

This Free E-Book is brought to you by Natural-Aging.com.

100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!

Fonts for Your Website: Is it Just a Matter of style?

By Francisco Aloy

Fonts for Your Website: Is it Just a Matter of style? by Francisco Aloy

The choice of font you use at your website can be affected by so many different elements: personal taste, style, screen resolution and size, operating system, monitor age, background and – not last – readability and ease of use.

The most common font used for print and the Web is Times New Roman. This is the default font of many applications including most of the Microsoft Office Suites. That is not to say it's the most readable or comfortable font; on the contrary, Arial, Courier and Verdana are considered more readable.

A study conducted at Wichita State University in 2002 titled: A Comparison of Popular Online Fonts: Which Size and Type is Best? found these amazing results:

Times New Roman was deemed the least preferred font in 10 or 12 point size.

Arial was most preferred in the 12 point size and Verdana was the most preferred in the 10 point size.

Overall, Verdana was the most preferred font for readability and ease of comprehension.

The fonts considered most legible are Arial, Courier and Verdana.

Fonts for Your Website: Is it Just a Matter of style?

As far as looks, Times New Roman and Georgia are preferred over the others.

All the above appears to imply that for design choices, like when a large font is used as a decoration, Times New Roman or Georgia is the choice.

For general speed of reading and less strain on the eyes it's Arial if using a small font.

Verdana was the choice for best compromise between legibility and speed.

All the above should be included in the building plans for your website since they can affect the looks of so many items, such as: Headlines, header tags, choice of colors, links, contrast and decoration.

You can compensate for many elements of styling by using different fonts and sizes. For example, if you are super imposing text upon a graphic perhaps it would be best to make the font bigger to help the eye separate the font from the image.

The same common sense approach can be used for the body areas: use colors that will bring out the text and make it easy for your visitors to read your website. Don't use dark fonts on a dark background because they are very hard to read.

Likewise, do your best to copy well established convention by making the colors of your HTML links in standard colors such as blue for unvisited, purple for visited and so on.

Overall, don't use more than 3 types of fonts on your website and do your best to include the "Big Picture" in your design. Show a few completed sketches to your friends and family and ask their opinion. Revise and re-do as often as needed.

As a time saving measure, make sure to use CSS (Cascading Style Sheets) for your website design because it allows you to change the font style of a complete website by just changing the information in the style sheet. A real time saver when you have a 100 page website.

Above all, your website should have its own theme and style. It should have text that invites the visitor to explore more and be easy to read and understand. The visual load on the eyes should be as small as possible to prevent fatigue. The general look should be one of integrated design with user friendliness as its ultimate purpose.

=====

by Francisco Aloy

(C)2004 Francisco Aloy

=====

Agreement reminder, not part of the article:
Please include my working hyperlink in the resource box. Remove paragraph before posting.

Which fonts can I use on my website? What if I want to use others?

By Dianne Reuby

Which fonts can I use on my website? What if I want to use others? by Dianne Reuby

If you've done any word processing or desk-top publishing, you'll be used to using all sorts of fancy fonts – for headlines, logos, and banners. For your web pages, you'll have to do things differently.

What if I put a "fancy" font on my web page?

If you haven't got the same fonts on your PC that I have on mine, your browser will just show a font that's as close as it can find. If you're not using a PC, or the Windows operating system, then again your computer will display a font as close to the one specified as it can.

If you want to use fancy or non-standard fonts on your web site, for example on a banner, you'll have to create a graphic file with the text in it. The banners that you see as headers and ads on web sites are all graphics – even when they look as though they are all text.

Which fonts can I use without using a graphics program?

Windows usually includes Arial, Helvetica, Times Roman, and Verdana, as well as Comic Sans MS, Trebuchet, and

Fonts for Your Website: Is it Just a Matter of style?

Impact!, unless the user has removed them from their PC.

Mac users should have Arial on their machines.

The problem is that in many parts of the world, people don't have a PC or Mac at home. They use college or university workstations, and these are usually using the Unix operating system instead of Windows. If they do have a home PC, they use the free Linux operating system and software. Both show Verdana and Arial very badly.

So if you want as many visitors as possible to view your pages as you intended them to, you should choose a range of fonts, like this:

In this example, Arial and Helvetica are two common sans-serif fonts – browsers will look for your first choice (Arial), then the second (Helvetica). If they can't find

those two, they'll look for any font that's the right type (sans-serif).

Happy site building!

Dianne Reuby is co-author of the e-book "First WebsiteBuilder". Dianne created and runs the First Web Buildersite, dedicated to providing ebooks and tips for newwebmasters. Visit FWB at <http://firstwebbuilder.co.uk/>



This Free E-Book has been brought to you by Natural-Aging.com.

[100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment](#)
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!