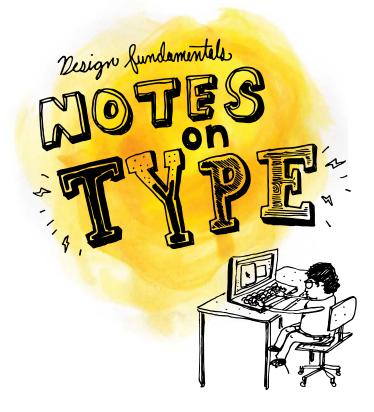


ROSE GONNELLA CHRISTOPHER J. NAVETTA MAX FRIEDMAN





#### **Design Fundamentals: Notes on Type**

Rose Gonnella, Christopher J. Navetta, and Max Friedman

**Peachpit Press** 

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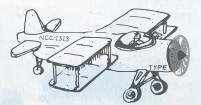
This book is dedicated to our mentor typographer, Martin Holloway, and to great typographers throughout history.

For more content, visit design-fundamentals.com and our Pinterest boards at pinterest.com/dsnfundamentals

Special thanks to Nikki McDonald and Robin Landa

And to the students of the Robert Busch School of Design, our sincere appreciation for their contributions: Margaret Grzymkowski, Kyle Godfrey, David Haase, John Weigele, Alexa Matos, Stephen Sepulveda, Chris Hopkins, Hannah Friedman





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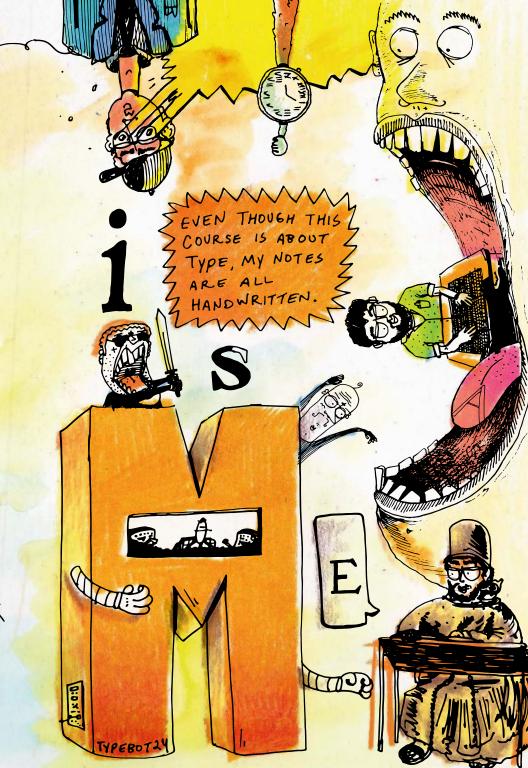
THESE ARE MY NOTES FROM TYPE BASICS CLASS. I INCLUDED ALL THE KEY POINTS & EXERCISES WITH MY ILLUSTRATIONS. THE CLASS WEBSITE: WWW.DESIGN-FUNDAMENTALS.COM HAS A BUNCH OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AS WELL.AND SO DO OUR PINTEREST BOARDS: PINTEREST.COM/DSNFUNDAMENTALS

