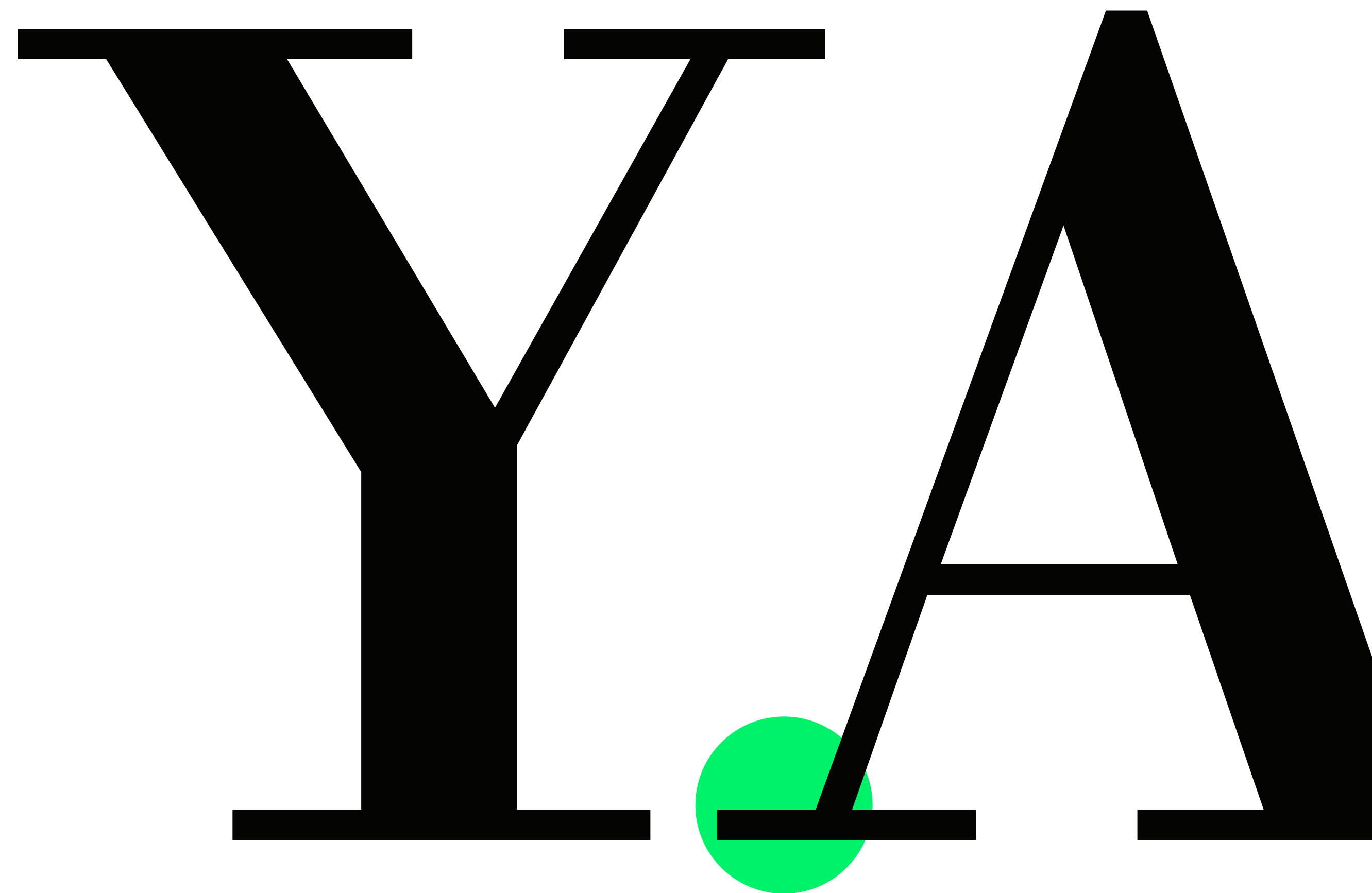


Parts of a Letter



Baskerville

Bodoni



Serif

The projection extending off the main strokes of the characters of serif typefaces.

There are two styles: Bracketed (Supportive curves or fillets that connect the serif to the stroke) and Unbracketed (Attached sharply)

Dark Alley

Baseline

The line on which letters sit.


Mad Max

x-height

The height of the lowercase x

Median

The line that defines the x-height



Hello World

Cap Height

The line to which capital letters reach



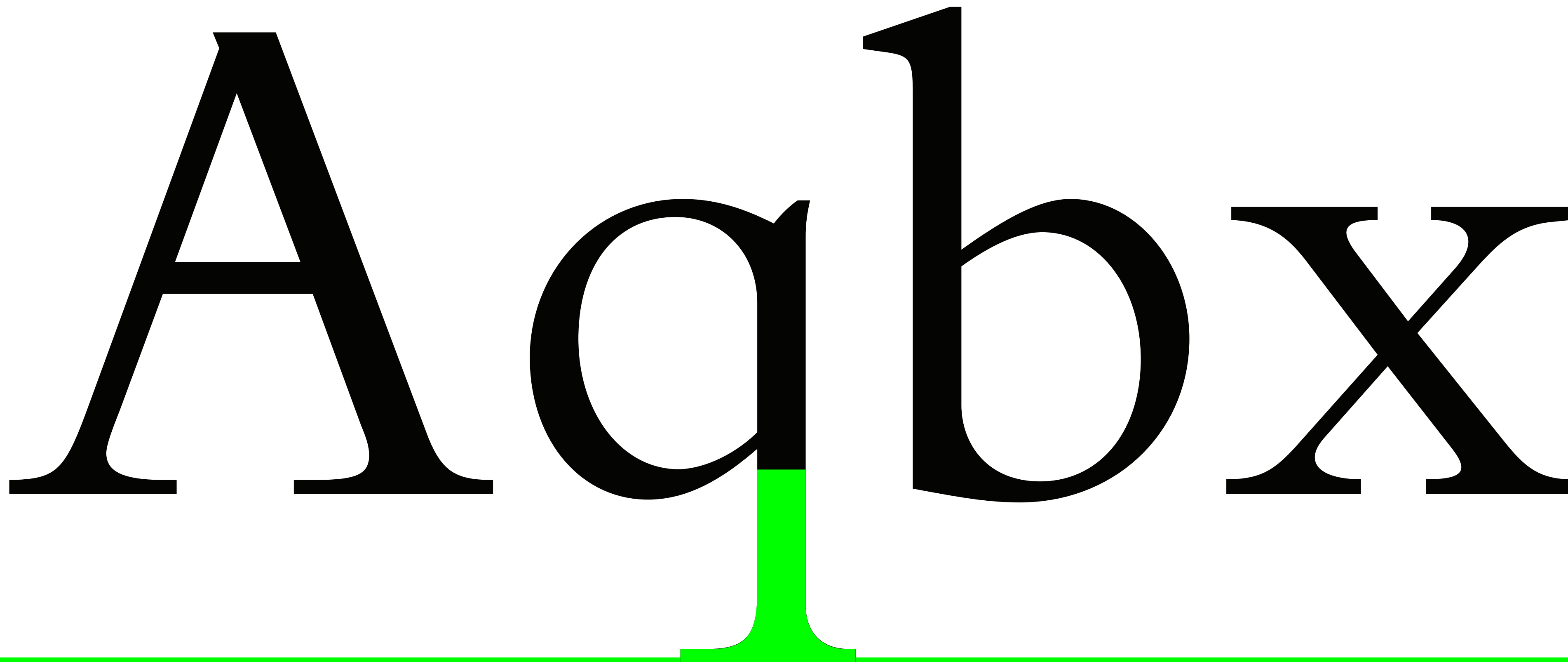
A diagram illustrating typographic terms using the word "Box". A horizontal green line represents the x-height. The letter 'B' has a red arrow pointing to its ascender, which is the part of the letter that extends above the x-height. The letter 'x' is shown below the x-height line, representing the x-height itself.

Ascender

Part of a lowercase character
that extends above the x-height

Ascender Line

Line to which the ascenders reach



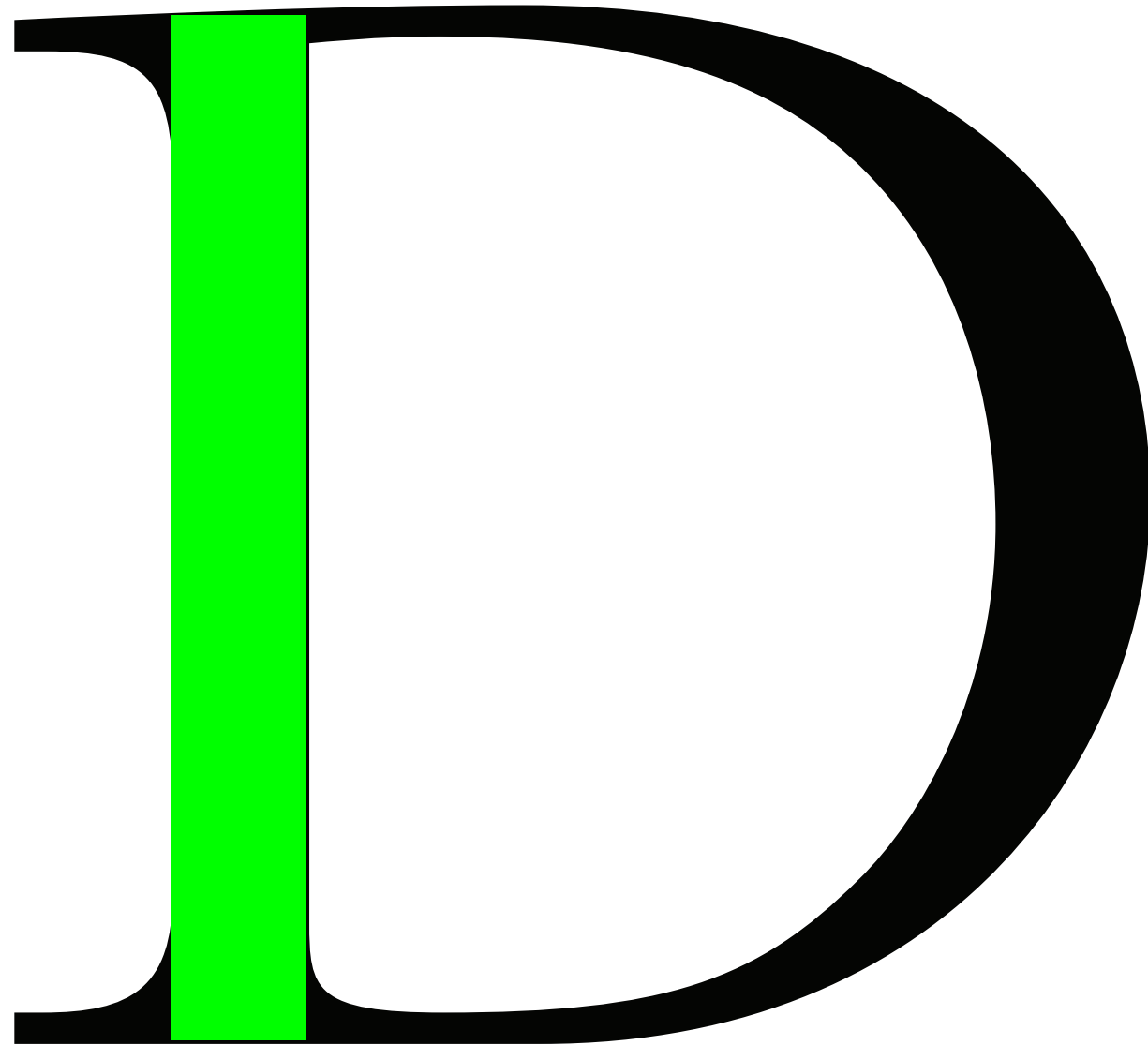
A diagram illustrating the concept of a descender in typography. The letters 'A', 'a', 'b', and 'x' are shown in a black serif font. A horizontal green line, representing the baseline, runs across the bottom of the image. The lowercase letter 'a' has a vertical stem that extends below this line, highlighted in bright green. The lowercase letter 'b' also has a stem extending below the baseline. The lowercase letter 'x' has two stems that cross each other, with both extending below the baseline. The uppercase letter 'A' is entirely above the baseline.

