

This is an example of *list* environments.

## Common types of lists

There are several types of lists, including:

1. ordered lists, like this one, where items have numbers or letters
2. unordered lists, where individual items are “bullet points”

Lists are useful for several reasons:

- They make documents well-organized
- They avoid users having to create numbers, etc. by hand. Note that an individual list item can cover several lines in a source document.

Lists can be *nested* as well:

- An unordered list can contain
  1. ordered lists
  2. unordered lists
- An ordered list can also contain
  - ordered lists
  - unordered lists

To make the source file easier to read, we could rewrite the section above.

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- Counters (for numbered lists) or bullets (for itemized lists) will change automatically as needed if lists are nested.

The latter method probably makes it easier to see where each list begins and ends.

## Other lists

There is one other list environment, the *description* environment, for sets of definitions. It works like this:

**42** The answer to life, the universe, and everything

**stuff** The technical term for many types of things

**everything** Lots of stuff

Note the extra parameter in the description environment. Also note how the alignment is handled. If you want something like this aligned differently, you may want to use a **tabular** environment instead, as follows:

42	The answer to life, the universe, and everything
stuff	The technical term for many types of things
everything	Lots of stuff

If you want the bold text like in the description environment, you can do this:

<b>42</b>	The answer to life, the universe, and everything
<b>stuff</b>	The technical term for many types of things
<b>everything</b>	Lots of stuff

You can also make your own list environments if you want.