

Bug with French and XeLaTeX

The polyglossia package shipped with Debian 9 (current stable) is hit by this bug: tex.stackexchange.com (missing no-break spaces in French punctuation).

You can work around it in two ways:

- Use LuaTeX instead of XeTeX (root users have access to the switch in the admin).
- Patch polyglossia (see below).

Patching polyglossia

This is experimental but appears to work:

Copy the file 'gloss-french.ldf' into the local tree.

```
# amusewiki shell
$ mkdir -p texmf/tex/latex/polyglossia
$ cp /usr/share/texlive/texmf-dist/tex/latex/polyglossia/gloss-french.ldf \
    texmf/tex/latex/polyglossia/gloss-french.ldf
$ texhash `kpsewhich -var-value TEXMFHOME`
```

And patch the new gloss-french.ldf with this:

```
--- /usr/share/texlive/texmf-dist/tex/latex/polyglossia/gloss-french.ldf      2016-03-25 23:06:
+++ texmf/tex/latex/polyglossia/gloss-french.ldf      2018-10-14 09:45:47.171843623 +0200
@@ -54,6 +54,13 @@
     \XeTeXinterchartoks \french@punctguillend \french@punctthin = {\nobreak\thinspace}% ">," -
     \XeTeXinterchartoks \french@punctguillend \french@punctthick = {\nobreakspace}% "»:" -> "»
     \XeTeXinterchartoks \french@punctthin \french@punctguillend = {\nobreakspace}% "?>" -> "?"
+
+ % see https://tex.stackexchange.com/questions/330844/prevent-line-break-before/330848#3308
+ \XeTeXinterchartoks 4095 \french@punctthin = {\xpg@unskip\nobreak\thinspace}%
+ \XeTeXinterchartoks 4095 \french@punctthick = {\xpg@unskip\nobreakspace}%
+ \XeTeXinterchartoks 4095 \french@punctguillend = {\xpg@unskip\nobreakspace}% " »" -> "~>"
+ \XeTeXinterchartoks \french@punctguillstart 4095 = {\nobreakspace\xpg@nospace}% "« " -> "«
+
\fi
}
```

A MuseWiki

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