Descender

Part of a lowercase character
that extends below the base line

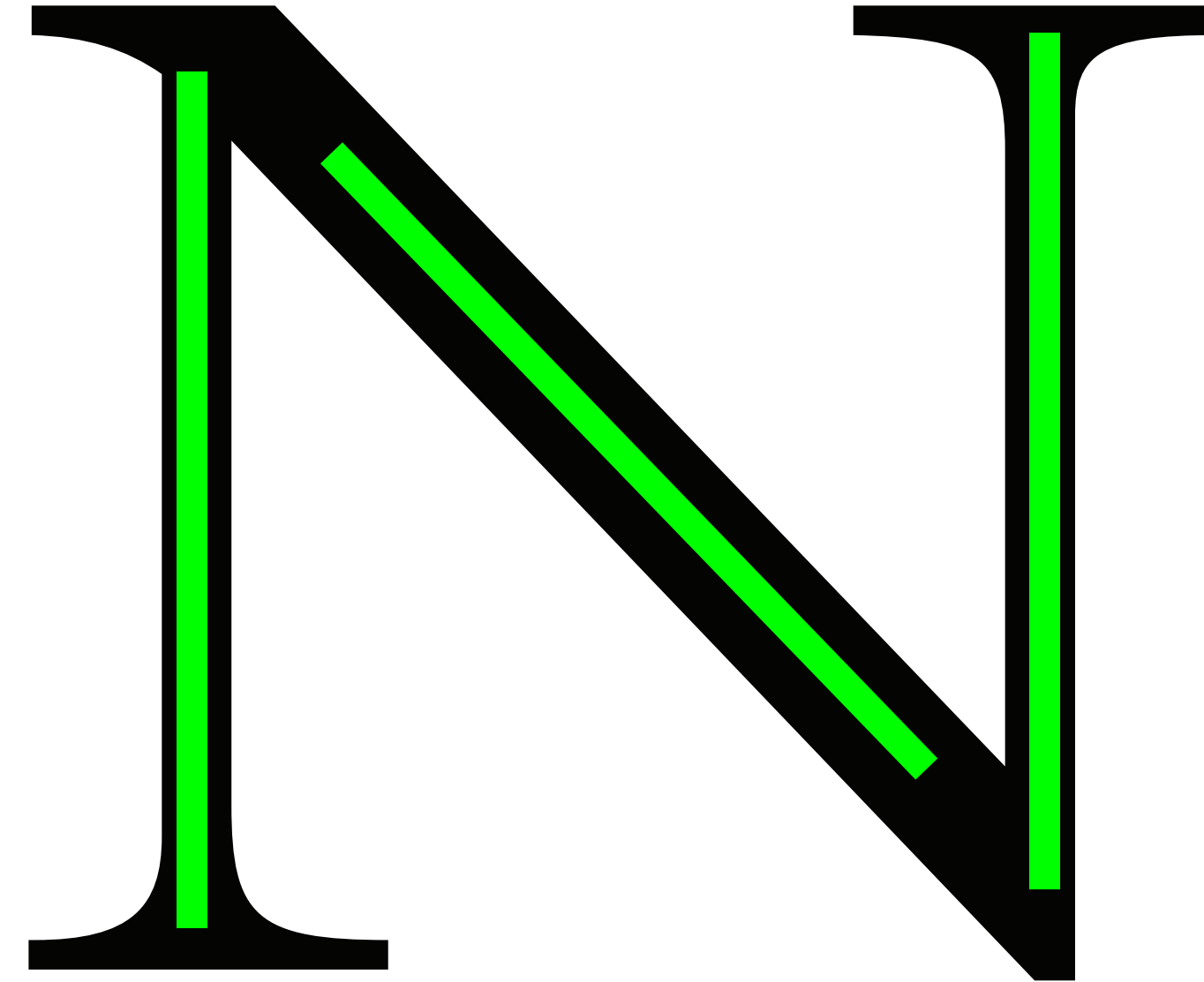
Descender Line

Line to which the descenders reach



Stem

A significant vertical
or oblique line



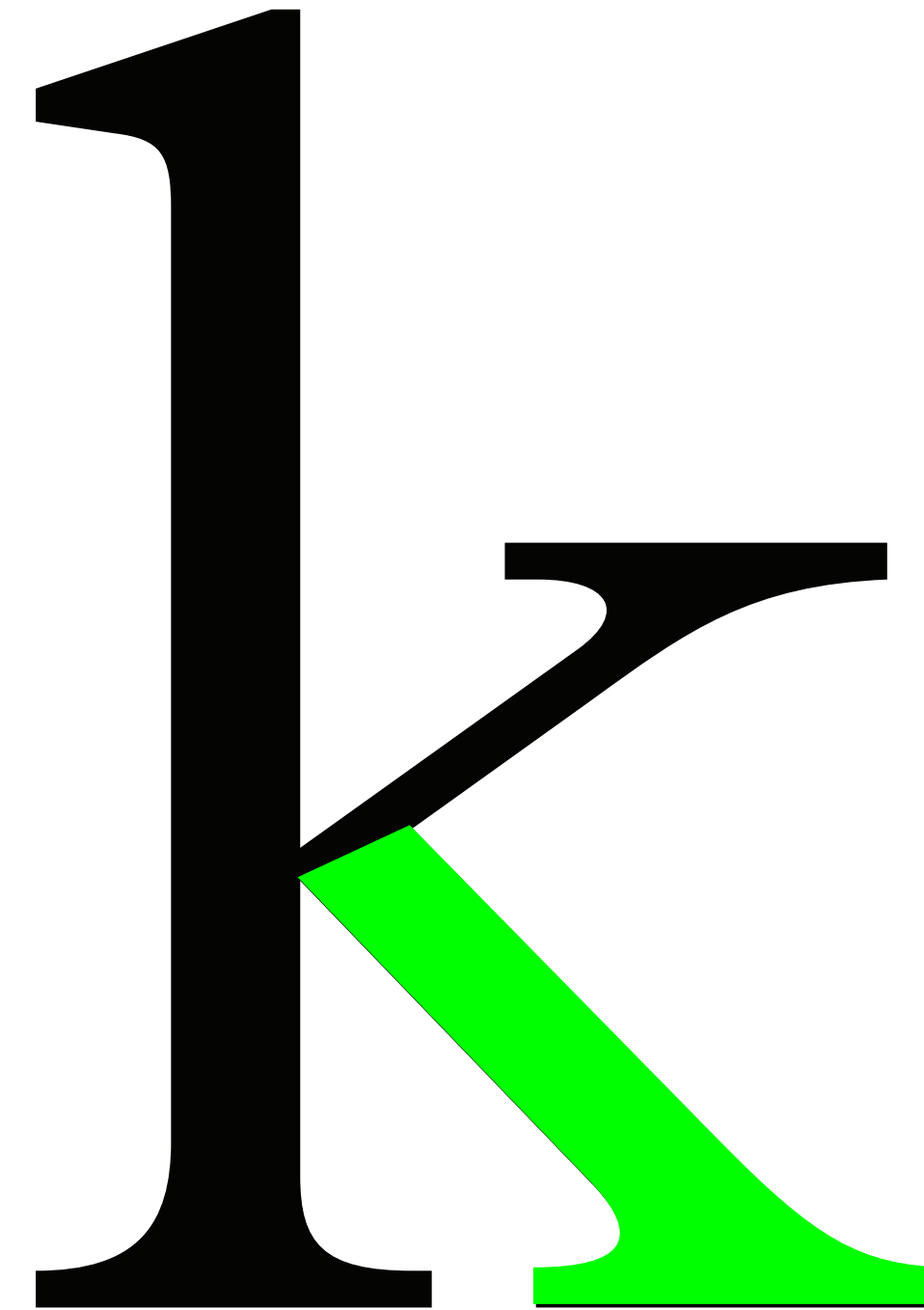
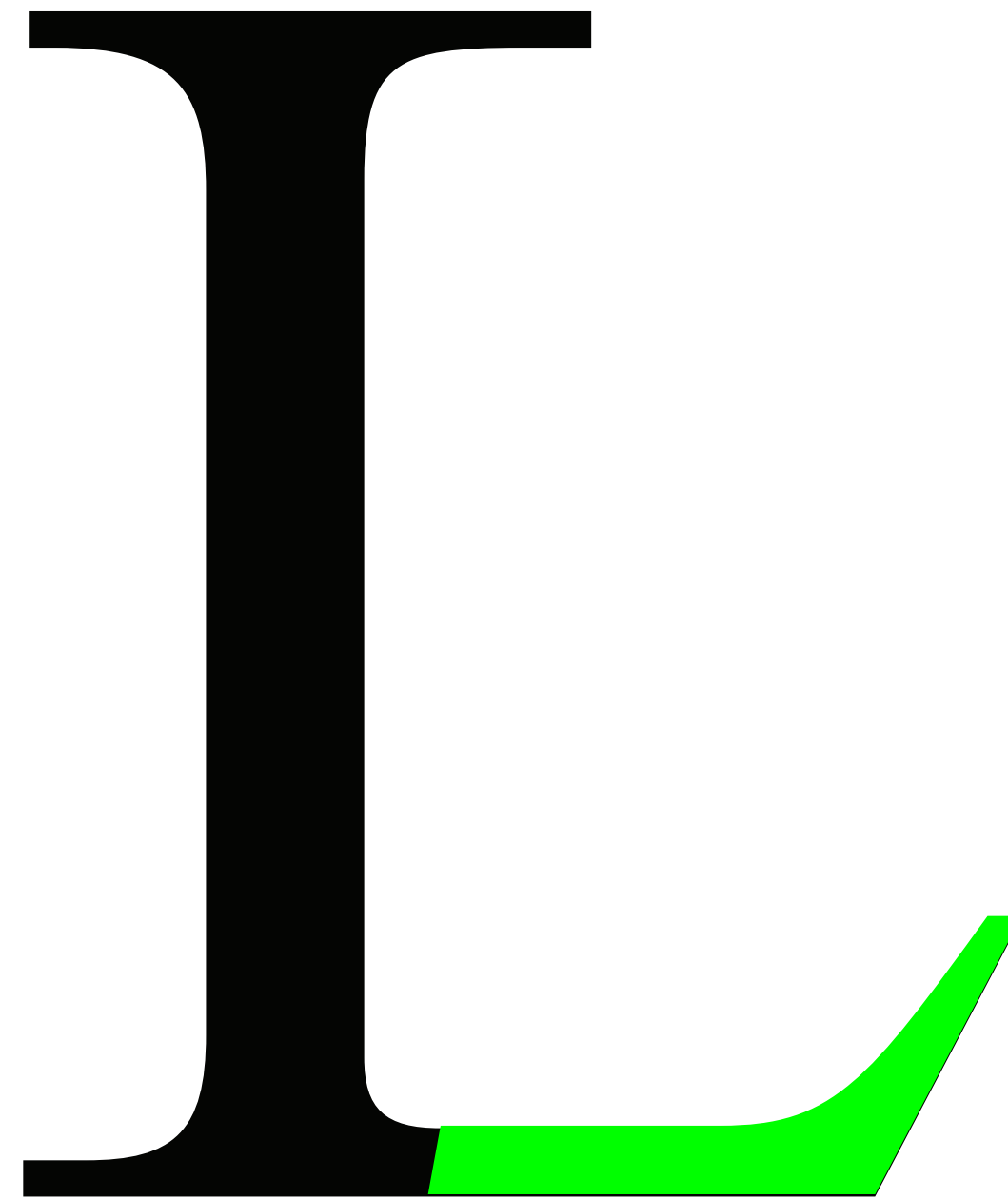
Stroke

