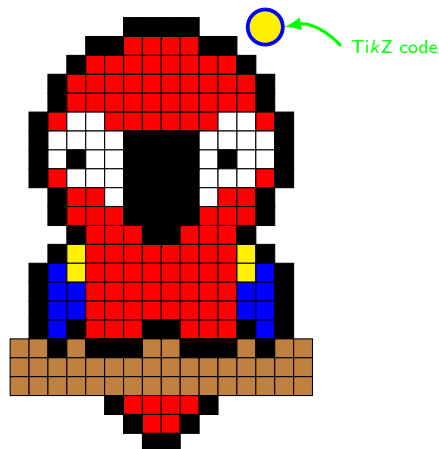
The third argument, *mandatory*, is the filename of the csv.

### 4.2 Example

The symbols are at the nodes ( $c; -l$ ) where  $l$  and  $c$  are the row and column of the data in the csv file.

```
\begin{center}
  \begin{EnvPixelArtTikz}%
    [Codes=123469,Colors={red,brown,yellow,black,blue,white},Correction,Unit=0.25]
    {test1.csv}
    \filldraw[blue] (14,-1) circle[radius=1] ;
    \filldraw[yellow] (14,-1) circle[radius=0.8] ;
    \draw[green,very thick,<-,>=latex] (15,-1) to[bend left=30] (18,-2)%
      node[right,font=\scriptsize\sffamily] {Ti\textit{k} code} ;
  \end{EnvPixelArtTikz}
\end{center}
```

Code  $\LaTeX$



## 5 Macro for *mini-PixelArt*

### 5.1 Idea

The idea is to propose a macro to insert, without csv file, a small PixelArt with small colors list.

```
\MiniPixelArt[keys]{list of colors}
```

Code  $\LaTeX$

The first argument, *optional* and between [...] proposes the keys :

- the key **(Unit)** for dimension of the cells ; default 0.25em,
- the boolean **(Border)** to print a small border for the cells. default false

The second argument, *mandatory* and between {...}, is the colors of the cells :

- each color is *coded* by a letter :

– R : red	– C : blue	– B : black	– . : white	– O : orange
– G : green	– Y : yellow	– L : gray	– M : maroon	– P : purple

- each linebreak is done by , ;
- the thickness of the borders are 10% of the unit.

The last argument, *optional* and between <...>, proposes options for the tikz environment.

### 5.2 Examples

```
\MiniPixelArt{%  
  .RR..RR.,  
  .RRRRRRR.,  
  RRRRRRRRR,  
  RRRRRRRRR,  
  RRRRRRRRR,  
  .RRRRRRR.,  
  .RRRRRR.,  
  ...RRR.,  
  ....RR.,  
}
```



Code  $\LaTeX$

Inline, we can give `\MiniPixelArt[Unit=5mm,Border]{BCGOYG,YLP.BR}<baseline=(current bounding box.center)>` this miniPA.

Code  $\LaTeX$

Inline, we can give  this miniPA.

## Part III

# History

v0.1.2 : *mini*-PixelArts  
v0.1.1 : Bugfix with color  
v0.1.0 : Initial version