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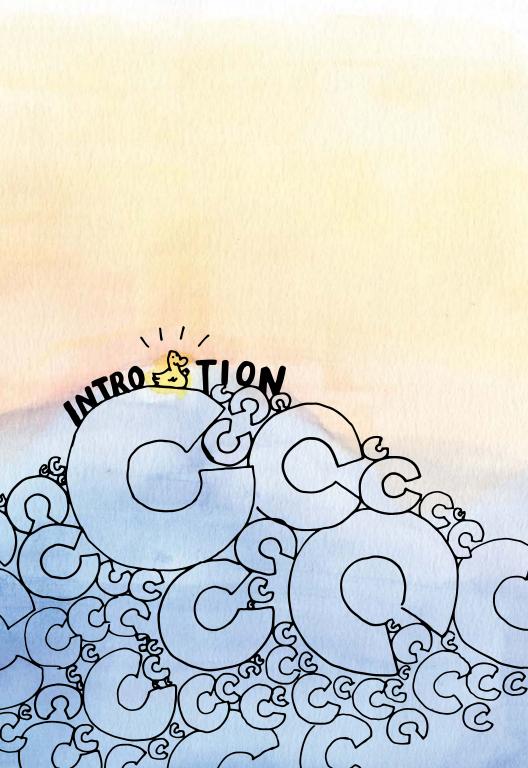
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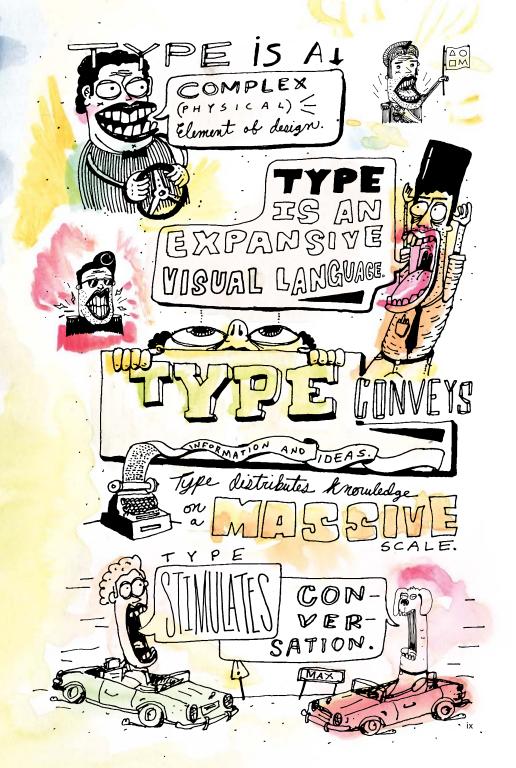
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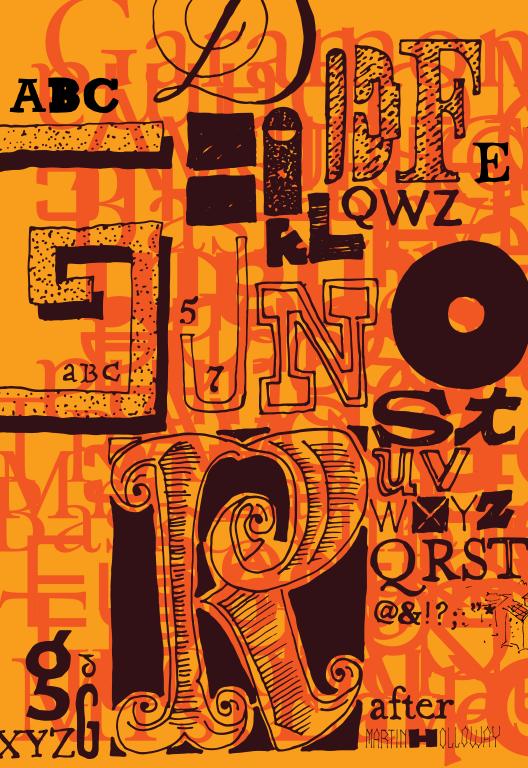