Any line that defines the basic letterform
vertical, horizontal, oblique, curved

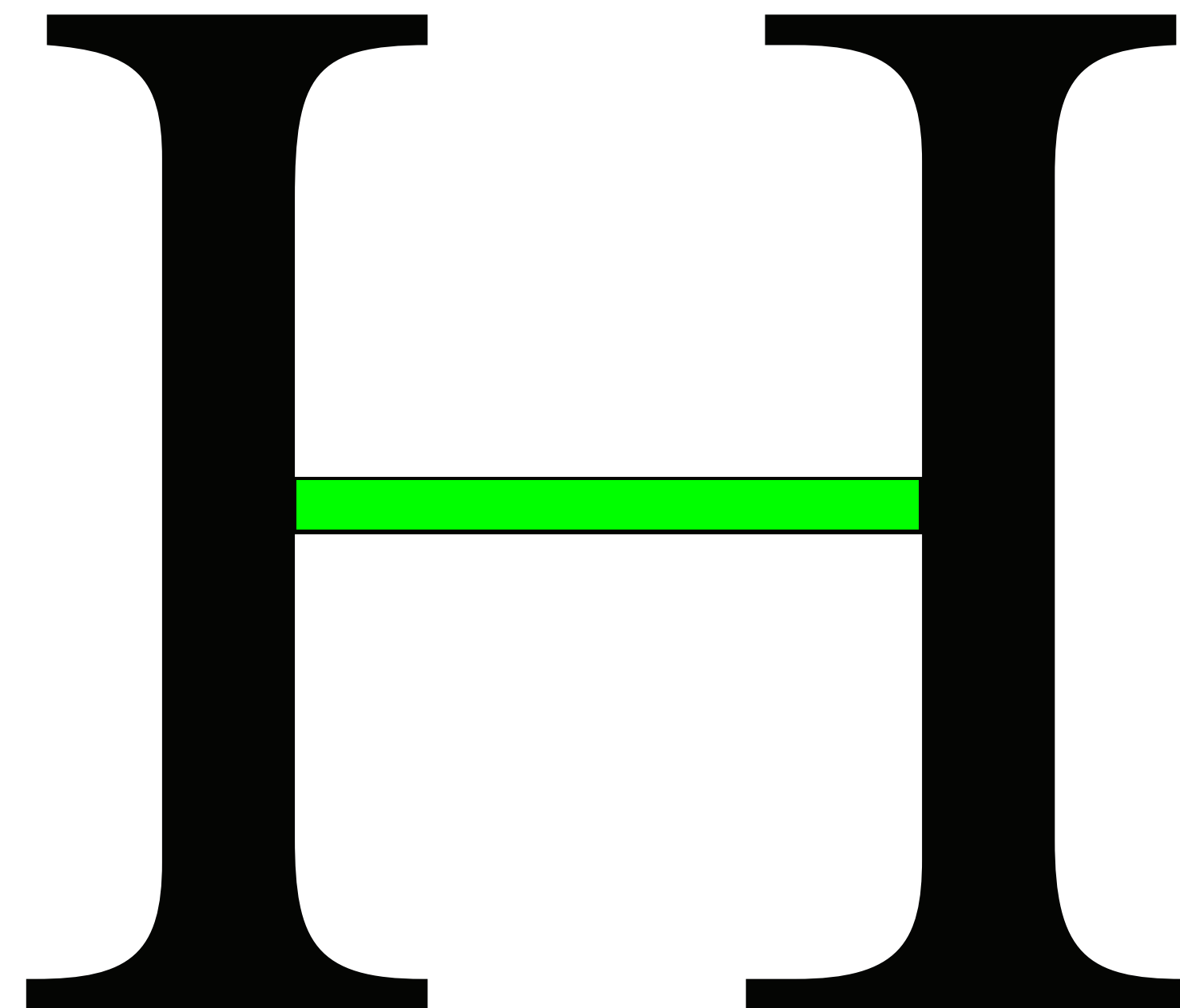
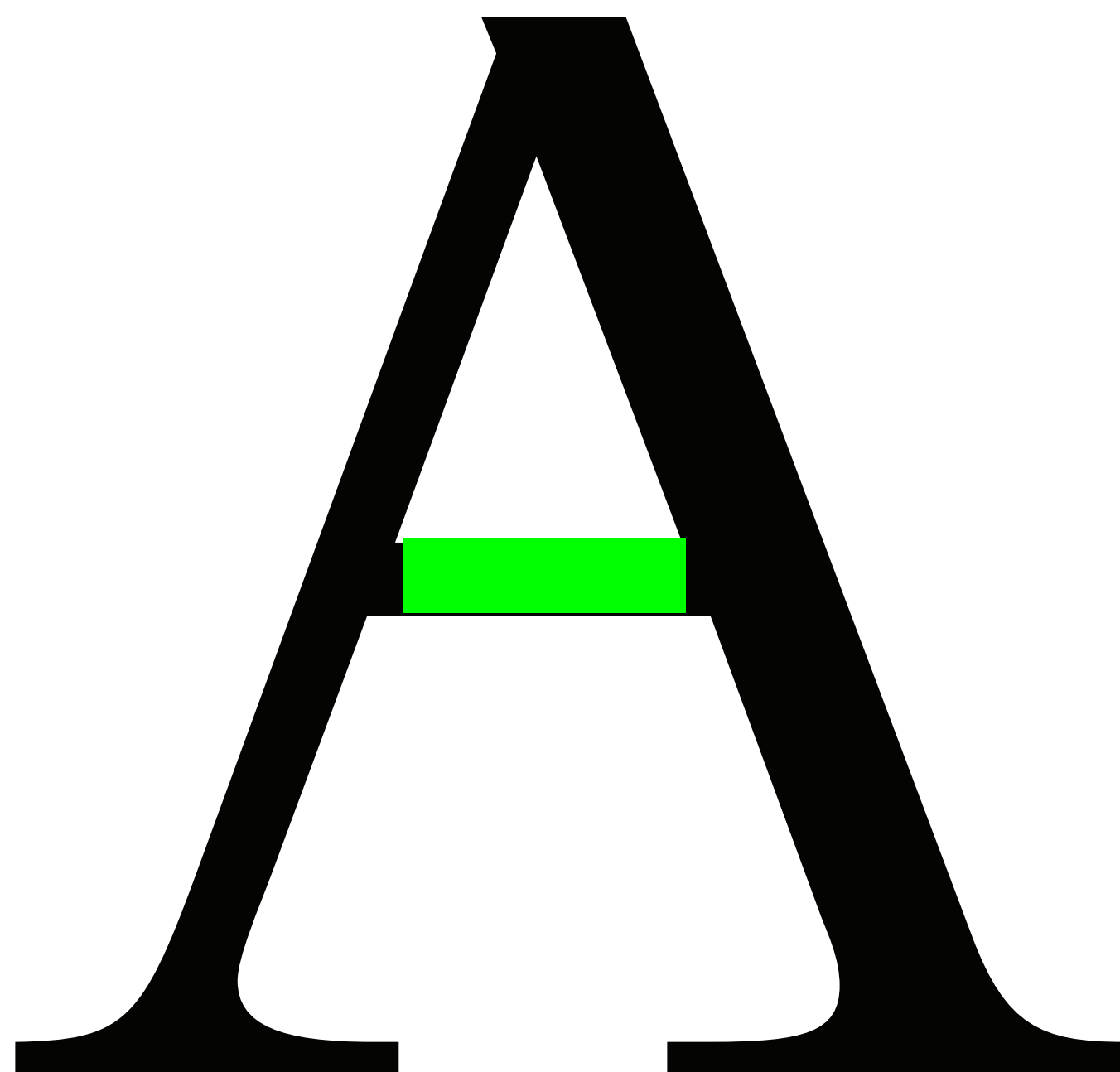


