

AdobeSM Customer Services

Optima^{*} and ITC Eras[®] Family Revisions

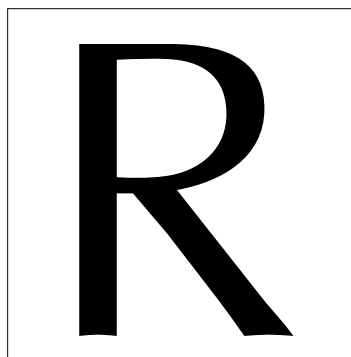
Adobe has recently revised two of its font packages for the Apple® Macintosh® and IBM® PC: Optima, package #6, and ITC Eras, package #56. Until now, both of these typeface packages were hybrid font files—that is, each style of the font contained two font outline programs within the outline font file. The most significant change is that these packages have been revised to be non-hybrid, just like the rest of the typefaces in the Adobe Library.

RESOLUTION-DEPENDENT OUTPUT

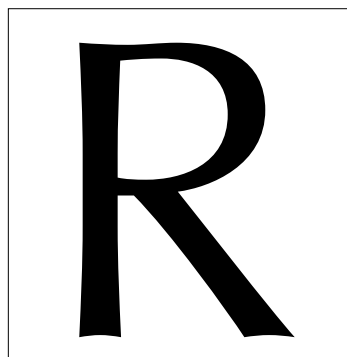
These two packages were originally constructed to show different versions of the font characters depending on the resolution of the output device. This ability of the font to “switch” character sets to different resolution devices made them hybrid fonts.

HYBRIDIZED FONTS

Optima and Eras were the only two packages to be hybridized by Adobe. The reason for this was that both typeface designs contain characters with subtle angles and curves that do not reproduce well at laser printer resolution (300-636 dpi [dots per inch]). By creating the alternate character set and replacing the sublime curves with straight edges, the result was better-looking (but not actually typographically accurate) characters at laser printer resolutions. Optima switched to its true imagesetter character set at 637 dpi, and Eras switched at 601 dpi.



Low Resolution Optima



High Resolution Optima

Optima and Eras are no longer hybrid fonts. The correct character shapes will now be imaged to any device, even though the characters may not be as attractive when printed from laser printers. Other changes are minor, including removal of underscores beneath ordinals, and correcting the character shapes of the Icelandic glyphs.