Fonts in LaTeX

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Being able to customize fonts in your .tex document can be tricky at times, or as easy as loading a package or two. In this tutorial I will talk through various ways on how to accomplish it.

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1 The Font Catalogue

There is a very good resource for fonts, which outlines how to make different fonts working and it includes notes whether the mathematics mode is supported with those fonts. The resource is located at LATEX font catalogue website and you will find the information you search.

As for fonts without the support for mathematical symbols, I would advice you **against** using them unless you do not use any mathematical typesetting in your documents (e.g. this is good for letters and other text-only documents). However, if you need to do that, please consult professionals, some geek-written blogs or just people who are more experienced in that field.

Now let's talk about commands involved setting different fonts. Usually you should declare in your preamble, that you will use Type1 fonts, which look better and most of the scientific journals require them. Here is how you do it:

1 \usepackage[T1]{fontenc}

And then you put a package responsible for defining the font:

times fonts Just put \usepackage{mathptmx} after the previous command;

palatino Alternatively for palatino fonts, just write \usepackage{mathpazo} command;

- 2 UTF8 usage
- 3 XETEX usage