TrueType and Printers

Hewlett Packard LaserJet, LaserJet+, and LaserJet 500 (PCL III)

TrueType fonts are always rendered in the graphics band and are only available when printing at 300dpi.

Hewlett Packard LaserJet Series II (PCL IV)

Default setting is to download TrueType fonts to the printer for speed and reduced job size. If more than 16 TrueType fonts (each face, style, and point size is considered a separate font) are used on the same page, the remaining TrueType fonts will be drawn in the graphics band. This is done automatically and requires no user intervention. Cannot print 'white' TrueType text. To print white text on a dark background you must turn ON 'Print TrueType as Graphics' in the printer setup dialog and print at 300dpi. TrueType text shows through an opaque graphics object. To properly overlay opaque graphics over TrueType text you must turn ON 'Print TrueType as Graphics' in the printer setup dialog and print at 300dpi.

Hewlett Packard LaserJet IID, LaserJet IIP (PCL IV)

Same limitations as the Series II except that more than 16 fonts can be on the same page without switching to the graphics band.

On IIP printers with 1MB or more memory, TIFF compression is used.

Hewlett Packard LaserJet III family (PCL V)

More than 16 fonts can be on the same page without switching to the graphics band. White text can be printed without using 'TrueType as Graphics'.

PostScript Printers

Some printed characters are slightly different from those on the display. This is due to our TrueType fonts being mapped to corresponding fonts in the PostScript printer, for example, Arial is substituted with Helvetica. This substitution should not effect line or page breaks and is on by default.

TrueType and Applications

Common Application Problems

At small sizes TrueType fonts look like a simple Serif or Sans Serif font on the display. This is because at small sizes, on the display only, Windows selects a hand-tuned bitmap font to preserve readability.

At small sizes bold or bold italic TrueType fonts don't look bold on the display. This is because our TrueType fonts adjust the widths of the lines making up the character to preserve readability, even at small point sizes. Selecting an expanded or zoomed view of the document or printing it will show that the fonts are bold.

Some applications will use a bold or italic style of the font requested rather than the regular style. If this happens, check the [Fonts] section in your WIN.INI file to see if the bold/italic style of the font you selected comes before the regular entry. If this is the case, move the non-regular style to below the regular style, exit and restart Windows, then see if the problem appears again.

Aldus PageMaker 4.0

PageMaker displays all available fonts in a single column cascaded menu. If enough fonts are installed, the list can exceed the available height of the screen. If this happens, use the Type->Type specs... dialog, all available fonts are in the Fonts combobox.

Ami Pro 2.0

If you have letters that run into each other when displaying a TrueType font, you should go into View->View Preferences and turn OFF 'Display as Printed'.

Corel Draw

Corel Draw uses its own fonts and will not enumerate any TrueType fonts.

Micrografx Charisma

With a PostScript printer as the currently selected printer, you will see each TrueType font enumerated twice in the choose font dialog box. This is because this application sees the font enumerated for the screen and also for the printer and will display an entry for each.

Micrografx Designer 3.1

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Micrografx Windows Draw

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Microsoft PowerPoint 2.0e

PowerPoint will not enumerate TrueType fonts in the Style-Fonts menu when the selected target printer is 'Default Target'. To enumerate TrueType fonts, select File-Printer Setup... and choose the display or appropriate target printer.

Microsoft Word for Windows

Word for Windows 2.0, when in 'Zoom Page Width' and 'Zoom Whole Page' mode, will sometimes cause text that is bold/bold italic to appear to normal or just italic. This is because, at the smaller sizes, TrueType bold fonts only have 1 pixel wide stems as in the regular font. Switching back to 100% view typically returns the font to a bold appearance.

WordPerfect for Windows

In the choose font dialog, you will see every TrueType font enumerated, not just the font family name. In WordPerfect for Windows you will see Arial, Arial Bold, Arial Bold Italic and Arial Italic.

If you install additional fonts, such as the Lucida fonts, only the fonts that have 'standard' styles will be listed. For example, Lucida Bright comes in four styles, Regular, Demibold, Demibold Italic and Italic. Since Demibold is not a standard style, only Lucida Bright and Lucida Bright Italic will show up in the choose font dialog. Select DemiBold fonts by clicking on the 'Bold' button in the dialog.