

Custom Fonts in Latex

Introduction

I recently spent two hours trying to figure out how to use a custom font in Latex. There were plenty of guides out there, but the problem is they all assume you want to install the font for regular use, complete with bold/italic variants, which means much more work, and more importantly, many more places to go wrong. Since there didn't seem to be an adequate resource out there for someone who just wanted to quickly get a font working for one use only, I thought I'd make one. It is based on [this much more comprehensive guide](#) by Otfried Cheong.

What you need

- A TrueType font. Make a copy of it called **custom.ttf**, and put it in your working directory (the directory that contains your tex file).
- The program **ttf2tfm**. It comes with Latex, so you probably don't need to do anything.
- The files **T1-WGL4.enc** ([download](#)) and **t1custom.fd** ([download](#)). Put them in your working directory too.

What to do

- Open a command line, go to your working directory, and enter:

```
ttf2tfm custom.ttf -p T1-WGL4.enc
```

- In your tex file, write:

```
\newcommand\customfont[1]{\usefont{T1}{custom}{m}{n} #1 }
```

- Every time you want *blah blah* in the custom font, write:

```
\customfont{blah blah}
```

That's it! It's so easy once you cut out all the steps you don't really need.

Works if you follow *all* the directions. Make sure you download the two files, put them in the right directory. Make sure you are using custom.ttf and referring to it as custom everywhere as directed above. If you change the name of your font file, you'll have to rewrite a lot of stuff. If you don't put in the two files, it won't work either.

(It didn't work for me either until I went back and followed it step-by-step using custom.ttf instead of myfontfile.ttf throughout.)

Arrataz at 31 Mar 2012 05:56 (GMT+3)

Thank you very much - although I wish I really understood how all this works. I did manage to customize your instructions to the particular name of the font I wanted to use. These are the easiest instructions I've ever seen on this topic.

Pete at 7 Jul 2012 13:26 (GMT-4)

If you want to use "myfontname.ttf", you need to replace every instance of the string "custom" with "myfontname", including the filename and contents of t1custom.fd.

James at 2 Sep 2012 10:46 (GMT-7)

This did not work for me. The following warnings would appear to describe the issue (without pointing to an obvious solution):

LaTeX Font Warning: Font shape `T1/custom/m/n' undefined
(Font) using `T1/cmr/m/n' instead on input line 211.

...

LaTeX Font Warning: Some font shapes were not available, defaults substituted.

Harry at 11 Mar 2013 23:52 (GMT+0)

Hi! Thanks for a really nice guide! Any advice on how to enable the `\textbf` option? I have several version of one font (Regular (Rg), Bold, Light), and I would like to be able to use these versions as one.

Anders at 19 Sep 2014 12:07 (GMT+2)

Tnx It works like a charm

Bijan Binace at 20 Mar 2015 16:43 (GMT+3½)

Thanks

y at 5 Sep 2016 17:14 (GMT−4)

[Add Comment](#)