

Category: Sans-serif

Classification: Humanist sans-serif

Designer: FF Meta Erik Spiekerman

Date released: 1991

Designer: Trebuchet: Vincent Connare for Microsoft

Date released: 1996

FFMeta/ Trebuchet

TREBUCHET 24PT

Regular **REGULAR** **REGULAR**

Italic **ITALIC** **ITALIC**

Bold **BOLD** **BOLD**

Bold Italic **BOLD ITALIC** **BOLD ITALIC**

FF Meta

Meta was originally designed by Erik Spiekerman as a corporate font. It is based on an earlier font commissioned by the German Post Office and gets its name from MetaBesign, the Berlin studio where it was developed.

The typeface was not accepted by the Post Office who continued to use Helvetica, and the project was cancelled. In 1989 it was given three digitised styles by Just van Rossum. This font was extremely successful in the period. It is listed in both 30 Essential Fonts and Font: The Sourcebook. It is only available from Adobe in Webfonts.

It has resurfaced as 2013 Fira Sans, a free derivative for Mozilla's Firefox OS

Trebuchet MS (used here)

A humanist sans-serif typeface designed by Vincent Connare for the Microsoft Corporation in 1996. It is named after the trebuchet, a medieval siege engine. Connare "thought that would be a great name for a font that launches words across the Internet".

Trebuchet MS is one of Microsoft's "Core fonts for the Web". Trebuchet MS has been released with the Microsoft Windows operating system since Microsoft Windows 2000. The typeface has been released with Internet Explorer since version 4.0 and Microsoft Word since Word 2000. It is also included with Mac OS X and iOS.

The Trebuchet 2010 font family was introduced by Ascender Corp in July 2010 as part of the Ascender 2010 Font Pack. In addition to extensive OpenType typographic feature support, the family was extended with new black and black italic fonts. The new weights and OpenType features were developed by Ascender's Steve Matteson and Terrance Weinzierl.

Characteristics: Meta was intended for rapid printing on poor quality paper. This needed a very legible, neutral, space-saving typeface with special attention to producing unmistakable characters be easily read from any angle and in smaller point sizes and in two clearly distinguishable weights.

Lower case

- Round dot over the letter i and j.
- Ends of the letter s are nearly horizontal
- Curved bottom of l, making it clearly different to a 1 or upper-case i.
- Double-storey a with a very open aperture at the top.
- Not fully closed bottom loop in binocular g.
- Bend to the left at the top of the letters b, h, k, l.
- A very distinctive y where the two strokes do not join smoothly.

Upper case

- Dropped horizontal element on A.
- Angled letter M, more resembling Futura or an upturned W than Helvetica or Gill Sans
- Slanted upper terminal on the top right of E, T, F. E and T are not symmetrical.

A general feature of FF Meta is relatively open apertures, in contrast to the more folded-up appearance of Helvetica. This is believed to promote legibility and make the letterforms more clearly different from one another.

Characteristics:

Designed for web use.

- The splayed edges of the uppercase "M" which form a 10° angle with a vertical line, reminiscent of a tighter version of Futura.
- The shape of the tail of the uppercase "Q",
- The bar of the capital "A" is low,
- The shortened tails of the lowercase "e" and the numerals "6" and "9",
- The hybrid open and looped tail of the lowercase "g",
- The rounded dots above and the shapes of the lowercase "i" and "j",
- The curved tail beneath the lowercase "l",
- The dollar sign symbol "\$", in which the vertical strike only appears above the top and below the bottom curves of the S,
- The ampersand "&" in the form of an "Et" ligature and
- The exclamation point "!", whose dot is large and round.
- Italic fonts incorporate italic type characteristics instead of just tilting roman glyphs, making it the first sans serif font family from Microsoft to use true italic features.
- The en dash and hyphen are essentially indistinguishable

A B C D E F G

H I J K L M N

O P Q R S T

U V W X Y Z

a b c d e f g h i j k l m

n o p q r s t u v w x y z

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

20,000 LEAGUES *UNDER THE SEA*

CHAPTER 1 A SHIFTING REEF

The year 1866 was signalised by a remarkable incident, a mysterious and puzzling phenomenon, which doubtless no one has yet forgotten. Not to mention rumours which agitated the maritime population and excited the public mind, even in the interior of continents, seafaring men were particularly excited.

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