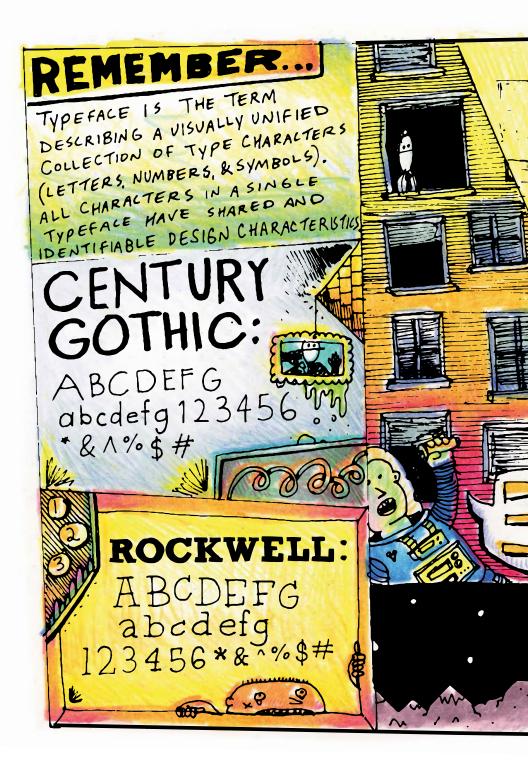








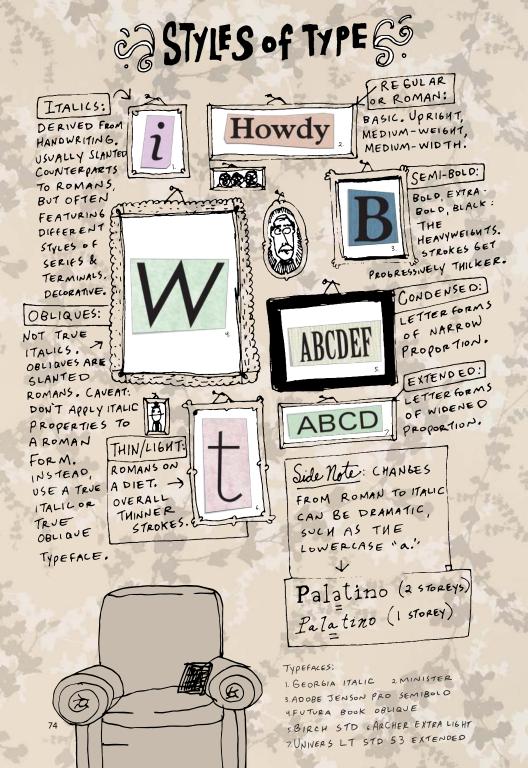








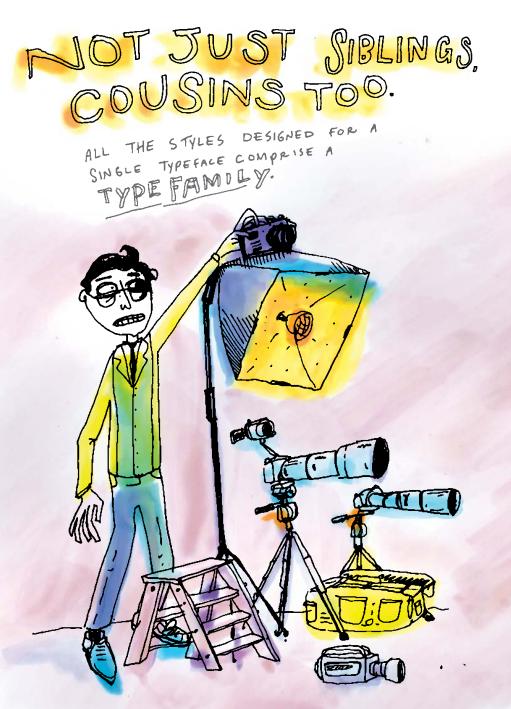




The List can go on & on ...

BOLD CONDENSED. MEDIUM OBLIQUE. SEMI-BOLD. SEMI-EXTENDED. LIGHT ULTRA-CONDENSED OBLIQUE. BOLD EXTENDED ULTRA GRANDE. PIQUENO LIGHT OBLIQUE. VENTI ITALIC. ULTRA EXTENDED SICILIAN BOLD. SUPER-LIGHT OBLIQUE. MEGA-ULTRA BOLD ITALIC. VENTI ICED CARAMEL MACCHIATO W/ WHIPPED CREAM. (I MAY HAVE MADE THAT LAST ONE UP.)