Arm

A horizontal stroke that is attached on one end and free on another



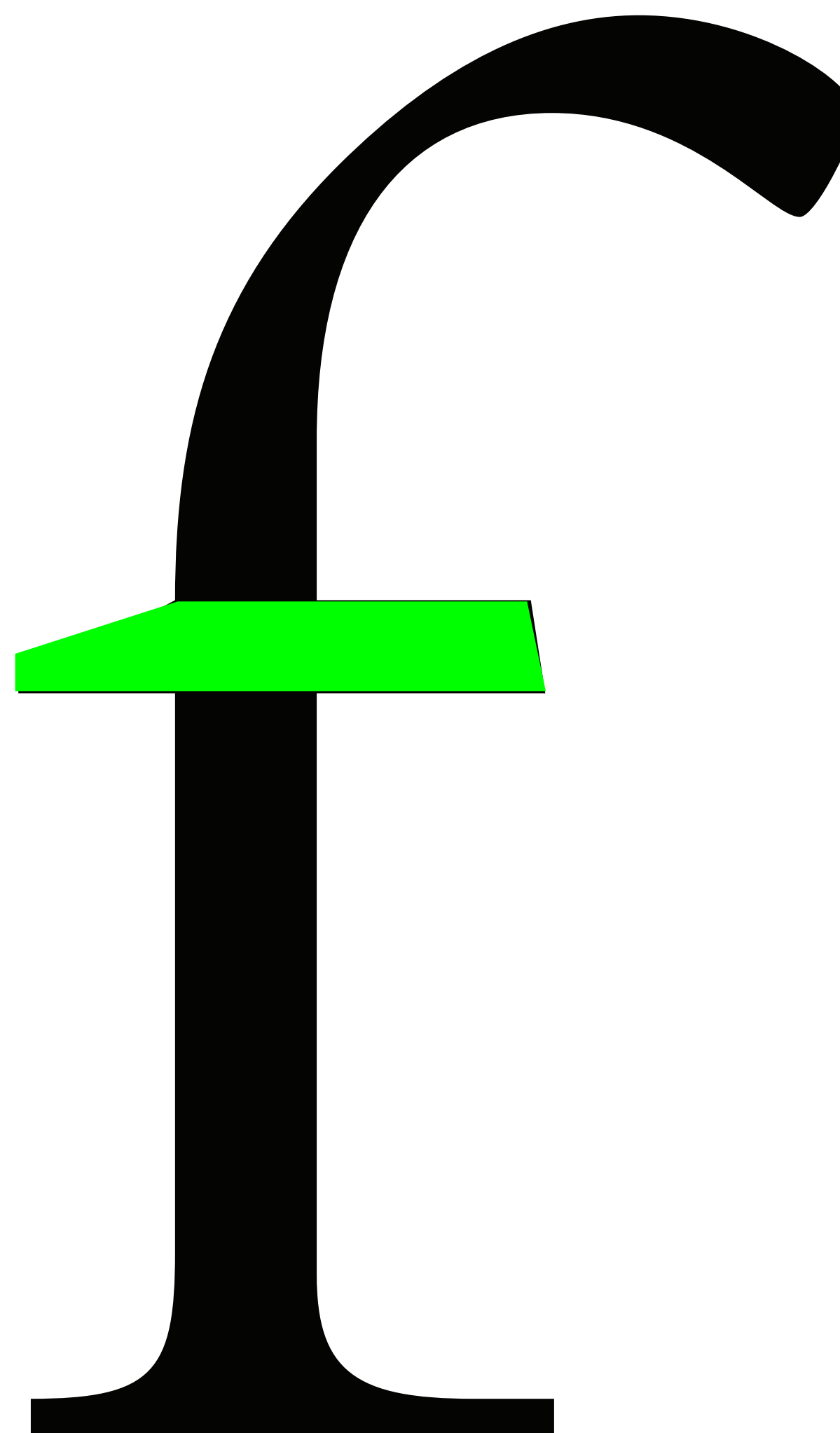
Leg
A diagonal stroke that is attached
on one end and free on another

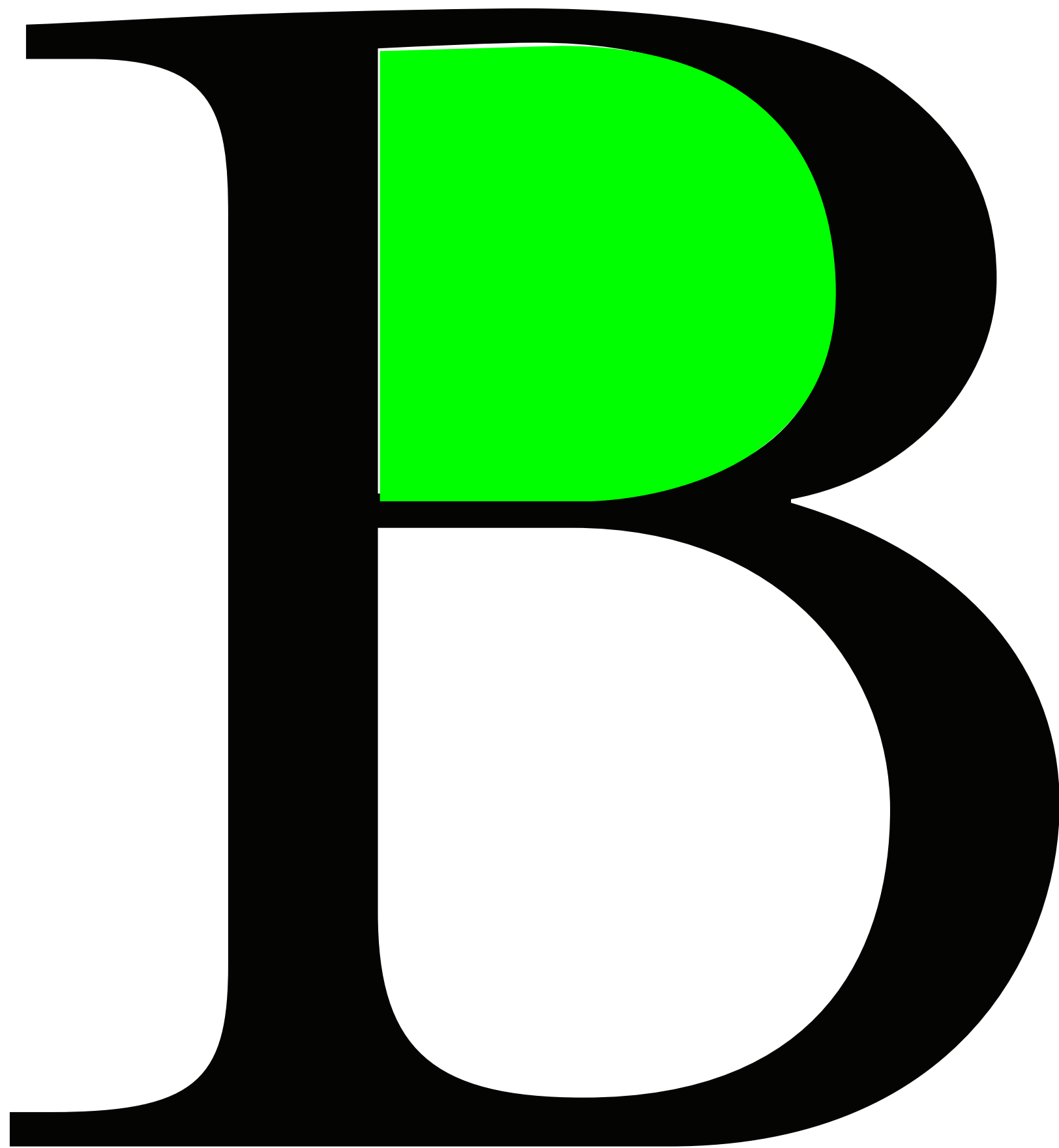


Crossbar

A horizontal stroke that joins
2 stems together

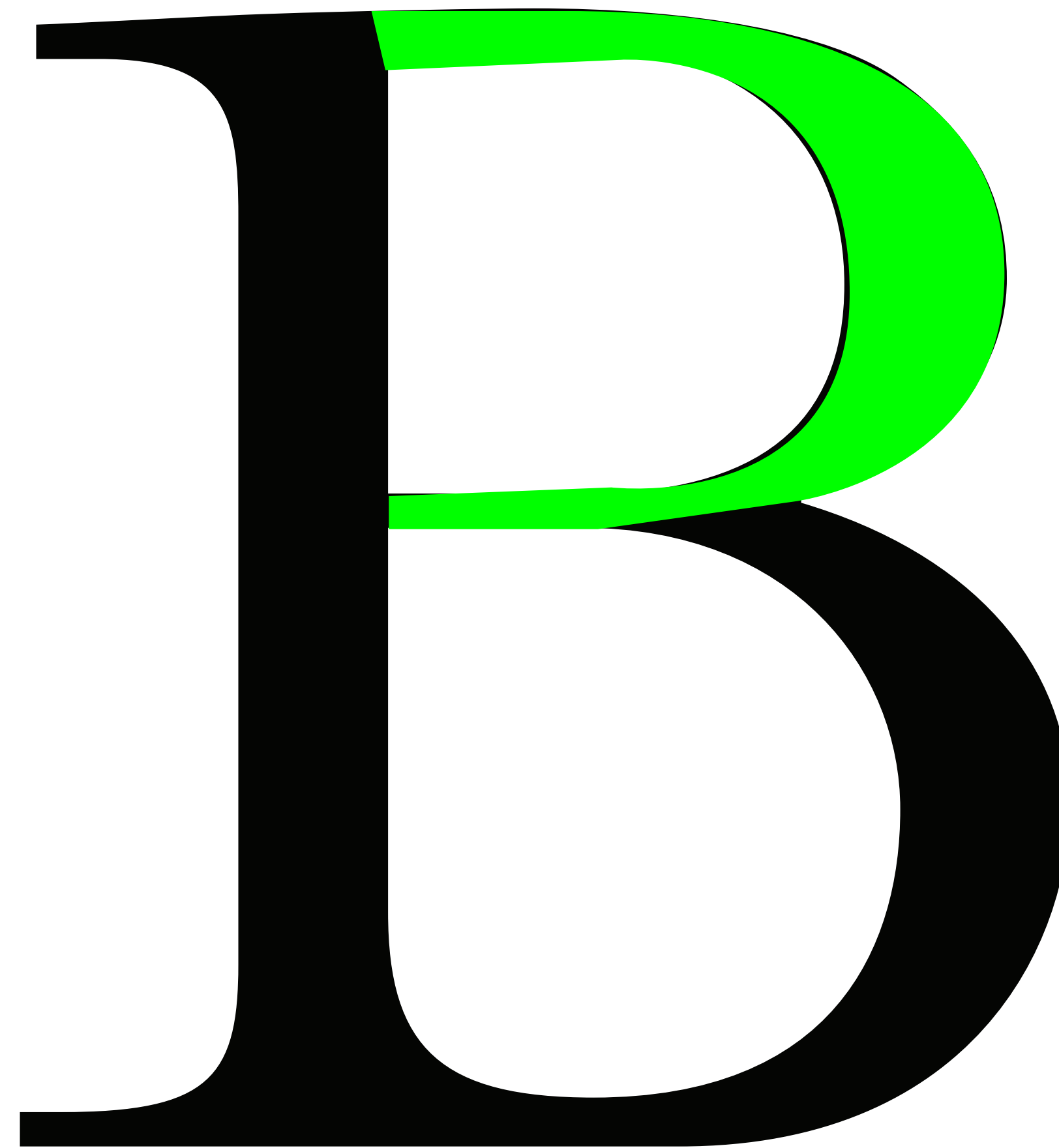
Cross Stroke
A horizontal stroke that
intersects the stem





Counter

A partially or fully enclosed space within a character



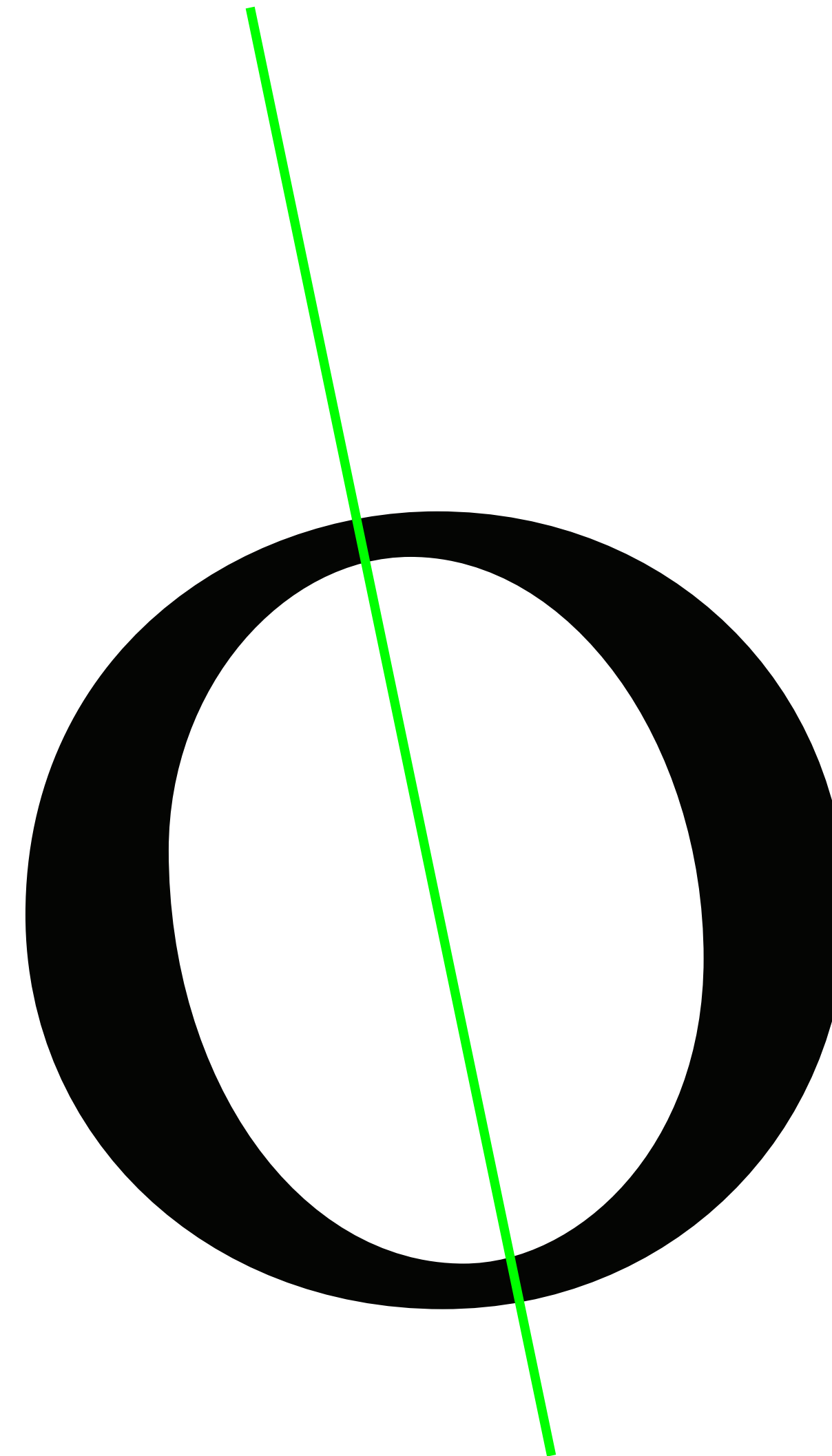
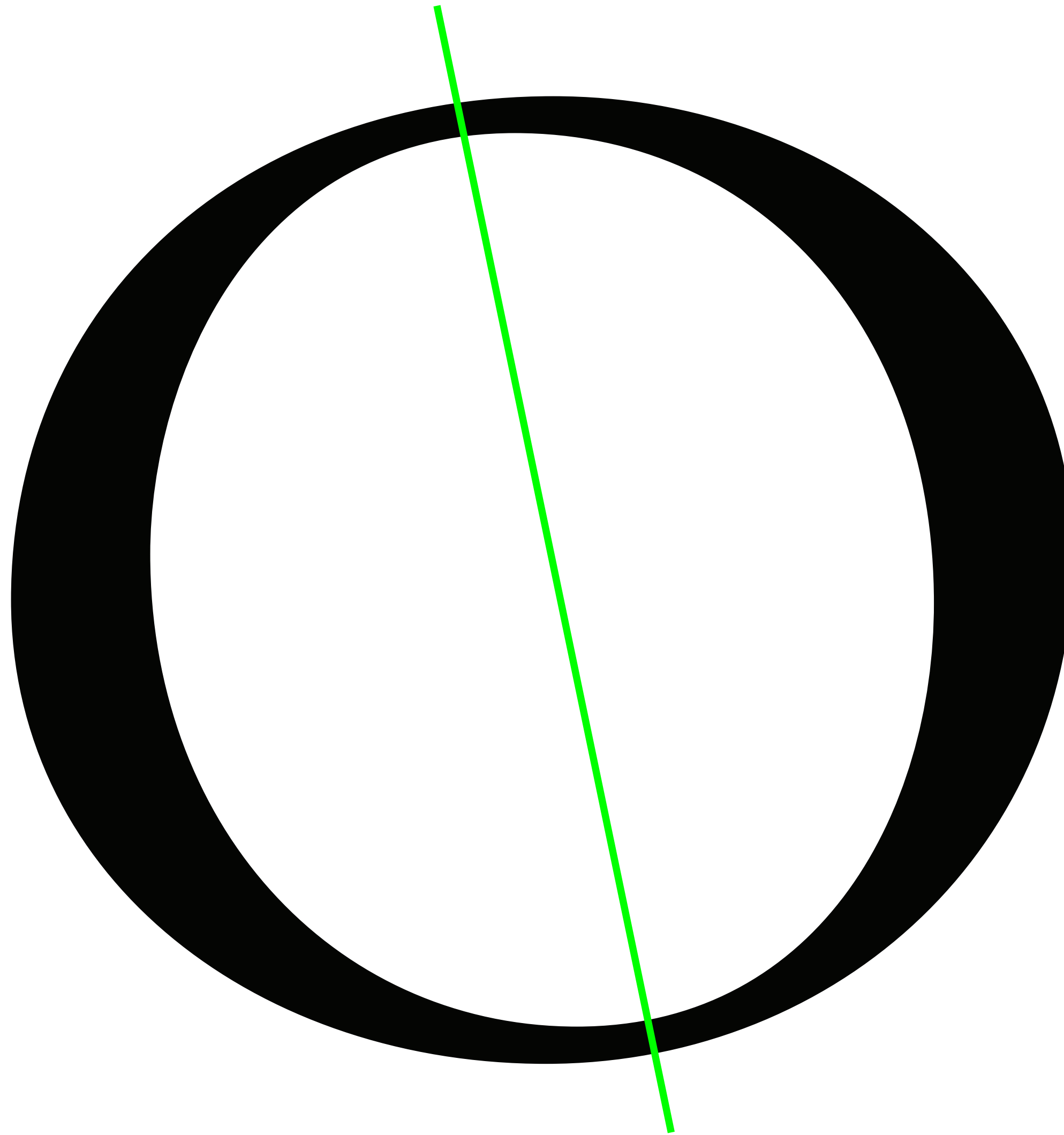
Bowl

A curved stroke that creates a counter



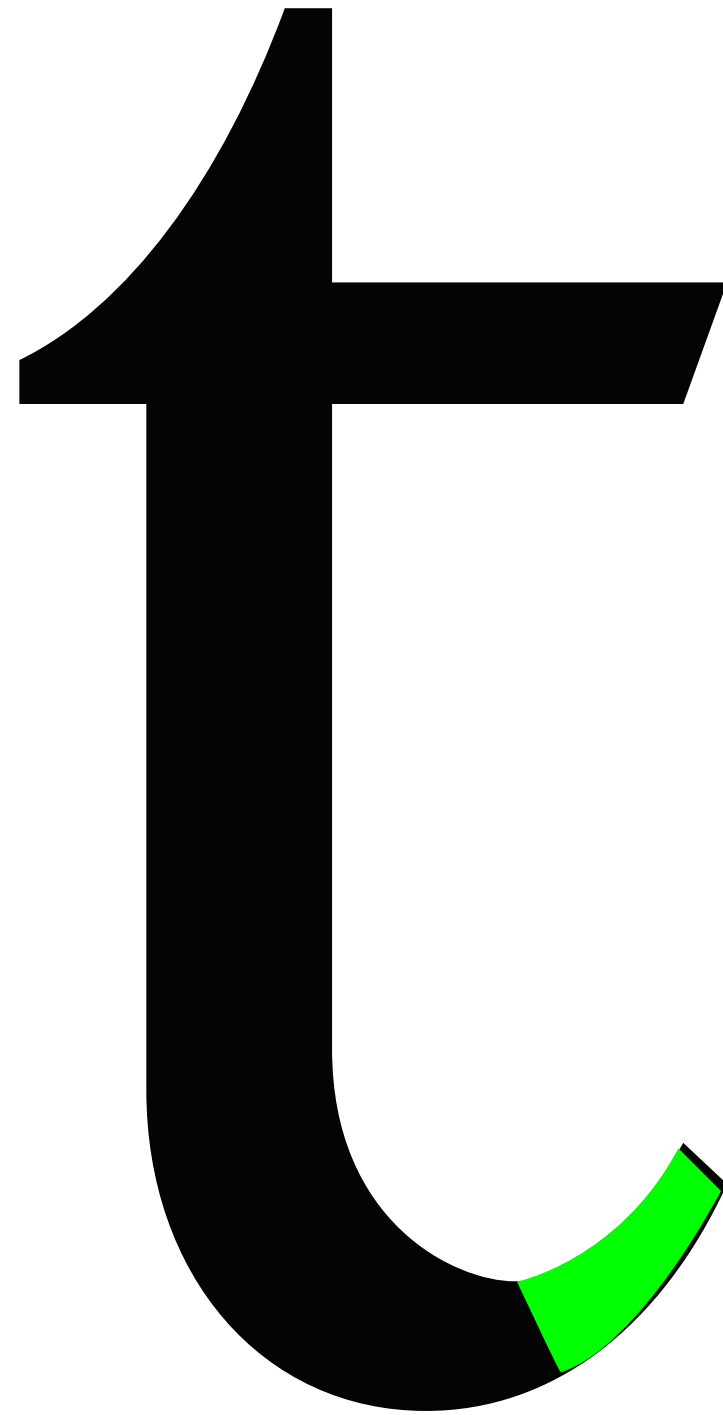
Shoulder

The curved stroke of an
n, m, or h



Stress

This can be determined by “drawing” a line at the point of difference in a curved stroke



