

In the 1990's the internet was emerging, creating a demand for fonts well-suited to both print and digital media. Microsoft commissioned Matthew Carter to create a typeface family which would be readable even at low resolutions. He was inspired, rather inexplicably, in naming the new font after a tabloid headline that read, "Alien Head Found in Georgia!". Already working on a print font which would be later released as "Miller", he used those designs as a base. Publicly released in 1996 as part of Microsoft's "Core Fonts for the Web" collection, Georgia was a success in combining high legibility with character and charm. Georgia's design is essentially that of Didot and Scotch Brevier of the 1800's. It is compatible with both Windows and Mac OS and has become popular with web designers because of its beautiful clarity and look the same on both platforms. Notably, Georgia can be seen in quite a few newspapers, such as the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal. Georgia is aesthetically similar to Times New Roman, though appearing larger at the same point size due to a taller x-height and darker typeface. It shows a number of traditional features of rational serif typefaces of the early 20th century. Some of these include contrasting thick and thin strokes, hairline terminals, and a vertical axis. Classified as a transitional serif, it has many more modern and unique properties, such as ascenders that rise above the x-height, and x-heights that are slightly non-aligning. Georgia is usually bold, because at the time, if a character stem needed to be thicker than one pixel on screen, it could only jump to two pixels, thus making for a substantial change in weight. Regal, but never stiff, when in need of a typographic personality that is friendly and intimate, perhaps *Georgia should be on your mind.*

Sources: [designerly.com](http://designerly.com)\*[docs.microsoft.com/typography/font-list/georgia.com](http://docs.microsoft.com/typography/font-list/georgia.com)\*[itsions.wordpress.com](http://itsions.wordpress.com)\*[wikipedia.com](http://wikipedia.com)