

Customer Solutions



HAGADONE
PRINTING COMPANY

Not Just Ink On Paper.

274 Pu'uhale Road, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96819

main (808) 847-5310

fax (808) 841-0094

toll free (800) 491-4888

www.hagadoneprinting.com

TrueType Fonts

► PRE-PRESS PRESS POST-PRESS MAILING SPECIALTY

Following is a comparison of TrueType fonts and Postscript Type 1 fonts, and a discussion of why TrueType fonts can cause output that is inconsistent with what appears on screen. I've also included an explanation of why conflicts can occur if you use both TrueType fonts and Postscript Type 1 fonts at the same time.

TrueType fonts are composed in the TrueImage page description language, while Type 1 fonts are composed in the PostScript page description language. When you print to a QuickDraw device, such as an ink-jet or non-Postscript laser printer, TrueType fonts provide the most accurate representation on screen of the printed output. When you print to a PostScript device, composing and viewing a document using the Type 1 font and ATM (Adobe Type Manager) will provide the most accurate representation on screen of the printed output.

PostScript-only output devices, including virtually every high-resolution digital proofing device, filmsetter, and platesetter in use today, do not directly support TrueType fonts. Instead, the printer driver, in cooperation with the originating software application, converts TrueType fonts to the Postscript language. While this does not generally cause problems, sometimes font information can become distorted or even lost, resulting in undesired output. These problems may occur more often when the font was not produced properly (such fonts are available for free on the web), or when "faux" styles such as "Bold", "Italic", "Outline", or "Shadow" were applied to the characters of TrueType fonts.

PDF Embedding

A TrueType font can include a special setting that will not allow the font to be included ("embedded") in a PDF file. This setting is available to font developers as a protection method so that the font cannot easily be "pirated". Unfortunately, many TrueType fonts that are available from the web include this setting (even though they may be Public Domain).

Most modern prepress workflows—including ours—use the PDF file format as the "digital master" for pages. This means that at some point, we convert your layout pages to the PDF file format. If a TrueType does not allow embedding, the PDF file cannot be created.

Simultaneous Use

When both the TrueType and Type 1 version of the same named font are installed, display and printing inconsistencies can result, for example, unexpected character spacing, unexpected line and page breaks. This is because a Type 1 font's character spacing is not identical to the equivalent TrueType font's character spacing.

Known Problem Fonts

When initially installed or re-installed, Mac OS 9.x places several TrueType fonts in your fonts folder. Most print without error, however, there are two known fonts that do not always print accurately. They are "Impact" and "Helvetica Condensed Black". These should be removed from your System ► Fonts folder.

What To Do

If a Postscript version of the font is available, use it instead of the TrueType version. Postscript fonts are fully supported by high-resolution devices, and are more reliable.

To remove a TrueType font, simply delete it. By default, fonts are located in the "Fonts" folder within the system folder (before removing a font, you must first quit all open applications).

Do not use "faux" styles. Instead use only the actual typestyle/weight choices offered by the font, for example "Times-Roman", "Times-Italic", "Time-Bold", and "Times-Bold-Italic".