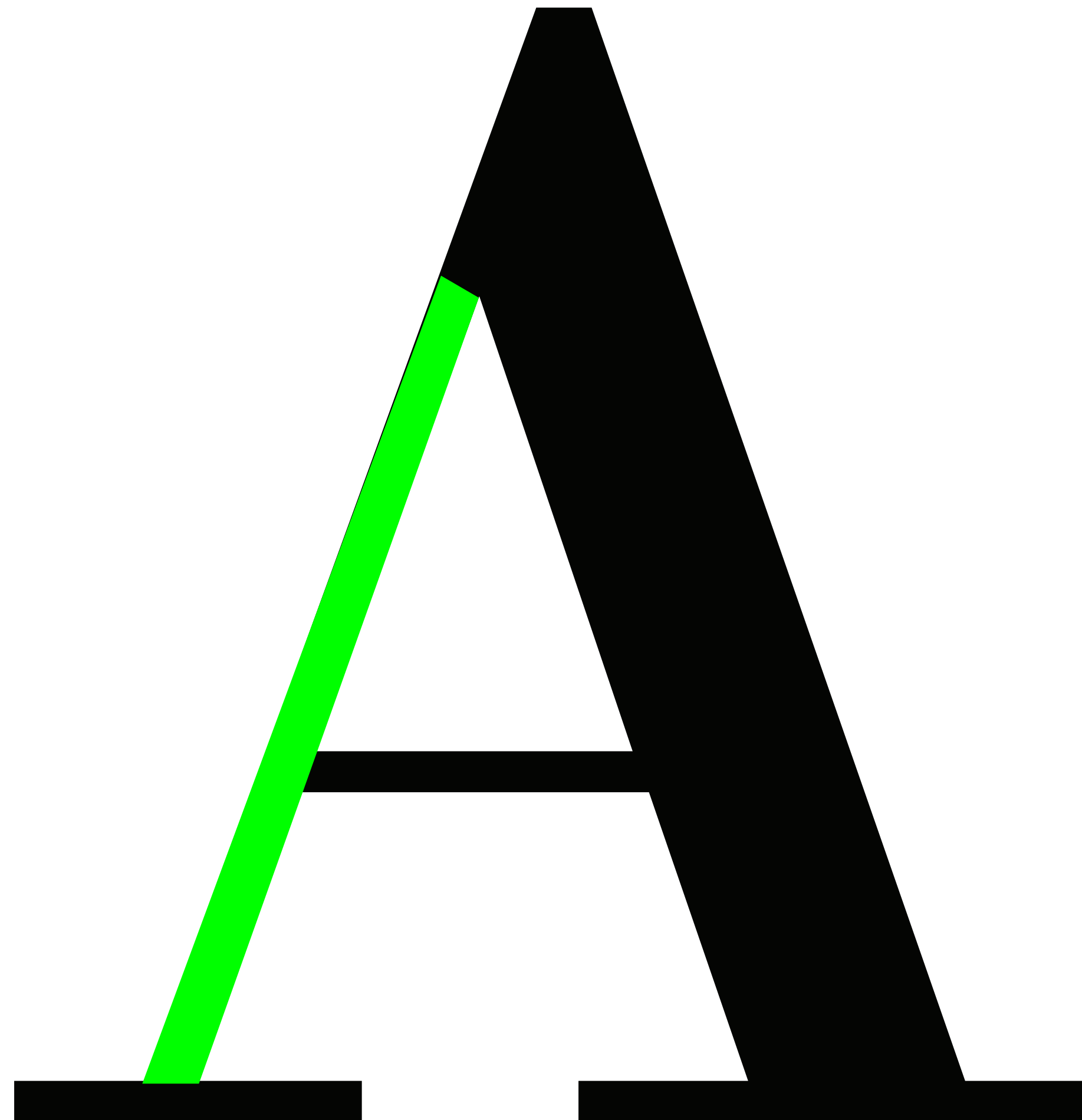
Terminal

The end of a stroke that is not terminated with a serif



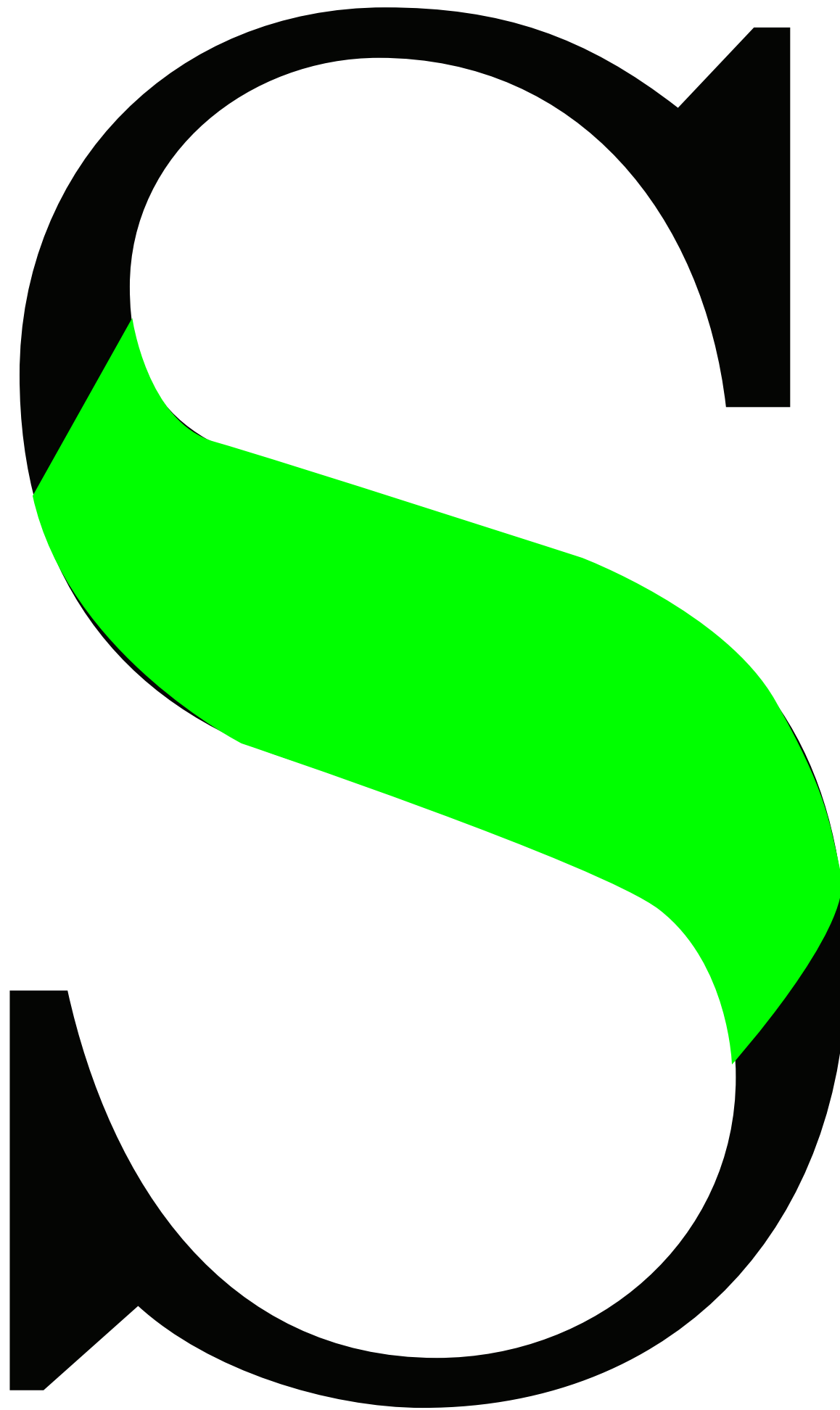
Ball Terminal

Only seen in two-story
a's and g's in specific font families



Hairline

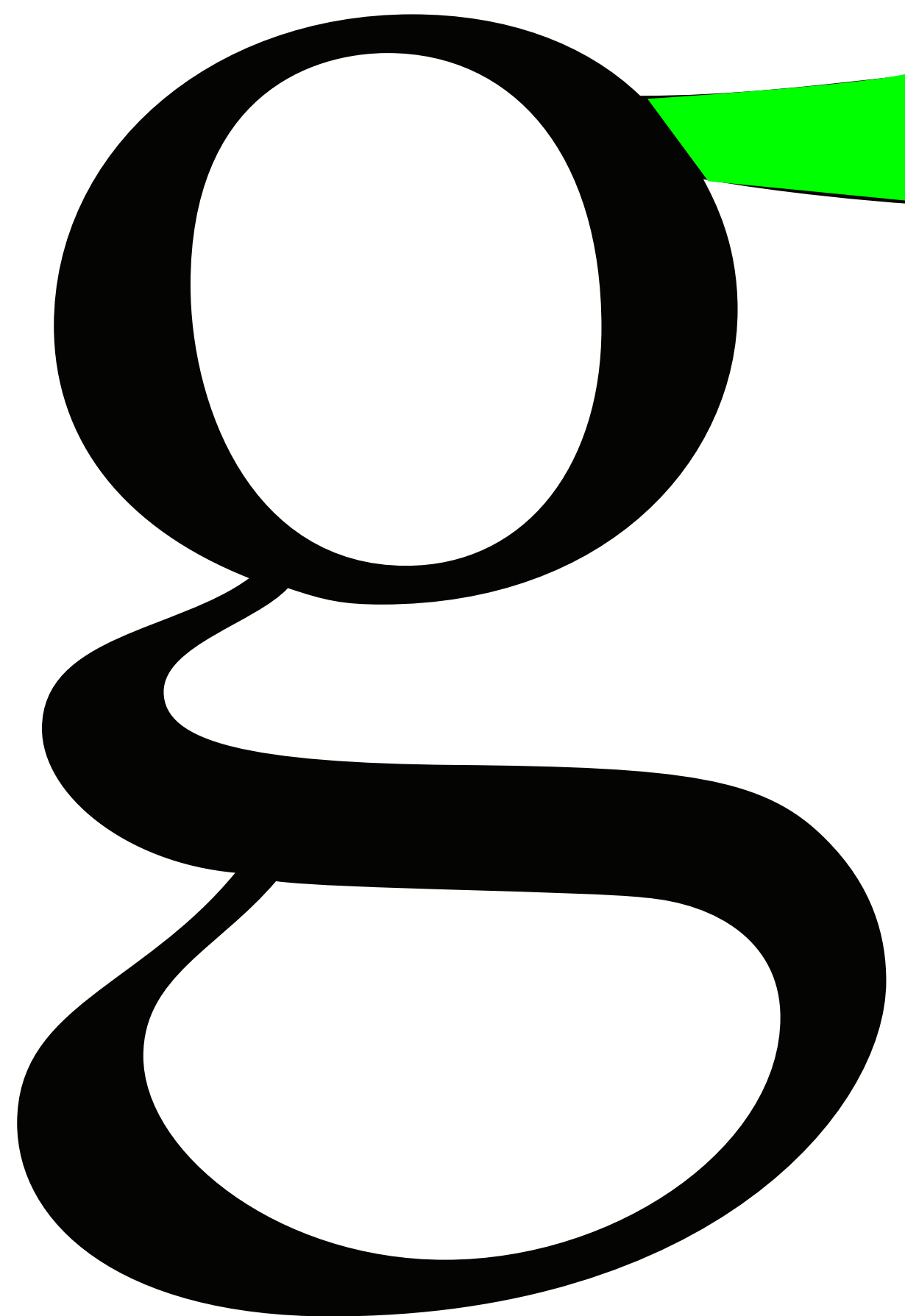
A very thin stroke most often
common to serif typefaces



