

TTInstal Help Index

True Type Font Installer Version 2.0 Help

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Introduction

True Type Font Installer (TTInstal) was created to provide one major feature that is lacking from the font installation feature of the Microsoft Windows 3.1 Control Panel; mainly, the ability to preview fonts *before* they are installed. Along the way, a number of other useful features ended up in the program, and more may be added as time goes by.

Features

- Previews TrueType fonts before they are installed
- Supports network font installation
- Supports compressed TrueType font files
- Includes full Windows-based setup program with network support
- Allows you to preview fonts in any desired size
- Prints font specimen sheets
- Indicates whether or not a previewed font is currently installed
- Shows currently installed fonts via a separate standard dialog box
- Saves settings between sessions

Instructions

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Previewing Fonts

Use the drive, directory and file list boxes to select a given TrueType font. Double-click the font filename or press the Preview button to preview that font.

Related Topics:

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What the Preview Indicators Mean

While a font is being previewed, the font name (e.g. "Helvetica Bold") will appear in the Font Name box. The font filename (e.g. "helvb.ttf") is shown in the Filename box, and the actual preview of the font may be seen in the Font Preview box.

Selecting the Font Preview Size

The desired font preview size in points may be selected via the Size drop-down selector.

Special Preview Indicators

In the blank space directly beneath the preview Size selector may appear a font status indicator. This indicator will read "Installed" if TTINstal detects that the currently previewed font is installed. It may also read "Existing Metrics" if for some reason a scalable font metric resource file (.FOT) happens to exist for the currently previewed font, but the font is not currently installed in Windows (an unusual case).

Previewing Character Sets

Double-click on a font that is currently being previewed (i.e. double-click the Preview box) to see a full-screen preview of the complete font character set. This may only be done with a mouse or other pointing device.

Installing Fonts

While a font is being previewed, pressing the Install button will install that font into your Windows configuration.

Installing Multiple Fonts

Alternately, you may select multiple fonts in the font file list box and press the Install button to install all of the selected fonts. TTInstal will not install fonts that are already installed, or that have existing metrics.

Pressing the right mouse button in the font filename list box will select all fonts in the current directory.

Copy to Windows Directory Option

When you press the Install button, if the "Copy to Windows Directory" option has been checked, TTInstal will copy the font(s) to your Windows SYSTEM subdirectory. If this option is not selected, the font will be installed but the font file itself will remain where it is. This feature can be useful if you do not wish to clutter your Windows System directory with font files.

Removing Fonts

Pressing the Remove... button will give you the option of removing the font from the WIN.INI and memory, deleting the scalable resource file (.FOT) from disk, or deleting the TrueType font file (.TTF) file itself from disk. Naturally, caution should be exercised when permanently deleting font files. TTInstal will ask you to confirm deletion of TrueType font files.

Viewing Currently Installed Fonts

Press the Installed Fonts... button to produce a dialog box that will allow you to view the currently installed fonts at any desired size. Note that if you are currently previewing a font at the time you press the Installed Fonts... button, that font will show up in the Installed Fonts dialog, since it is being displayed by TTInstal at the time.

Printing Font Specimen Sheets

While a font is being previewed, you can print a font specimen sheet by pressing the Print button. Specimen sheets show the font character set from characters 32-255 in a 24-point size, and include character codes underneath each character.

Leaving TTInstal

Press the Close button to shut down TTInstal.

Advanced INI Settings

CopyToWinDir

CSPreviewSize

PreviewText

PreviewSize

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SpecimenTitleFont

SpecimenSize

compressed

Those font files that use Microsoft-standard compression with the standard ".TT_" file extension, such as the compression used on the Microsoft True Type Font Pack for Windows.

CopyToWinDir

CopyToWinDir=<boolean>

You don't need to change this setting, it's changed automatically each time you exit TTInstal. When set to TRUE, TTInstal will start up with the "Copy to Windows Directory" option checked. When set to FALSE, this option will be unchecked.

CSPreviewSize

CSPreviewSize=<integer>

This option specifies the size in points that will be used for the character set preview. This setting may only be changed by editing the TTINSTALL.INI and manually adding the option. Changing this value should not be necessary in most cases.

PreviewText

PreviewText=<text>

This option allows you to set the text that will be used for the sample when a font is previewed. The default is "AaBbCcDdEeFf" (without the quotes). Example:

```
PreviewText=My Preview Text
```

PreviewSize

PreviewSize=<integer>

This option specifies the size in points that will be used for font preview. You don't need to set this option manually. It's set automatically by TTInstal to the current value each time you exit the program. Example:

```
PreviewSize=24
```

The valid range for PreviewSize is 2 through 127.

PreviewPath

PreviewPath=<drive/path>

This option is used by TTInstal to save the current drive and path upon exit. When you restart TTInstal, it will start up in the same directory you were in when you quit. There is little reason to modify this parameter manually. A fully qualified drive/path is required, including the drive letter and colon. Example:

```
PreviewPath=S:\NETFONTS\TRUETYPE\SERIF
```

SpecimenTitleFont

SpecimenTitleFont=

This option is used to specify the font face name that will be used for the titles (font names) at the top of each font specimen sheet printout. The default is Arial. You will need to change this if you do not have Arial installed for some reason, or if you just want to use a different font. This parameter can only be changed by editing the TTINSTAL.INI. Example:

```
SpecimenTitleFont=Lucida Handwriting Italic
```


SpecimenSize

SpecimenSize=<integer>

This option sets the font size in points that will be used for the character samples on font specimen sheet printouts. The default is 24 points. You may need to reduce this number on some exotic fonts that have unusual character extents, such as some math character set fonts. This parameter can only be changed by editing the TTINSTALL.INI. Example:

```
SpecimenSize=18
```

You can tell if this setting is too high, because the font specimen sheets will not print correctly! Again, this will only happen in rare cases with very exotic fonts.