Creating Special Effects with Text

Introduction

With FrameMakerThis document explains how to achieve these special effects and includes several examples. The examples include PostScript programs that you can copy and use. You must be very careful when modifying the programs, however, since PostScript is unforgiving of errors.

For information on using PostScript code in a column, see the Flow command in Chapter 1 of *FrameMaker Reference*. This document assumes that you understand the information presented there.

PostScript Programs

FrameMaker includes two PostScript programs: `BigFill.ps`, which produces solid black or gray scale text and `BigLine.ps`, which produces outlined letters with a white fill pattern. You can rotate the text produced by both programs to any angle. Both programs are in the *install_dir*`/docs` directory, where *install_dir* is the directory in which FrameMaker was installed.

Before you use the programs in your own documents, do one of the following:

- If you are working in a personal directory, copy both programs to the directory in which you start FrameMaker (normally your home directory). Each person who wants to use the programs should do the same. The `#include` line in each of the columns containing PostScript code will then be:
  `#include "BigFill.ps"`

- If you are working in a group directory, copy both programs to a shared directory accessible by all users, or leave the programs in the *install_dir*`/docs` directory. The `#include` line in each PostScript code flow must contain the full pathname of the PostScript programs, beginning at the root directory. For example, `#include /s/local/BigFill.ps`. Do not use environment variables in the pathname. The full pathname enables FrameMaker to find the programs, regardless of their location. Before you can print this document, you must change all the `#include` statements to contain the full pathname.

  For more information about the `#include` line, see "Using the PostScript programs" on page 2.

To use the programs in your own documents, or see the special effects when you print this document, we recommend that you:

1. Open and print this document with FrameMaker to see the special

effects.

2. Study the contents of the columns containing PostScript code to see how the various effects are achieved.

3. Create a new document and experiment with the programs to create the type of lettering you want.

4. When you create lettering you'd like to share with others, copy or move the newly created document to a shared directory.

Using the PostScript programs

To use the PostScript programs:

1. Draw a column with the Text Column tool.

2. Select the column and choose Flow from the Format menu.Turn on the PostScript Code check box in the Flow Properties dialog box. (Don't assign a flow tag in the dialog box.)

   The position and size of the column on the page determine the position and size of the printed text, as described in the following sections.

3. Make sure that the column's pen and fill patterns are set to None.

   You can use a pen and fill pattern, but you may not be pleased with the results.

4. Type the arguments to the program in the column, as described in "Arguments to BigFill.ps" on page 3,   and "Arguments to BigLine.ps" on page 8.

5. Type the `#include` statement and the PostScript program you want to use in the column.

   The `#include` statement must be on a line by itself. For example:

   `#include "BigFill.ps"`

If you make a mistake in the argument or `#include` line, the document will not print correctly.

For example, this text column:

Produces this effect on the printed page:.

Arguments to BigFill.ps

When you use the program `BigFill.ps` to produce solid black or gray scale text, rotated to any angle, the column containing PostScript code must also contain a list of arguments and a `#include` statement. Separate the arguments with one or more spaces; the arguments can wrap. The list of arguments must contain the following, in order:

(string) /*font* /*mode* ±*rotation* /*corner gray*

The font, mode, and corner arguments must be preceded by a slash, with no space between the slash and argument value.

String

The string argument defines the output text you want. The text must be enclosed in parentheses.

Font

The font argument allows you to choose a font for your output. For LaserWriter fonts, choose one of the following:

/Times-Roman	/Helvetica-Bold	/Symbol
/Times-Italic	/Helvetica-BoldOblique	
/Times-Bold	/Courier	
/Times-BoldItalic	/Courier-Bold	
/Helvetica	/Courier-Oblique	
/Helvetica-Oblique	/Courier-BoldOblique	

If you have LaserWriter Plus fonts or have purchased other PostScript fonts, type the official PostScript font name after the slash.

The following are samples of the LaserWriter fonts:

Mode

The mode argument specifies how you want to fill the column with the text:

/w (width only)

/h (height only)

/B (both width and height)

If you specify /w for the mode argument, FrameMaker calculates the text size based on the width of the column containing the PostScript code. That is, the text will fit in the column horizontally, but not necessarily vertically.

If you specify /h, FrameMaker calculates the text size based on the height of the column. That is, the text will fit in the column vertically, but not necessarily horizontally.

If you specify /B, FrameMaker calculates the width and height of the text so that the text string fits within the column both horizontally and vertically.

Rotation

The rotation argument specifies the number of degrees (between -180 and +180) to rotate the text. A positive value rotates the text counterclockwise; negative rotates clockwise.

The following illustrations show the results of using various rotation arguments. In these examples, rotation is used in conjunction with Lower Left as the corner argument. (See "Corner" on page 6.) Although the text is rotated, its Lower Left corner is always attached to the Lower Left corner of the column containing PostScript code.

Corner

The corner argument indicates which corner of the column to align with the Lower Left corner of the printed text. The following are the possible values:

/LL (Lower Left)

/LR (Lower Right)

/UL (Upper Left)

/UR (Upper Right)

The value /LL puts the text inside the column. For example:

Gray

The gray argument specifies the number (between 0 and 1) indicating the gray scale pattern to appear inside the text. For example:

This value:	Prints as:
0	black
.25	75% gray
.50	50% gray
1.0	white

For example:

Arguments to BigLine.ps

Use the program `BigLine.ps` to produce outlined letters with a white fill pattern, rotated to any angle. When you use BigLine.ps, the column containing PostScript code must also contain a list of six arguments and a `#include` statement. The first five arguments are identical to the arguments used in `BigFill.ps`.

(string) /font /mode ±rotation /corner thickness

Thickness

The thick argument specifies the width, in points, of the outline of the text. If you indicate a value less than .001 point, the text may not be legible when you print the page. If you use a value greater than 3 points, the text will probably appear filled in when you print the page.

For example: