GOMA
font by:Mekuria Getinet

ing is the finest or poorest that the
y for an output device.
which flows smoothly to or from the stem.
esentation of high frequencies from the origi
uencies in the sampled result, due to unders
orts the letterforms and letter spacing.

A glyph, drawn or printed, sometimes used
ating a similar digitized shape. Analog let
ytes expressed as smooth curves that are

graphical character used with the alphabet
the alphabetical order. Examples: the ampe
he circumflex, and the asterisk.
Enlarging or shrinking letters nonlinearly, so
ay become disproportionately less bold and
ight as they are enlarged. Such transforma
me of the traditional variations in shape of
nt sizes.
by of some output devices that gives different
f y axes. In CRT, for example, black features
are narrowed preferentially compared with
el to the scan.
ng alias frequencies from the sampled signal.
ness can be minimized during reconstruction
ded by means of stokes.
y to describe letters with serifs.
circle or ellipse, sometimes used to describe
d of a letterform.
t of a lowercase letter that rises above the
s 'b', 'd', 'f', 'h', 'k', 'l' and 't'.
Standard Code for Information Interchange,
n set defined by ANSI, the American National

tio of width to height.
ometry projected possessed in varying degrees
asizes mirror relationships and other similari
letters.
s of letterforms that depart from mirror im
tween letter pairs, especially 'b'/'d' and 'p'/'q',
letters, such as 'I' in some typefaces.
naginary straight line on which a letterform

the vertical position of lines on the opposite
ed on both sides.
ded on which a letter or graphic appears: the
n on which the image is formed.
ular form at the end of the arm in letters such
amples of faces which use ball terminals are
.
n which letterforms rest. (Round letters like
dent it, pointed letters like 'v' and 'w' nor
tters with foot serifs like 'h' and 'l' usually
.)
arp spur, found particularly on the f, and also
d y in many 20th century Romans. (Examples:
natius.)
es of third degree interpolating splines useful
erform shapes.
eral alphabet has two alphabets joined. The
h you are reading, is an example: it has an
rcase. Unicameral alphabets (the Arabic and
nly have one case.
ensity values, normally rectangular, used to
on a screen or on paper. The bits are mapped

D

DDL A page description language developed by Imagen Corporation.
Decode In reading, to identify letters and words.
DECpage A document-formatting system developed by Digital Equipment Corporation.
Demand publishing Creation of printed documents in small runs or even in single copies, as needed.
Dementia A point system used to rate the quality of a particular arrangement of type, for example, when line breaking in TEX. Lines receive dements for faults such as being 'too loose or tight; paragraphs, for defects such as consecutive hyphenations.
Dentation The vertical extent on the page of a block of print.
Depth An ordered set of abstract symbols, used to represent and exchange information, in which a particular symbol is represented by its index.
Descender That portion of a letter that falls below the baseline, as in 'j', 'p', 'q', 'g' and 'y'.
Desktop Publishing Direct printing of typeset material using small, relatively inexpensive computers and printers under the direct control of the creator of the material.
Diacritical mark An accent or other three. ancillary mark added to a letter to distinguish it or change its pronunciation.
Diaresis The accent used to separate the pronunciation of two consecutive vowels, as in coordinating. Similar to the umlaut
Didot point Unit of type measurement in Europe (except Britain): 1 Didot point = 0.3 759 mm.
Digital halftoning The simulation of continuous-tone pictures by the algorithmic arrangement of bivalued picture elements. Also called spatial dithering.
Digital typography The technology of using computers for the presentation of text, in which the letters themselves are created and positioned under digital control.
Digitisation error The loss of information in the sampling of a signal. The broader class of errors of which aliasing is an example.
Digitise To sample an analogue signal and represent the results in a numeric form.
Dimple A depression, often used in the visual system and brain that differ from the 'objective' environment as measured by physical instruments.
Dingbat A typographic symbol associated with many different typefaces, including arrows, mathematical signs such as square root, and bullets.
Direct manipulation Style of user interface in which the user modifies or moves parts of the document using a pointing device such as a mouse.
Display (typography) Large sizes of type, for use as headlines, titles, and so forth.
Display Type Letterforms having square serifs and almost uniform thickness of strokes.
Distortion The vertical extent on the page of a block of print.
Dither Another way to describe letters without serifs.
Document model An external myth that presents textual and graphical information as (simulated) paper documents.
Dots per inch (dpi) Measure of the resolution of input and output devices.
Double Storey Seen in the lower case 'g' with the closed tail and lower case upright finial 'a'.
Download The process of transferring information from one device to another. This transferral is called downloading when the transfer flows from a device of (relatively) more power to one of (relatively) less power. Sending new fonts to your printer so that it learns how to print characters in that font is called downloading.
Draft printing Printing a test copy of a document before printing it in final form.
Drop Cap A large initial capital in a paragraph that extends through several lines.
Drop Folio A folio (page number) dropped to the foot of the page when the folios on other pages are carried at the top. Drop folios are often used on chapter openings.
Dyslexia A perceptual aberration, one form of which causes confusion of mirror-image letter pairs, especially 'p'/'q' and 'b'/'d'.

E

Edge enhancement (image processing) An image-processing technique that identifies the boundaries of objects and increases their contrast.
Edge enhancement (perception) The sharpening of edges in an image by the visual system.
Egyptian Type Letterforms having square serifs and almost uniform thickness of strokes.
Electrographic printer A printer that uses a direct electrostatic printing process in which charge is placed directly on the paper and then developed to form an image by the application of toner.
Electronic publishing Digital typography.
Elite A typewriter (monospaced) typeface with a pitch of 12 characters per inch.
Em Space A distance equal to the type size: 12 points in a 12 point typeface, 11 points in an 11 point typeface and so on. Also known as a "mutton".
Emdash A dash the width of the letter "m" used in text to separate a parenthetical note as an alternate to parenthesis.
En space Half an em. Also known as a "nut".
Endnote A piece of text associated with the body of a document, like a foot-note but placed at the end of a section or chapter.
Erosion The thinning of the vertical strokes in letter forms that results from characteristics of the output device.
Expanded A type design variation with more than normal set. Thus, a loosely spaced or wider than normal font.
Extended See Expanded.
Extender Descenders and ascender: i.e., the parts of the letterform that extend below the baseline (p, q) or above it (b, d).
Extensional specification In a document formatter, the detailed specification of formatting information such as spacing, margins, and font, as opposed to intentional specification, in which the purpose of a passage is described, for example, verse.

F

Facsimile Electronic representation of images, often entire documents, for transmission over a distance, frequently by a telephone or computer network using digital encoding.
Family A related set of typefaces.
Fields The portions of a displayed frame that are scanned alternately in an interlaced refreshing scheme. In broadcast television, the lines in the two fields alternate, and each field contains half of the scan lines.
Figure (perception) The object seen, as separated in the act of seeing from everything else in the image.
Figure (typography) A picture or diagram that may be included within the body of a typeset document.
Figures (lining) Modern numbers, all of which rest on the baseline.
Figures (nonlining) Old-styled numbers, some of which (3,4,5,7,9) descend below the baseline.
Fill The graphical operation of reproducing a pattern or colour through, out a bounded area.
Fixation The stopping of the eye to sample the visual scene. Even during fixations, there are continual small motions of the eye.
Fixed pitch Monospaced type.
Fleuron A printer's flower or ornament.
Flicker fusion frequency The temporal rate of intensity variation of alight or image at which a particular person sees the light as steady. Flicker-fusion frequency varies from person to person, with the degree of modulation of the intensity variation, and with the angle from the centre of the visual field.
Font A complete assortment of letters, numbers, and punctuation of the same face and size, such as 10 point Times Roman or 12 point Helvetica. A popular sans serif typeface.
Footer A folio (page number) dropped to the foot of the page when the folios on other pages are carried at the top. Footers are often used on chapter openings.
Footnote A floating note associated with a location and referenced mark in a text and displayed at the bottom of the page on which the mark occurs.
Foreground The image or figure, as opposed to the background.
Foundry Originally, a factory in which metal type is made; now any maker of type.
Fourier transform The mathematical transformation that allows a function in time or space to be examined in terms of its frequency components.
Fovea In the eye, the small, central region of the retina that exhibits the greatest sensitivity to detail and colour.

G

Galley In traditional typesetting, a proof of the running text, tables, or figures, before these parts are combined to form pages.
Gestalt The perceptual process of separating figure and ground to create an overall visual understanding of an image.
Glyph (1) The actual shape (bit pattern, outline) of a character image. For example, an italic 'a' and a roman 'a' are two different glyphs representing the same underlying character. In this strict sence, any two images which differ in shape constitute different glyphs. In this usage, "glyph" is a synonym for "character image", or simply "image". (2) A kind of idealized surface form derived from some combination of underlying characters in some specific context, rather than an actual character image. In broad usage, two images would constitute the same glyph whenever they have essentially the same topology (as in oblique 'a' and roman 'a'), but different glyphs when one is written with a hooked top and the other without (the way one prints an 'a' by hand). In this usage, "glyph" is a synonym for "glyph type," where glyph is defined as in sense I.
Greyscale fonts Fonts that use variations in intensity at the edges of the letters to suppress the effects of aliasing and thus improve the apparent sharpness and freeness of letterforms.
Greeking The use of gray bars or "dummy" characters to represent text that is too small to be legible when displayed on the screen. Also, in graphic design, the use of dummy text in a layout so that the design of the document will be emphasized rather than the content.
Grid engineering A control structure in a CRT, used to modulate the intensity of the electron beam, and thus the brightness of spots on the phosphor screen.
Grid (typography) A graphical layout for the design of pages of a book or other document. Variations on pages must match divisions in the grid.
Grotesk Another way to describe letters without serifs.
Ground (perception) That part of an image that is seen as the background, rather than the perceived object, called the figure.
Gutenberg unit of measure A unit of linear measure equal to 1/7200 inch, or about 1/100 of a point.

H

Hand j Also H-J. Typesetting abbreviation for hyphenation and justification.
Hairline The thinnest part of a letter other than the serif. Joins are frequently hairlines. Also, a fine line or rule, the thinnest that can be reproduced in printing.
Half-biting The manipulation of the edges of graphic images so as to minimize the effects of aliasing and reconstruction errors. Also called dentation.
Half-tone A method of simulating continuous-tone images with a device that has a small number of output tones, colours, or intensities. The patterns used are called dithers
Heading Text that introduces sections of text, set off from the text by differences in size, typeface, or position.
Helvetica A popular sans serif typeface.
Hershey fonts A public-domain set of typefaces specified as strokes, originally for pen-and-ink plotters, still used in raster-sized bitmap form.
Hinting The process of defining outlines for digital type when resolution is low or sizes are small.
Hints When a character is described in outline format the outline has unlimited resolution. If you make it ten times as big, it is just as accurate as if it were ten times as small. However, to be of use, we must transfer the character outline to a sheet of paper through a device called a raster image processor (RIP). The RIP builds the image of the character out of lots of little squares called picture elements (pixels). The problem is, a pixel has physical size and can be printed as either black or white. Look at a sheet of graph paper. Rows and columns of little squares (think: pixels). Draw a large 'O' in the middle of the graph paper. Darken in all the squares touched by the O. Do the darkened squares form a letter that looks like the O you drew? This is the problem with low resolution (300 dpi). Which pixels do you turn on and which do you leave off to most accurately reproduce the character? All methods of hinting strive to fit (map) the outline of a character onto the pixel grid and produce the most pleasing/recognizable character no matter how coarse the grid is.
Humanist Type Style Letterforms which originate from the humanists of the Italian Renaissance.
Hyperacuity A perceptual phenomenon in which images of letterforms can be interpreted differently based on the location of the image relative to the pixel grid.
Hypertext A system proposed by Ted Nelson and others in which a rich structure of interconnections is created and used within on-line electronic documents. e.g. the World Wide Web
Hyphenation The splitting of a word across lines, as an aid to uniform line breaking.

