

# Using Web Fonts

This guide covers how to add fonts from web services to your Gatsby site.

## Prerequisites

This guide uses the Gatsby default starter.

## Adding web fonts

Some examples of web font services include Google Fonts and Typekit Web Fonts.

### **gatsby-plugin-web-font-loader**

**gatsby-plugin-web-font-loader** is a Gatsby plugin which makes it easy to add web fonts using the popular Web Font Loader library. It supports loading fonts from Google Fonts, Typekit, Fonts.com, and Fontdeck, as well as self-hosted web fonts.

### **How to use Web Font Loader with Typekit**

You can add Typekit Web Fonts to your project by using the **gatsby-plugin-web-font-loader** and your Adobe Fonts project id. For example, this is how you can add Futura to your project.

First, install the Gatsby plugin with npm:

```
npm install --save gatsby-plugin-web-font-loader
```

Or with yarn:

```
yarn add gatsby-plugin-web-font-loader
```

Then, create an environment variable to store your Adobe Fonts project ID. (Make sure this file is in your **.gitignore** file so your ID doesn't get committed!) For example, if your Adobe Fonts project ID is **abcdefg**, your **.env** file will look like this:

```
TYPEKIT_ID=abcdefg
```

Now you can add the `gatsby-plugin-web-font-loader` plugin to your `gatsby-config.js` file, located in your root directory. In your plugin configuration, pass in the environment variable you created.

```
require("dotenv").config()

module.exports = {
  plugins: [
    {
      resolve: "gatsby-plugin-web-font-loader",
      options: {
        typekit: {
          id: process.env.TYPEKIT_ID,
        },
      },
    },
  ],
}
```

Next, add the typeface name to the appropriate `font-family` value in your CSS.

```
body {
  color: hsla(0, 0%, 0%, 0.8);
  // highlight-next-line
  font-family: "Futura", georgia, serif;
  font-weight: normal;
  word-wrap: break-word;
  font-kerning: normal;
}
```

## Self-host Google Fonts with Fontsource

Fontsource is a project to provide open source fonts from Google Fonts as NPM Packages.

You can decrease your site's loading time by self-hosting fonts, saving ~300 milliseconds on desktop to 1+ seconds on 3G connections.

This example shows how to install the Open Sans font. If you have a different Google Font you want to use, you can find the corresponding package in NPM or the packages directory in the Fontsource repository.

1. Run `npm install @fontsource/open-sans` to install the necessary package files.
2. Then within your app entry file or site component, import the font package. It is recommended you import in your site's `gatsby-browser.js` file.

```
import "@fontsource/open-sans" // Defaults to weight 400 with all styles included.
```

If you wish to select a particular weight or style, you may specify it by changing the import path.

```
import "@fontsource/open-sans/500.css" // Weight 500 with all styles included.  
import "@fontsource/open-sans/900-normal.css" // Select either normal or italic.
```

**Note:** The weights and styles a font includes is shown in each package's README file.

3. Once it's imported, you can reference the font name in a CSS stylesheet, CSS Module, or CSS-in-JS.

```
body {  
  font-family: "Open Sans";  
}
```

## Other resources

- Check out the Using Google Fonts Gatsby recipe.
- Here's a great article on why it's important to keep your environment variables secret.