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survey title:
A font by any other name? Edit Title

design survey | collect responses | **analyze results**

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Response Summary

Active Filter: Western Europe

Total: 315

Filtered: 103

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1. What are the differences between a "font" and a "typeface"? (You can check ALL that apply)

		Response Percent	Response Count
A typeface is the abstract design; a font is a computer file instantiating a typeface in a specific format.		**58.3%**	**60**
A typeface embodies more than one style (e.g. bold and italic) while a font is a single style (e.g. bold condensed italic)		51.5%	53
There is no difference, they are synonyms		10.7%	11
Other (please explain in comments)		12.6%	13
	Comments view		22
		answered question	**103**
		skipped question	**0**

2. When talking about scalable digital fonts, what constitutes "a font" in your mind?

		Response Percent	Response Count
One font includes all the different possible styles (condensed, extended, bold, italic)		7.8%	8
One font includes a base style plus any linked styles (bold, italic, bold			

italic) but no more than that. Arial is one font (including bold and italic), Arial Narrow is a second (including bold and italic), and Arial Black is a third.		18.4%	19
One font is a single style of a typeface, in a given font format. So Arial Bold Italic is one font and Arial Italic is another. (Point size doesn't matter.)		**64.1%**	**66**
One font is a given style at a specific size, just like in metal type. 10 point Arial Bold Italic is one font, and 12 point Arial Bold Italic is a different font.		6.8%	7
Other		1.0%	1
I don't know / I'm not sure		1.9%	2
	Comment 💬 view		12
		answered question	103
		skipped question	0

3. Which of the following elements is part of the definition of "a single typeface" in your mind? Check ALL that apply.

		Response Percent	Response Count
It is the design, regardless of how it's instantiated		56.4%	53
It is a family of one or more styles (including bold and italic)		**63.8%**	**60**
It includes no more styles than four, which are style-linked (regular, italic, bold, bold italic)		4.3%	4
It can include variants by width (such as condensed and extended)		53.2%	50
It can include variants by optical size (such as display as well as regular)		54.3%	51
A typeface can include major style variants such as serif/sans/slab/monospaced		24.5%	23
	Comments 💬 view		15
		answered question	94
		skipped question	9

4. How appropriate would you say each of the following terms is for meaning a single face/style of a font family in a given format, such as Helvetica Bold Condensed Italic in OpenType CFF?

	Absolutely Not	Probably Not	Maybe	Good	Very Good	Fits Perfectly	Rating Average	Response Count
Variant	5.2% (5)	14.6% (14)	19.8% (19)	**27.1% (26)**	10.4% (10)	22.9% (22)	3.92	96
Font	11.2% (11)	10.2% (10)	11.2% (11)	20.4% (20)	10.2% (10)	**36.7% (36)**	4.18	98
Face	17.9% (17)	16.8% (16)	**25.3% (24)**	11.6% (11)	10.5% (10)	17.9% (17)	3.34	95
Style	3.1% (3)	16.7% (16)	14.6% (14)	19.8% (19)	20.8% (20)	**25.0% (24)**	4.14	96
Weight	12.2% (12)	16.3% (16)	15.3% (15)	**21.4% (21)**	16.3% (16)	18.4% (18)	3.68	98
Comment view								21
answered question								**100**
skipped question								**3**

5. How appropriate would you say each of the following terms is for use in describing a style-linked group of up to four fonts (regular, italic, bold, bold italic)?

	Absolutely Not	Probably Not	Maybe	Good	Very Good	Fits Perfectly	Rating Average	Response Count
Styling Group	17.0% (16)	**37.2% (35)**	30.9% (29)	7.4% (7)	4.3% (4)	3.2% (3)	2.54	94
Styling Family	21.5% (20)	**37.6% (35)**	20.4% (19)	12.9% (12)	3.2% (3)	4.3% (4)	2.52	93
Style-linked Group	16.3% (15)	25.0% (23)	**33.7% (31)**	9.8% (9)	7.6% (7)	7.6% (7)	2.90	92
Family	7.4% (7)	6.3% (6)	8.4% (8)	23.2% (22)	20.0% (19)	**34.7% (33)**	4.46	95
Font	**33.0% (30)**	26.4% (24)	13.2% (12)	13.2% (12)	6.6% (6)	7.7% (7)	2.57	91
Typeface	15.5% (15)	14.4% (14)	11.3% (11)	20.6% (20)	15.5% (15)	**22.7% (22)**	3.74	97
Style-linked Family	11.7% (11)	20.2% (19)	**29.8% (28)**	12.8% (12)	9.6% (9)	16.0% (15)	3.36	94
Comment view								16
answered question								**98**
skipped question								**5**

6. How appropriate is each of the following terms for describing a typeface family with an arbitrary number of styles? For example, they could vary in weight, width, slope, optical size, and possibly other minor stylistic ways.

