

Package ‘certify’

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Title Generate Branded PDF Certificates

Version 0.1.0

Description Produces formal landscape PDF certificates with configurable color themes, optional logos, decorative borders, laurels, and corner ornaments. Built on 'grid' with no external 'LaTeX' or 'Quarto' dependency. Suitable for academic awards, professional recognition, and similar uses.

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Encoding UTF-8

Language en-US

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Depends R (>= 3.6.0)

Imports grDevices, grid, png

Suggests testthat (>= 3.0.0)

Config/testthat/edition 3

URL <https://github.com/cwimpy/certify>

BugReports <https://github.com/cwimpy/certify/issues>

NeedsCompilation no

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`cert_theme`*Build a certificate color theme*

Description

Constructs a color palette used by `make_certificate()` to render borders, ornaments, and text. Supply your own colors, or use one of the preset themes (`cert_theme_classic()`, `cert_theme_formal()`, `cert_theme_warm()`).

Usage

```
cert_theme(  
  primary = "#1a3a5c",  
  primary_dark = "#0f2540",  
  accent = "#b08d3e",  
  accent_light = "#d4b26a",  
  ink = "#1a1a1a",  
  soft_ink = "#4a4a4a",  
  background = "#fbf8f1",  
  hairline = "#c9a961"  
)
```

Arguments

<code>primary</code>	Border and accent color (any hex or named R color). Used for the outer border, the title text, and the accent diamond in the divider.
<code>primary_dark</code>	A darker variant of <code>primary</code> , used for the academic-year line and laurel outlines.
<code>accent</code>	Secondary accent color, typically a metallic such as gold, bronze, or silver. Used for inner borders and corner arcs.
<code>accent_light</code>	Lighter version of <code>accent</code> , used as the leaf fill in the laurel ornaments.
<code>ink</code>	Main body text color.
<code>soft_ink</code>	Italic / subdued text color (subtitles, dates).
<code>background</code>	Page fill color.
<code>hairline</code>	Thin inner-border and underline color.

Value

A `cert_theme` object: a named list of color strings.

Examples

```
my_theme <- cert_theme(primary = "#003366", accent = "#c0a062")
```

cert_theme_presets *Preset certificate themes*

Description

Convenience wrappers around `cert_theme()` for common looks.

Usage

```
cert_theme_classic()
```

```
cert_theme_formal()
```

```
cert_theme_warm()
```

Details

- `cert_theme_classic()` — navy and gold on parchment.
- `cert_theme_formal()` — black and silver on cream.
- `cert_theme_warm()` — burgundy and gold on warm cream.

Value

A `cert_theme` object.

Examples

```
th <- cert_theme_classic()
th$primary
```

make_certificate *Generate a PDF certificate*

Description

Renders a single landscape PDF certificate with decorative borders, corner ornaments, optional laurels around the recipient name, and one or two signature blocks. The output is drawn entirely with the grid graphics system; no LaTeX or Quarto installation is required.

Usage

```

make_certificate(
  path,
  recipient,
  title = "Certificate of Achievement",
  award_name = NULL,
  organization = NULL,
  program = NULL,
  presented_text = "This certificate is proudly presented to",
  citation = "",
  academic_year = NULL,
  date_str = format(Sys.Date(), "%B %Y"),
  signers = list(list(name = "", title = "")),
  logo = NULL,
  theme = cert_theme_classic(),
  width = 11,
  height = 8.5,
  show_laurels = TRUE,
  device = c("cairo_pdf", "pdf")
)

```

Arguments

path	File path for the output PDF. Required.
recipient	Name of the person receiving the certificate.
title	Main heading. Defaults to "Certificate of Achievement".
award_name	Optional subtitle, rendered in upper-case (for example, "Outstanding Graduate").
organization	Optional name of the issuing organization. Used in the header when no logo is supplied.
program	Optional italic line shown beneath award_name (for example, "Bachelor of Arts in Political Science").
presented_text	Lead-in text immediately above the recipient name. Defaults to "This certificate is proudly presented to".
citation	Italic citation paragraph displayed beneath the recipient name. Will be soft-wrapped to fit the page.
academic_year	Optional academic-year line (for example, "2025-2026").
date_str	Date displayed in the signature block. Defaults to the current month and year.
signers	A list of one or two signers. Each signer is itself a list with name and title character entries. With one signer the layout shows a date line on the right; with two signers the date appears centered below the signature row.
logo	Optional path to a PNG logo. When provided, the image is centered in the header and organization is ignored.
theme	A cert_theme object controlling colors. See cert_theme() and the preset variants.

width, height	Page dimensions in inches. Defaults give US letter landscape (11 x 8.5).
show_laurels	Logical; if TRUE (the default), draw decorative laurel sprays flanking the recipient name.
device	Either "cairo_pdf" (the default) or "pdf". Cairo renders Unicode glyphs (en-dashes, em-dashes, smart quotes) cleanly and is the recommended choice. The base "pdf" device is more portable — it has no system dependency on Cairo / XQuartz — but silently downgrades non-ASCII characters to hyphens. Use "pdf" if you see "failed to load cairo DLL" warnings or segfaults on systems without Cairo (some macOS installations without XQuartz, stripped Linux containers, etc.).

Value

The output path, returned invisibly.

Layout

The page is US-letter landscape by default (11 x 8.5 inches). Pass width and height to render any other size. The header region shows either an image (if logo is supplied) or a wordmark constructed from organization. Below the header, the certificate shows a divider, the title, an optional award subtitle and program line, the recipient name, the citation, an optional academic year, and the signature block(s).

Examples

```
out <- tempfile("certify_", fileext = ".pdf")
make_certificate(
  path      = out,
  recipient = "Jane A. Doe",
  title     = "Certificate of Achievement",
  award_name = "Outstanding Student",
  organization = "University of Somewhere",
  citation  = "in recognition of exceptional dedication and scholarship.",
  academic_year = "2025-2026",
  signers   = list(
    list(name = "Alex Chair, Ph.D.", title = "Department Chair")
  ),
  device    = "pdf" # use "cairo_pdf" (default) for proper Unicode
)
file.exists(out)
```

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