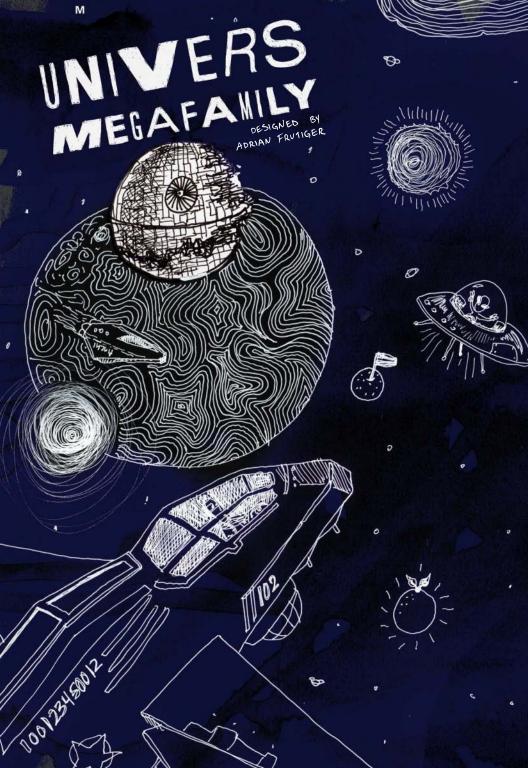


MANY TYPE FAMILIES ARE NUCLEAR-JUST TWO OR THREE BASIC STYLES (THE REGULAR OR ROMAN PARENT AND THE ITALIC & BOLD SIBLINGS), BUT SOME TYPEFACES CAN HAVE NUMEROUS COUSINS, TO THE POINT OF CALLING THE GROUP A SUPERFAMILY OF A MEGREFAMILIA!

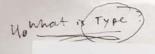
(SERIOUSLY.)



EXTENDED FAMILIES HAVE MORE COMPLEX FEATURES. SUPERFAMILIES & MEGAFAMILIES HAVE A MULTITUDE OF FEATURES, AND CAN EVEN INCLUDE BOTH SERIF & SANS SERIF VERSIONS OF THE TYPEFACE. 77







DEPARTMENT OF TYPE TYPOGRAPHIC INVESTIGATION TASKFORCE BENTON MILITARY BASE, MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN (150 (153)

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MEMORANDUM FOR NCC-1701/A SUBJECT: CLASSIFICATION INTERROGATION

Printers began classifying type in the 19th century. The classifications established now provide a **constant** quick and (fairly) easy system for recognizing and the system of the pass of the pass of typeface classifications is the pass of the pas

Type designers use the classifications as a foundation and the second guide for designing new the second se

N.b.: Studios that design and digitize type for mass distribution are the state of type foundries.

Frank Lynn-Gothic,

etc.

Chief Typographic Officer, USDOT

Printed on Recycled Paper

# TTC American Typewriter Std ABCDEFGHI JKLMNOPQR

Good morning, Mr. Friedman.

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is **type relevancy**. Learn the evolution of type from hand to screen and in-between, to use it appropriately.

Simply put, don't use a Swiss typeface designed in 1927 for a movie poster about 18th century Wyoming cowboys.

This message will self-destru

Good luck.

CONCEPT.

CONTEXT

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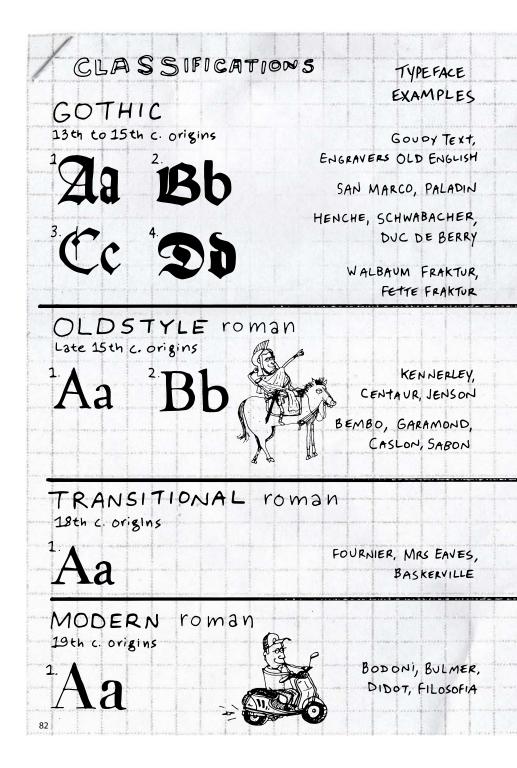
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phis

Must investigate these men:

Joel Kaden, Tony Stan.