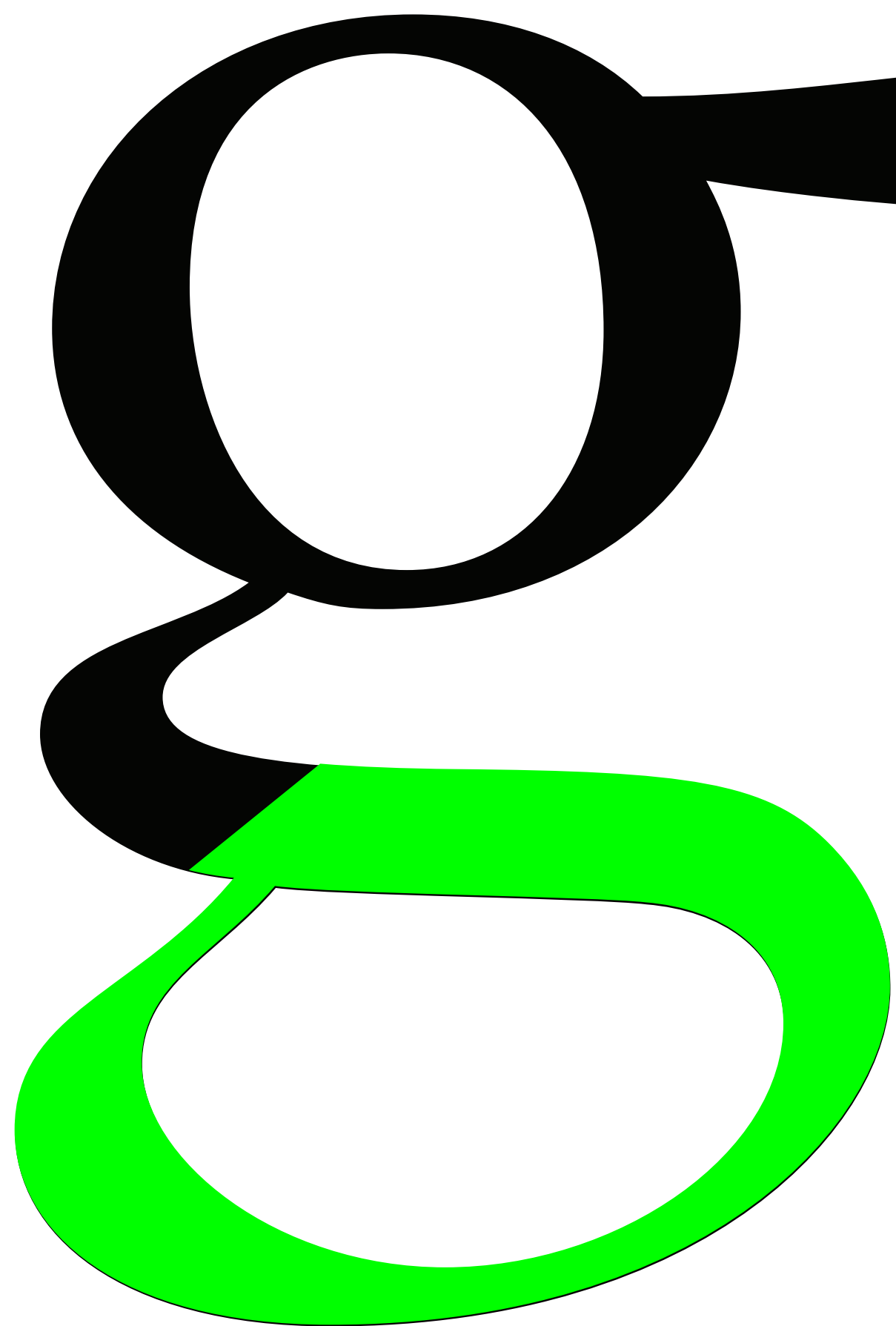
Spine
A central curved stroke



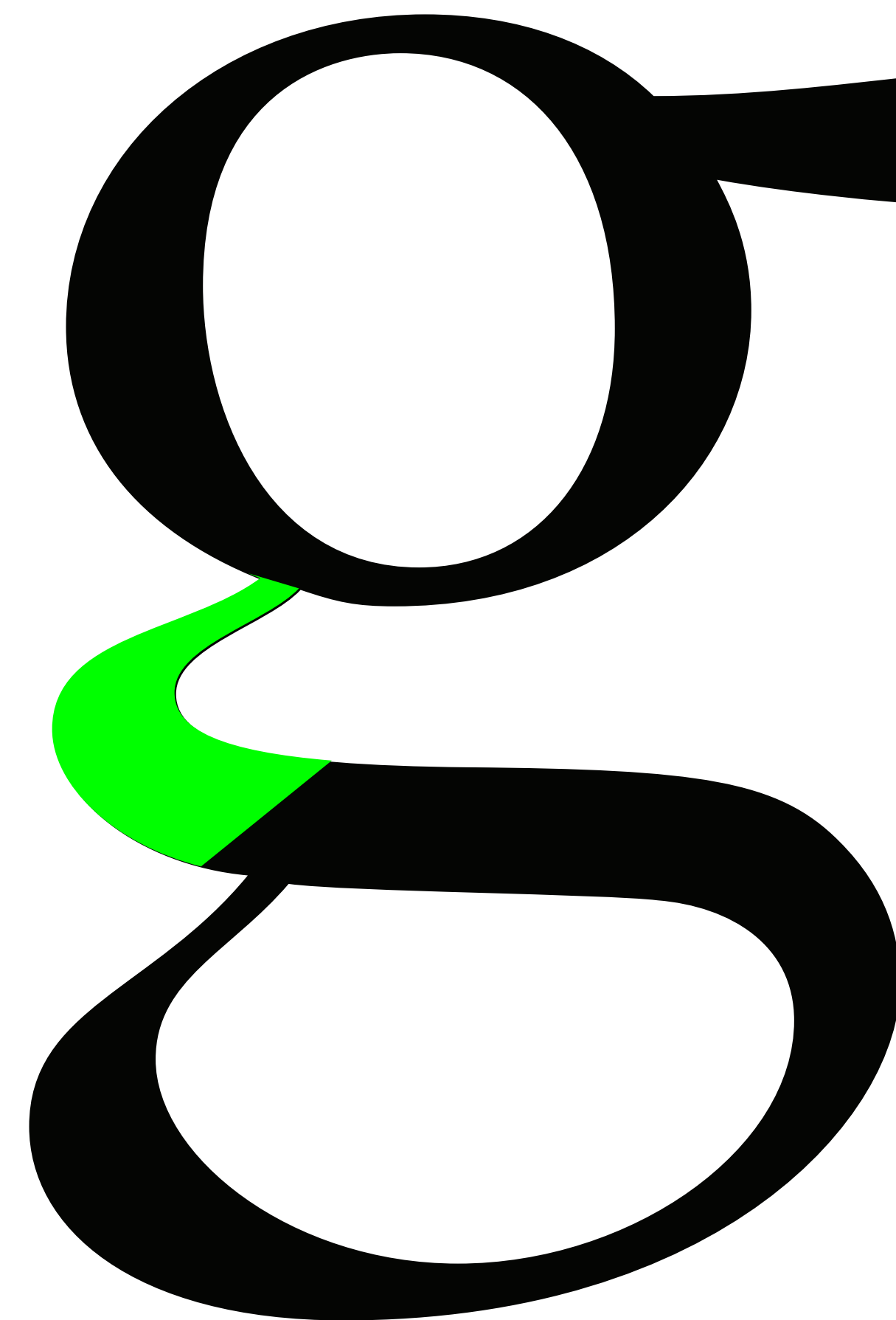
Spur
A projection from a curve



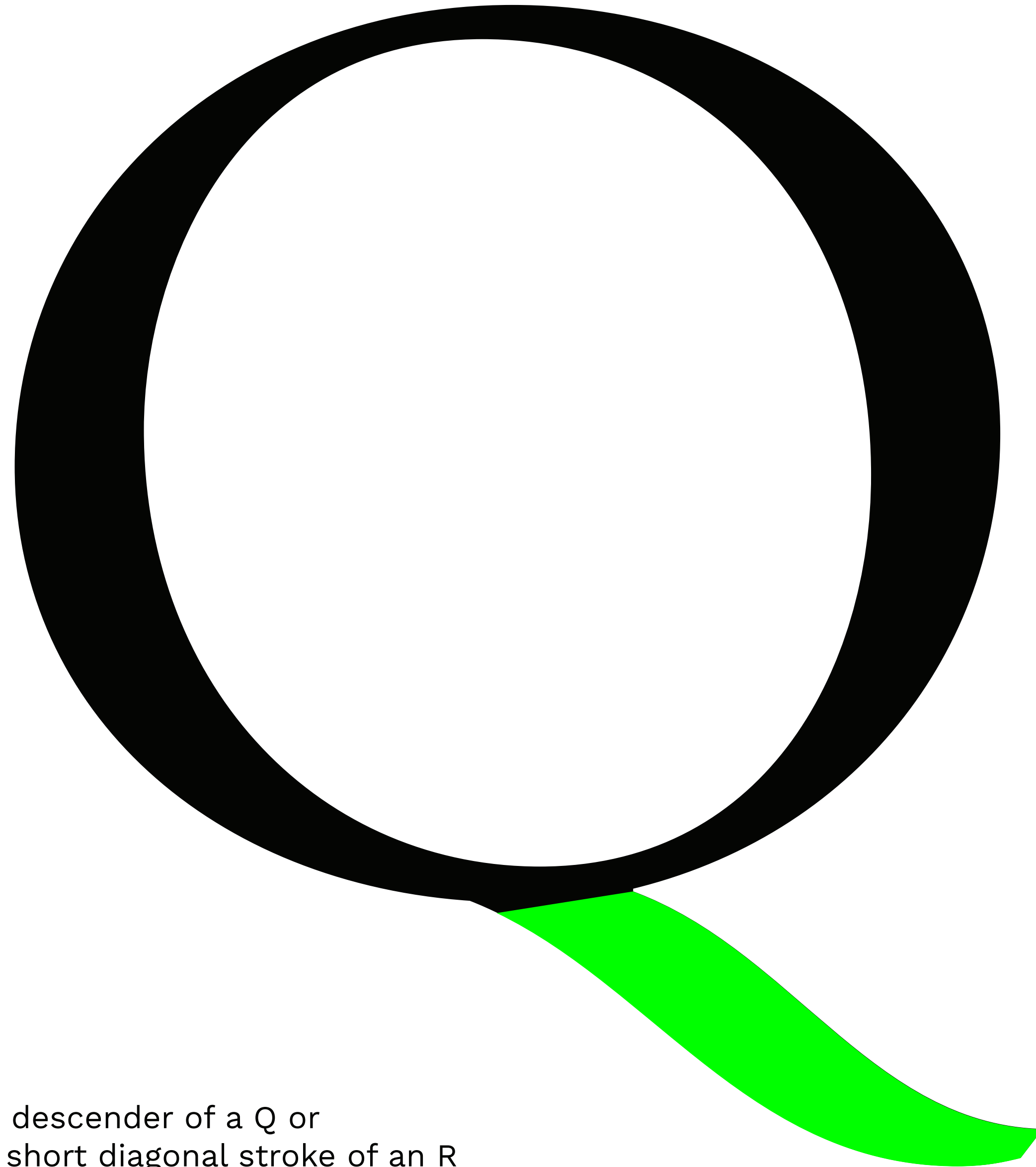
Ear
A short stroke projecting
from the lower case g



Loop
The enclosed counterform
of the letter g's descender



Link