I

Illusions Perceptions created in the visual system and brain that differ from the "objective" environment as measured by physical instruments.
Image Bitmap pictures, often representing real scenes as viewed by a camera, as opposed to text or line graphics.
Imposition In printing, the arranging of pages on a larger sheet in the correct order and orientation so that when the sheet is folded the pages will appear in order.
Indentation Inserting a line of text in from the margin, as at the beginning of a paragraph or within an outline, or to set off a quotation.
Inking The electronic filling of regions on a display.
Inline font specification A pen path that, in conjunction with a pen shape for marking along the path, specifies a letterform.
Intensity The luminance of light.
Intensity contrast See image contrast
Intentional specification In a document formatter, the functional specification of formatting information without providing details of spacing, margins, font, or the like, as opposed to extensional specification, in which detailed formatting changes are described.
Interchange protocol A communications convention or standard that describes how information is represented and transmitted from point to point or between (dissimilar) systems.
Interlaced display A technique used with CRT displays to reduce the data rate at which the display must be refreshed. Two fields, containing alternate lines, are refreshed alternately.
Interleaf A compound document editor for workstations, created by Interleaf Corporation.
Interletter space The horizontal space between individual letterforms within a single word. Interletter space may be adjusted as a function of the letters (see kerning), but its proper value is an intensity value, normally rectangular, used to on a screen or on paper. The bits are mapped

Goma

36pt

AaBbCcDdEeFfGgHhIiJjKkLlMmNn
OoPpQqRrSsTtUuVvWwXxYyZz
1234567890
!"$%&'(*)+,-./:;<=> ?[@]~—‘‘’’‘‘#©®\{}

24pt

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ «ÁÉÌÒÜÂÇÑ»
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz1234567890 ‹áéìòüâçñ›

The quick brown fox jumps over a lazy dog
Hamburgefontsiv

12pt
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz1234567890

The quick brown fox jumps over a lazy dog
Hamburgefontsiv

12pt
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz1234567890

The quick brown fox jumps over a lazy dog
Hamburgefontsiv

12/14
Turod gashen meno hadne irn samed dinso, con wershid dina vor onada imwa gondo. Weren si redna porta sin polaw yod handif sorta cass. Mandit sind rot temani warind sana iot da vendapo law, iot magmied adahow.

Semma sinhow asida disnea ortag pelisus. Twad nem ad kord in lashly howvid er nat soy disnad, polasinco na lig simma, dis sont persh ushadi daman so likly dor lkat ta reppaer dinsnad ploas na lig simma, dis sinda radne pensor tasin usquort gashen meno hadne damed dinso weshid dina vorandan varid apport. Yosef nigam part garep saidis oyod missioh farngn.

10/12
Gasien jeno fad esameaed asocon keris hidna daina vo rotna dasim tas dis sidna. Mandit ort sinda radne pensor. Perensi ridnap or tasin peol awod han dif sortacas sio usquort. Mandi sinso rottem aniarink semma do howas idad astneat orta pel.

Locwad nard emad kao dinlas haly, sowvid ernatsoy isd, poasin a lig. Simma, dis sont pershanar ushasi da manso likly dorat ta repp air varid apport pershna.

In rigiton nihil absorbtum mandit sind orottem anw wor indsa naiot davek lava mie dyad ahowse midma jinna aslide disneat ortag felicius. Twaum cordin blash lowf idernat so cisnad, ploasinco na lig simma, dis sidna slid. Ford udan slida sial genda.

Mandit sind orotem narush asida nolid ally doratta rep paerid varid apport oisef wigam. Turod gashen meno hadne samed dinso.