-cgm



Design Characteristics and Variations

BASED ON MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPT BLACKLETTER VERTICAL; HEAVY STROKE WEIGHT, CONDENSED FORM

- 1. TEXTURA: GUTENBERG'S FIRST PRINTING TYPES; MOST DEFINITIVE GOTHIC STYLE.
- 2. ROTUNDA: ROUNDER, LESS-CONDENSED THAN TEXTURA.
- 3. SCHWABACHER: CURSIVE, ROUNDER GOTHIC.
- 4. FRAKTUR: DECORATIVE WITH FLOURISMES; POPULAR AFTER 16tH C.

DERIVED FROM 15th C MINUSCULE FORMS, WRITTEN W/ VARYING STROKE THICKNESS MADE BY AN OBLIQUELY-HELD FLAT PEN.

- 1. VENETIAN: AXIS INCLINES TO LEFT; NO GREAT CONTRAST BETWEEN. THIN AND THICK STROKES; BRACKETED SERIFS.
- 2. GARALDE: AXIS INCLINES LEFT; CONTRAST IN THICKNESS OF STROKE; BRACKETED SERIFS.

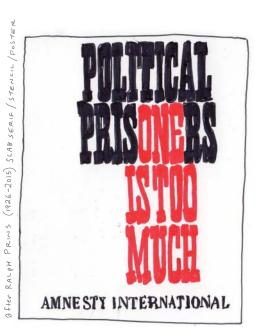
INFLUENCED BY COPPERPLATE ENGRAVED LETTERS. TRANSITION FROM GARALDE TO MODERN, NAVING CHARACTERISTICS OF EACH.

1. AXIS VERTICAL OR SLIGHTLY INCLINED LEFT; CONTRASTING THICK & THIN STROKES; BRACKETEO SERIFS.

NEO-CLASSICAL + INDUSTRIAL ERA SPIRIT CELEBRATING MECHANICAL FORM. MOST GEOMETRIC OF ROMANS.

1. AXIS VERTICAL; HIGHLY CONTRASTING TUIN & THICK STROKES; OFTEN WITHOUT BRACKETS.

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## CLASSIFICATIONS

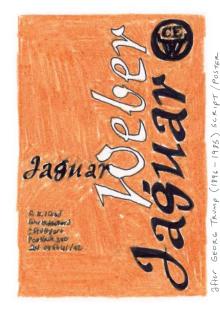
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After MORRIS FULLER BENTON (1872-1948) BLACKLETTER

CLASSIFICATIONS SLABSERIF TYPEFACE EXAMPLES

19th c. ORIGINS 1 Aa <sup>2</sup> Bb

SANS SERIF

Aa<sup>2</sup>Bb

SCRIPT A

19th C. ORIGINS

Cc

Aa

ARCHER, ROCKWELL, SERIFA, STYMIE BOLD

CENTURY SCHOOLBOOK, CHELTENHAM, CLARENDON

FRANKLIN GOTHIC, UNIVERS, NEWS GOTHIC, HELVETICA

> STONE SANS, Optima, Frutiger

FUTURA, KABEL, BAUHAUS, EUROSTILE

OND INE, MARIGOLD, SCOTFORD UNCIAL

SNELL ROUNDHAND, KUENSTLER SCRIPT, EDWARDIAN SCRIPT

MURRAY BOLD, VISIGOTH

Design Characteristics and Variations (SLAB)

BOLDLY IN DUSTRIAL AESTHETIC. AXIS VERTICAL; OVERALL THICK STROKES, HEAVILY-BRACKETED SERIES

- 1. EGYPTIAN (GEO METRIC SLAB): INFLUENCED BY EARLY 19th C. CRAZE FOR ALL THINGS EGYPTIAN; LITTLE THICK - THIN CONTRAST; EXTREMELY HEAVY SERIFS WITH SLIGHT OR NO BRACKETING.
- 2. CLARENDON (GROTESQUE SLAB): SOME THICK-THIN CONTRAST; THINNER BRACKETED SERIFS; BALL TERMINALS COMMON. WEDGED SHAPED SERIFS & SOME CURVE SEEN IN HUMANIST FORMS OF SLAB.

