



# The Anatomy of Type

- 1 Vertex:** The point at the bottom of a character, where two strokes meet. Like in the uppercase M.
- 2 Spine:** The main left to right curve in the letter S.
- 3 Cross Stroke:** A horizontal stroke that that connects two main strokes, or extends from the main stroke oa a letter. Like the uppercase T or lowercase f.
- 4 Terminal:** The end of a stroke that does not include a serif.
- 5 Counter:** The internal enclosed or semiclosed space within a letter. Like the lowercase a or o.
- 6 Serif:** The slight extension at the beginning and end of the letter stroke, drawn at right angle or obliquely across the arm, stem, or tail of a letter. a)Beaked, b)hooked, c)Hairline and d) Slab.
- 7 Bracket:** The curved connect ing area between the stroke of the letter and the serif.
- 8 Loop:** The lower portion of a lowercase g.
- 9 Ear:** The small, sometimes rounded stroke projecting from the top of the lowercase g, r, f and a.
- 10 Eye:** The counter or enclosed area at the top of the lowercase e.
- 11 Sholder:** The curvilinear transitional portion of the stroke that connects a somewhat horizontal stroke and a vertical stroke. Like in the lowercase m and n.
- 12 Descender:** The section of a lowercase character that extends below the baseline. Like the lowercase g, j, p, q, and y.
- 13 Apex:** When two angled strokes come together.
- 14 Crotch:** The interior space creat ed by the juncture of two angled strokes. Like in the uppercase K, M, N, W, X, and Z.
- 15 Stem:** The main, usually vertical stroke of a letterform.
- 16 Tail:** The stroke or arc of a character that extends from the main stroke and extends downward, with one end free. Such as the uppercase Q, R, and K.
- 17 Arm:** The stroke(s) that extend out from the stem, that project sideways at 90° or upwards.
- 18 Leg:** The stroke(s) that extend out from the stem, that project sideways at 90° or downward.
- 19 Swach:** A decorative extension of an arm or tail that accent characters.