The stroke connecting
the bowl and the loop

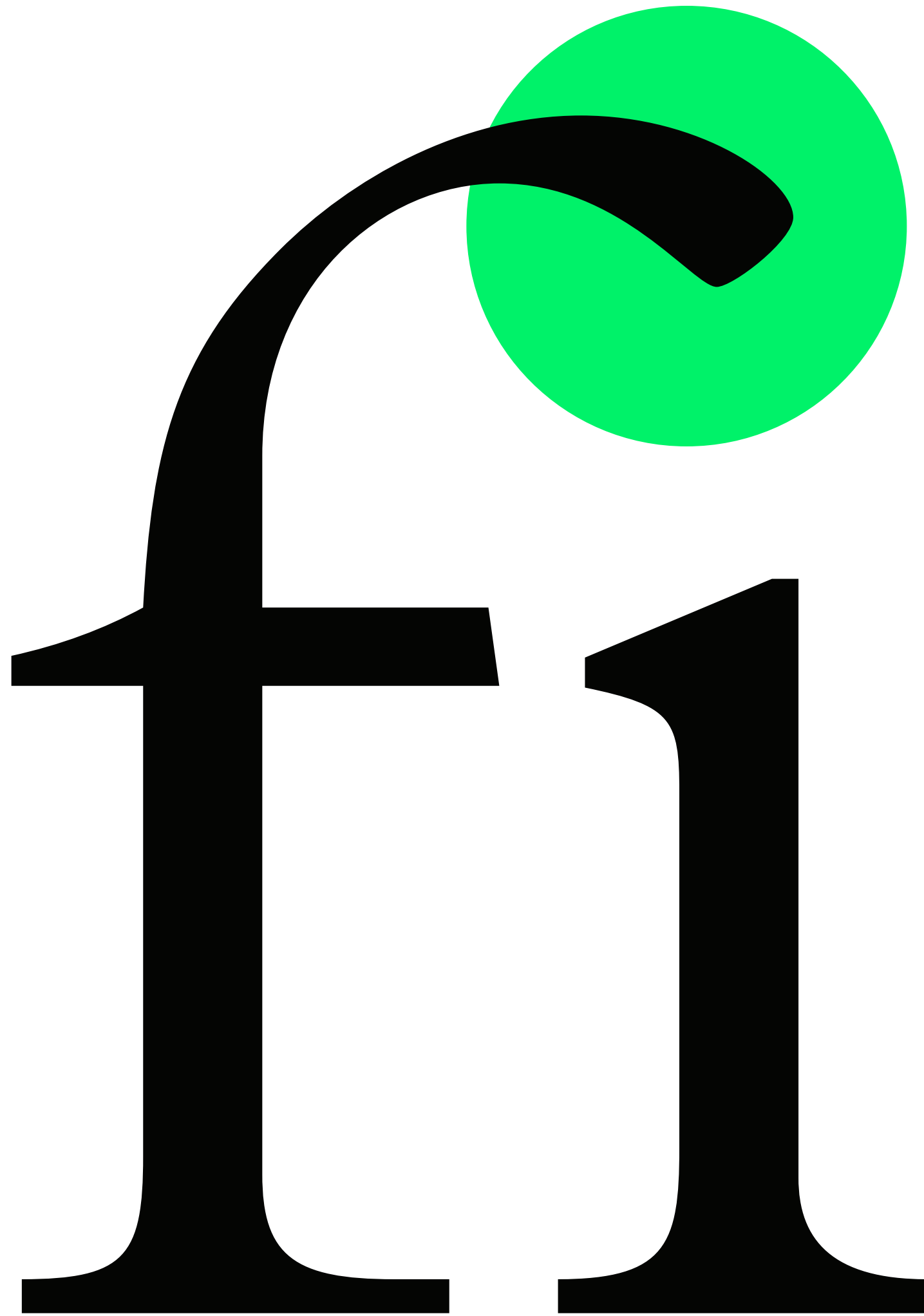


Tail
The descender of a Q or
the short diagonal stroke of an R

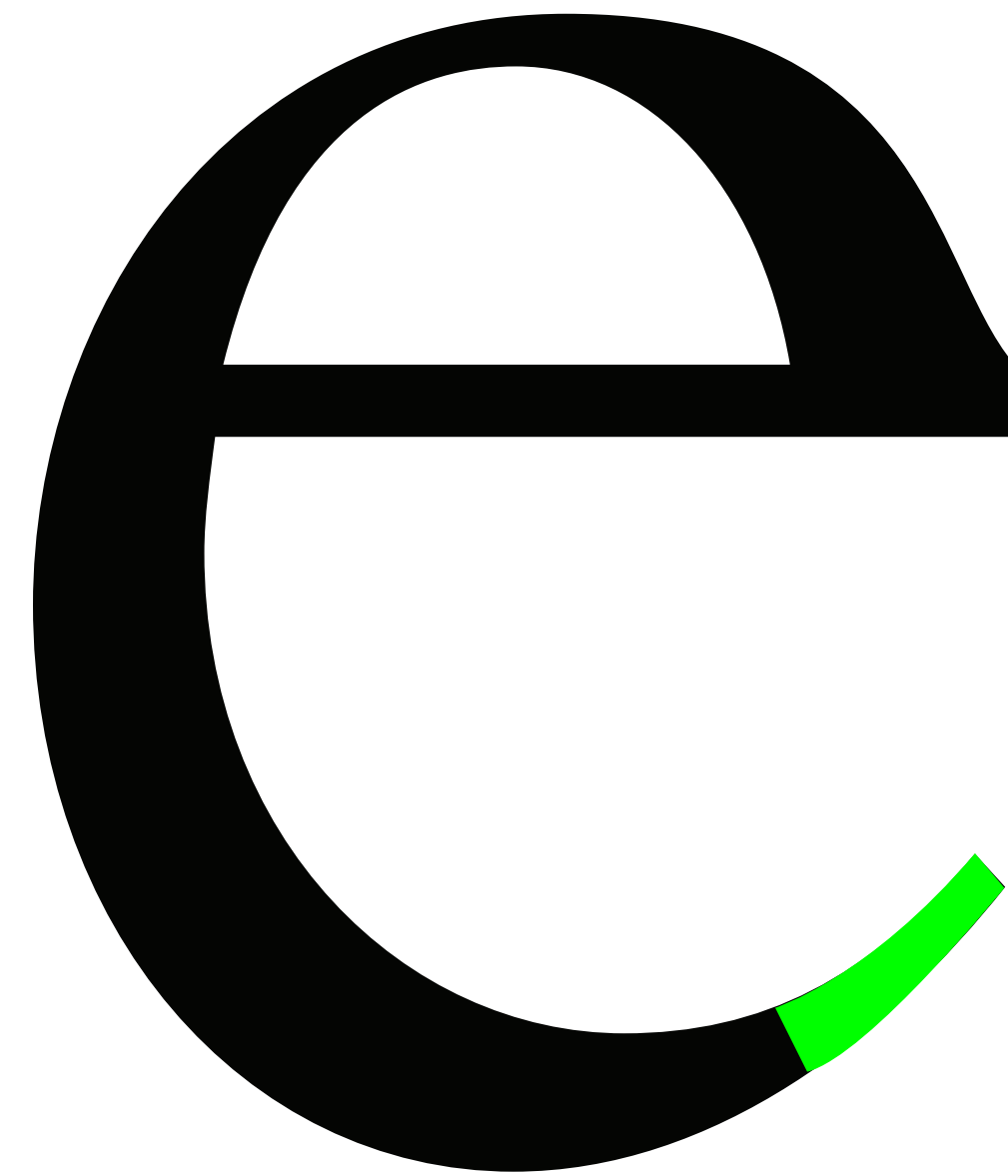


Swash

A fancy flourish replacing
a terminal or serif



Ligature



Finial

ff ff ff ff OE

Ligatures

Exercise 1