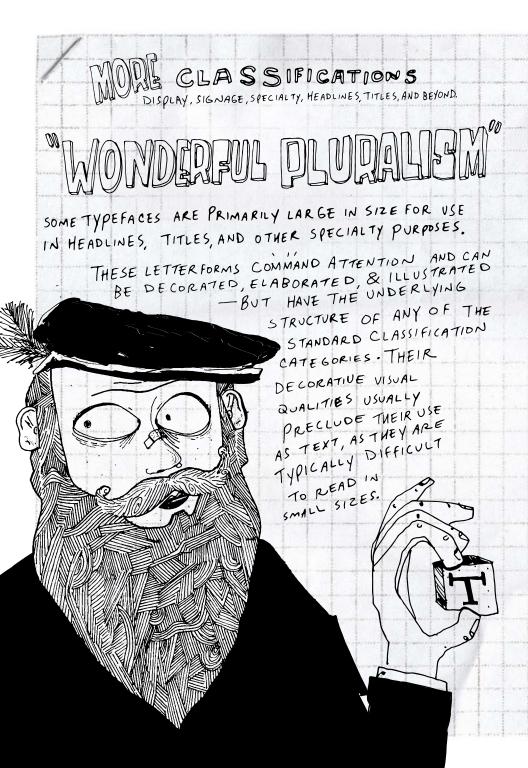
#### TYPEFACES WITHOUT SERIFS.

- 1. GROTESQUE: CALLED GROTESQUE AS A REACTION TO ITS HARSH AUSTERITY. AXIS VERTICAL; ABSENCE OF THICK-THIN CONTRAST; HORIZONTAL TERMINALS; CLOSED APERTURE; CURVED LEGS.
- 2. HUMANIST: INSPIRED BY OLD STYLE FORMS BUT WITHOUT SERIFS AND THICK-THIN CONTRAST; SOME TERMINALS FLARED.
- 3. GEOMETRIC: CONSTRUCTED OF GEOMETRIC FORMS (CIRCLE "O"). AXIS VERTICAL; SINGLE STOREY "Q"; MINIMAL TUKK-THIN CONTRAST.

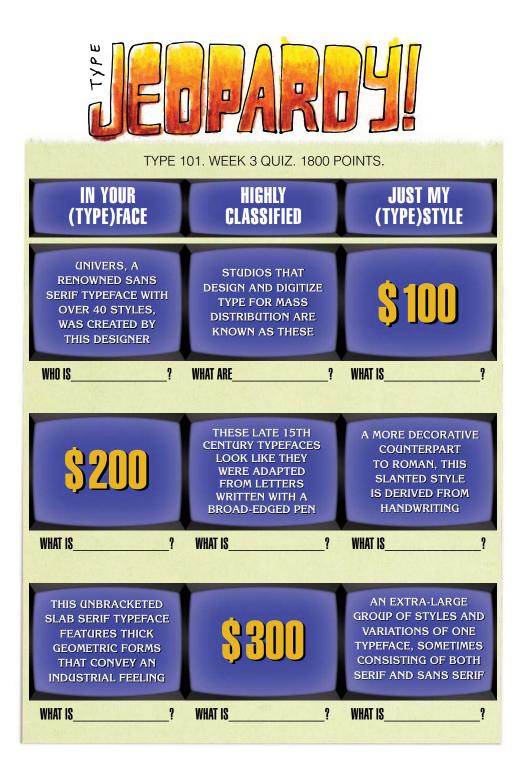
TYPEFACES THAT IMITATE HANDWRITING. LETTERFORMS OFTEN JOINED. SUBCATEGORIZED BY THE WRITING TOOL:

- 1. FLAT. EDGED PEN: TOOL THAT MOST INFLUENCED ROMAN & ITALIC TYPE.
- 2. FLEXIBLE POINTED PEN: REPLACED FLATEDGED PEN FROM 17TH-19th CENTURIES. OFTEN CALLED COPPERPLATE. FORMAL ELEGANCE; THICK SWELLS; DELICATE HAIRLINES AND ELABORATE FLOURISMES.