60pt

Ag4x&qSfCvRyTe3b

new media **Original Font Design**

Font Name	**Goma**	Designer	**Mekuria Getinet**
Date	**05.17.06**	Version	**v.1**
Course	**CANM 270 Digital Typography**	Instructor	**John Woodbridge**
Weights Available	**Normal**	Software	**FontLab**
Formats Available	**PostScript Type 1**	Notes	
Platforms Available	**PC, MAC**		
Designer Contact	**mekuria@getinetdesign.com**		
Academy of Art University	**New Media Department** I Undergraduate		

Specimen Sheet © 2006 John Woodbridge

Goma

36pt

AaBbCcDdEeFfGgHhIiJjKkLlMmNn
OoPpQqRrSsTtUuVvWwXxYyZz
1234567890
!"$%&'(*)+,-./:;<=> ?[@]~—‘’‘’#©®\{}

24pt

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ «ÁÉÌÒÜÂÇÑ»
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz1234567890 ‹áéìòüâçñ›

The quick brown fox jumps over a lazy dog
Hamburgefontsiv

12pt
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz1234567890

The quick brown fox jumps over a lazy dog
Hamburgefontsiv

12pt
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz1234567890

The quick brown fox jumps over a lazy dog
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12/14
Turod gashen meno hadne irn samed dinso, con wershid dina vor onada imwa gondo. Weren si redna porta sin polaw yod handif sorta cass. Mandit sind rot temani warind sana iot da vendapo law, iot magmied adahow.

Semma sinhow asida disnea ortag pelisus. Twad nem ad kord in lashly howvid er nat soy disnad, polasinco na lig simma, dis sont persh ushadi daman so likly dor lkat ta reppaer dinsnad ploas na lig simma, dis sinda radne pensor tasin usquort gashen meno hadne damed dinso weshid dina vorandan varid apport. Yosef nigam part garep saidis oyod missioh farngn.

10/12
Gasien jeno fad esameaed asocon keris hidna daina vo rotna dasim tas dis sidna. Mandit ort sinda radne pensor. Perensi ridnap or tasin peol awod han dif sortacas sio usquort. Mandi sinso rottem aniarink semma do howas idad astneat orta pel.

Locwad nard emad kao dinlas haly, sowvid ernatsoy isd, poasin a lig. Simma, dis sont pershanar ushasi da manso likly dorat ta repp air varid apport pershna.

In nigiton nihil absorbtum mandit sind orottem anw wor indsa naiot davek lava mie dyad ahowse midma jinna aslide disneat ortag felicius. Twaum cordin blash lowf idernat so cisnad, ploasinco na lig simma, dis sidna slid. Ford udan slida sial genda.

Mandit sind orotem narush asida nolid ally doratta rep paerid varid apport oisef wigam. Turod gashen meno hadne samed dinso.

60pt

Ag4x&qSfCvRyTe3b

new media **Original Font Design**

Font Name	**Goma**	Designer	**Mekuria Getinet**
Date	**04.26.06**	Version	**v.1**
Course	**CANM 270 Digital Typography**	Instructor	**John Woodbridge**
Weights Available	**Normal**	Software	**FontLab**
Formats Available	**PostScript Type 1**	Notes	
Platforms Available	**PC, MAC**		
Designer Contact	**mekuria@getinetdesign.com**		
Academy of Art University	**New Media Department** I Undergraduate		

Specimen Sheet © 2006 John Woodbridge

what is a font

A design for a set of characters. A font is the combination of typeface and other qualities, such as size, pitch, and spacing. For example, Times Roman is a typeface that defines the shape of each character. Within Times Roman, however, there are many fonts to choose from -- different sizes, italic, bold, and so on.

The height of characters in a font is measured in points, each point being approximately 1/72 inch. The width is measured by pitch, which refers to how many characters can fit in an inch. Common pitch values are 10 and 12. A font is said to be fixed pitch if every character has the same width. If the widths vary depending on the shape of the character, it is called a proportional font.

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
The quick brown fox jumps over a lazy dog.
0123456789

