

Instruction Notes

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Introduction

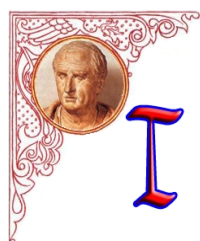
Thank you for purchasing this calligraphic font set “**Rustica et Carolina**” which is the Latin name for the more commonly known *Roman Rustic* script and *Carolingian* script, respectively. One third of the purchase price will be donated to the Pen Room Museum in Birmingham, UK.

In designing these two character sets I have followed the calligraphic rules of pen angle, body size and ductus which generally apply to these two scripts. There may be some slight variations which are due to compromises dictated by its general appearance and some compliance with the rules of designing glyphs (digital symbols) for font creation, as well as some degree of personal preferences.

This font set consists of 404 characters, or glyphs, and not all of them can be accommodated in the number of keys available on a computer keyboard. Thus, it will be necessary to use a combination of keys to call those characters not directly assigned and printed on a keyboard. See the section “**Inserting other Characters**” below for an explanation on how to do this.

If you are using this font set in a European country with your own default language keyboard, then some of the accented vowels will be directly available from your keyboard, but other characters will not be available, other than by pressing the set of keys shown in the section “**Inserting other Characters**”.

Here is an example of the type of composition you can create using this *Rustic and Carolingian font*. The following text is an excerpt taken from Cicero’s book “De Finibus” according to the translation published by the Loeb Classical Library, edition 1914. The whole ensemble took less than ten minutes to prepare including the historiated corner image.



“O BEGIN WITH WHAT IS EASIEST, LET US FIRST PASS IN REVIEW THE SYSTEM OF EPICURUS, WHICH TO MOST MEN IS THE BEST KNOWN OF ANY. OUR EXPOSITION OF IT, AS YOU SHALL SEE, WILL BE AS ACCURATE AS ANY USUALLY GIVEN EVEN BY THE PROFESSED ADHERENTS OF HIS SCHOOL. FOR OUR OBJECT IS TO DISCOVER THE TRUTH, NOT TO REFUTE SOMEONE AS AN OPPONENT.

An elaborate defense of hedonistic theory of Epicurus was once delivered by Lucius Torquatus, a student well versed in all the systems of philosophy; to him I replied, and Gaius Iriarius, a youth of remarkable learning and seriousness of character, assisted at the discussion. Both of these gentlemen had called to pay me their respects at my place at Cumæ. We first exchanged a few remarks about literature, of which both were enthusiastic students.”

The first paragraph is in Roman Rustic script and the second in Carolingian. The historiated initial “T” was made using Photoshop; the letter “T” is a Rustic character.

Character Set

Most of the 404 characters of this font belong to the Latin set and relative punctuation. I also included some special symbols which are in common use, as well as both the Greek majuscule and minuscule alphabet. Since the Greek language uses many accented words I included only a basic set of accented vowels. The Greek alphabet is useful if you are composing scientific papers or if you would like to produce some Medieval Greek looking manuscripts. However, please note that my knowledge of Greek palaeography and Greek medieval manuscripts is quite limited. Hence, in designing the Greek glyphs I used the rules of the Carolingian Latin script for the minuscule letter forms; likewise, for the capital letters I used the rules of the Roman Rustic script. Uncial would probably have been more appropriate for the Greek characters as the Latin Uncial was influenced by the Greek Uncial. Refer to the alternative font-set “**Uncialis Carolinaque**”.

To increase the calligraphic resources of this font, I also included four special characters which I believe had never been formalised before. I called them “Arrighi’s Ornamentals” and they were taken from the booklet “La Operina” written by Ludovico Vicentino degli Arrighi (1475-1527), a scribe in the Papal Chancery in Rome, who in 1522 wrote a pamphlet teaching how to write the calligraphic *Italic* script. This is nothing to do with Rustic and Carolingian but it is still a useful addition to the font set for your calligraphic works. Refer to the section **Using Arrighi’s Ornamentals**.

A very useful addition to the font set is the inclusion of Roman Numerals, both the basic duodecimal set as well as some other symbols to write large Roman Numerals; refer to the section **Using Roman Numerals**.

Finally, I added 64 Musical Notation Symbols to expand the usefulness of this calligraphic font set. In the main, the musical symbols contain characters for recreating the medieval four-line stave and relative clefs and notes. However, I also included a few characters which can be used for building a modern five-line score sheet using the G and F clefs, or simple conventional score sheets without clefs.

Placing notes on these staves cannot be done from just using this font-set because what is required is a program that makes decisions on which note needs to be placed in which bar, relative pitch, tempo, etc. Thus, you cannot create complete modern music scores, but you can create some basic medieval score notations. For more information on how to use the music symbols jump to the section **Using Musical Symbols**.