	Absolutely Not	Probably Not	Maybe	Good	Very Good	Fits Perfectly	Rating Average	Response Count

Typeface	7.3% (7)	15.6% (15)	10.4% (10)	16.7% (16)	16.7% (16)	**33.3% (32)**	4.20	96
Font	**42.0% (37)**	28.4% (25)	11.4% (10)	9.1% (8)	3.4% (3)	5.7% (5)	2.20	88
Font Family	3.1% (3)	7.2% (7)	9.3% (9)	24.7% (24)	24.7% (24)	**30.9% (30)**	4.54	97
Extended Font Family	3.2% (3)	10.8% (10)	17.2% (16)	20.4% (19)	**28.0% (26)**	20.4% (19)	4.20	93
Other suggestion (please comment)	20.0% (3)	6.7% (1)	**33.3% (5)**	6.7% (1)	20.0% (3)	13.3% (2)	3.40	15
						Comment [view]		20
						answered question		**100**
						skipped question		**3**

7. What's the best term for describing a set of related fonts/typefaces/etcetera that differ in major design characteristics? For example, there might be a serif, a sans serif, a monospaced semi-sans, and a slab serif version, each in turn comprising a full type family (or whatever one calls them) of its own. You construct a term by combining an adjective (options across the top) with a noun (options down the left side). This creates combined terms such as "type series" and "font suite." Please check ONLY ONE BOX for this question, unless you feel there are two or more equally good first choices.

	Type	Typeface	Font	(no adjective needed)	Response Count
Series	**42.9% (12)**	28.6% (8)	21.4% (6)	14.3% (4)	28
Extended Family	8.1% (3)	**37.8% (14)**	32.4% (12)	24.3% (9)	37
Meta-family	9.1% (2)	**50.0% (11)**	13.6% (3)	27.3% (6)	22
Uber-family	25.0% (4)	25.0% (4)	12.5% (2)	**37.5% (6)**	16
Super-family	32.3% (10)	**35.5% (11)**	12.9% (4)	19.4% (6)	31
System	**40.0% (14)**	**40.0% (14)**	17.1% (6)	11.4% (4)	35
Collection	32.4% (11)	**50.0% (17)**	32.4% (11)	5.9% (2)	34
Suite	21.9% (7)	**50.0% (16)**	21.9% (7)	15.6% (5)	32
Clan	**36.8% (7)**	26.3% (5)	10.5% (2)	26.3% (5)	19
Other (see comments)	25.0% (3)	33.3% (4)	8.3% (1)	**41.7% (5)**	12
				Comment [view]	17
				answered question	**99**
				skipped question	**4**

8. How deeply involved are you with fonts and typography?

		Response Percent	Response Count

Very Deeply (examples: type designer; font production, font sales or support)		33.0%	34
Deeply (examples: typographer, software developer who works closely with fonts, graphic/web designer who is "into" fonts)		**40.8%**	**42**
Moderately (examples: average graphic designer or web designer)		24.3%	25
Average User (examples: just use fonts in Microsoft Office)		1.9%	2
		answered question	**103**
		skipped question	**0**

9. Where are you from, and where do you live?

	I was mostly educated in:	I live in:	Response Count
Australia / New Zealand	0.0% (0)	**100.0% (1)**	1
USA/Canada	**68.8% (11)**	50.0% (8)	16
Latin America	**50.0% (1)**	**50.0% (1)**	2
Western Europe	**90.3% (93)**	84.5% (87)	103
Central or Eastern Europe	**50.0% (2)**	**50.0% (2)**	4
East Asia (incl. China)	0.0% (0)	**100.0% (1)**	1
South Asia	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0
South-East Asia	**100.0% (2)**	0.0% (0)	2
Asia (other)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0
Middle East	**100.0% (1)**	0.0% (0)	1
Africa	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0
Other	**100.0% (1)**	0.0% (0)	1
		answered question	**103**
		skipped question	**0**