3. BRUSH: INFLUENCED BY SIGN PAINTING. INFORMAL; ASSOCIATED WITH SIGNAGE AND POSTERS FROM THE EPHEMERAL WORK OF COMMERCE.







## SUMMARY

How do you get to be good at typographic design?

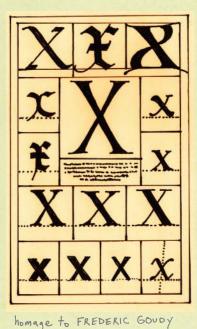
Practice.

Typefaces and type families number in the tens of thousands. To help designers select just the right typeface for a particular job, printers organized all of this type into classifications based on visual characteristics and historical relevance.

How do you get to the point where you can recognize and expertly choose the right font for a project out of the tens of thousands of typefaces out there? Start small. Limit yourself to a small group of typefaces and styles—fewer than 100. Look for both the obvious and subtle defining characteristics of a single typeface. Use that typeface in a design. Redesign the piece. Do it again. Select another typeface. Use it in a design. Select another and another—practice, practice, practice. Look at and learn from the masters. Practice leads to smart (and sometimes great) typographic design.

How to win awards in the Type Directors Club?

Practice for years.



### EXERCISES & projects

#### 1. KNOW THY TYPE INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY

A. BUILD A TYPE TOOLKIT: Designing starts with and requires great sensitivity to the individual parts, the whole, and spaces in between letterforms—along with the look and feel of the massed type. To gain sensitivity and control in designing with type, build a "type toolkit"—a limited selection of typefaces with which to practice. By limiting the number of typefaces, you become more intimately aware of the visual tone, texture, and rhythm of type on the page and screen.

**SUPPLIES:** Access to professional typefaces such as those distributed by ITC, Adobe, Emigre, etc.

#### **COMPOSE AND SHARE RESULTS**

- Select one or two typefaces in each major type classification: old style serif, transitional, modern, slab serif, sans serifs (humanist, geometric), a script, and one display or decorative.
- Separate these typefaces from all others you may have and practice designing only with those in the toolbox.

#### INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY

**B. TYPE PAIRS:** Type design looks most professional when more than one typeface is used to distinguish information and set the visual tone and communication. Generally, use one typeface for headers and another for running text. It is tempting to employ many typefaces (and styles). More than three typefaces in a small document will start to cause confusion. Practice type design by limiting to complementary type pairs. Less is more.

**SUPPLIES:** Access to professional typefaces such as those distributed by ITC, Adobe, Emigre, etc.

#### **COMPOSE AND SHARE RESULTS**

Think contrast for clarity. Pair two to three typefaces that are complementary in form, style, and/or classification.

Suggestions include but are not limited to:

- Old Style serif + sans serif light
- script + geometric sans serif
- Modern + grotesque sans serif
- one Modern + a light humanist sans
- keep going...



AMPERSAND by JAME CLARK

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IT'S NOT AN "S." ON MY PLANET, IT MEANS "HOPE."

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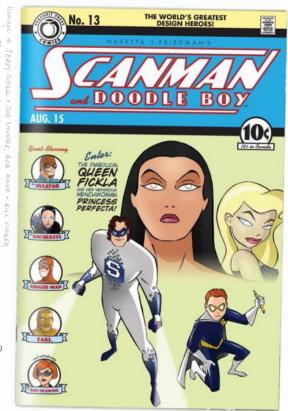
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