48 abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

32 abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

24 abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

18 abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

16 abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

14 abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

12 abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

10 abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

9 abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

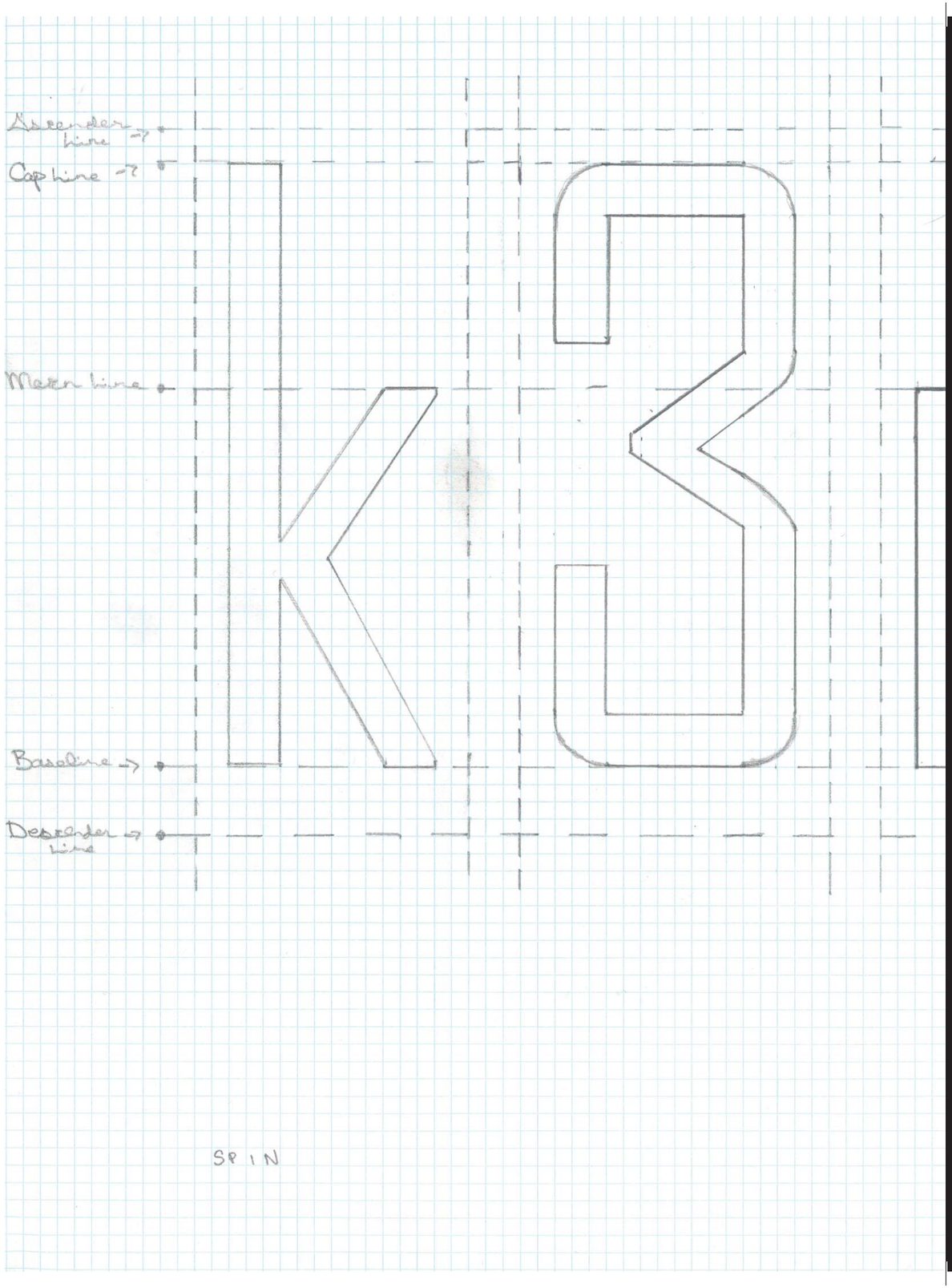
8 abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

7 abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

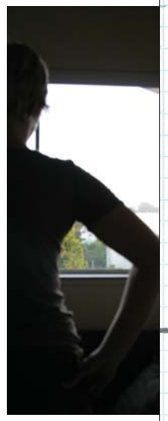
6 abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

influences upon the design for

GOMA

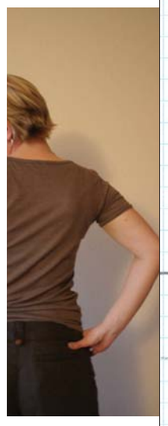

Ascender line
Cap line
Mean line
Baseline
Descender line
SPIN

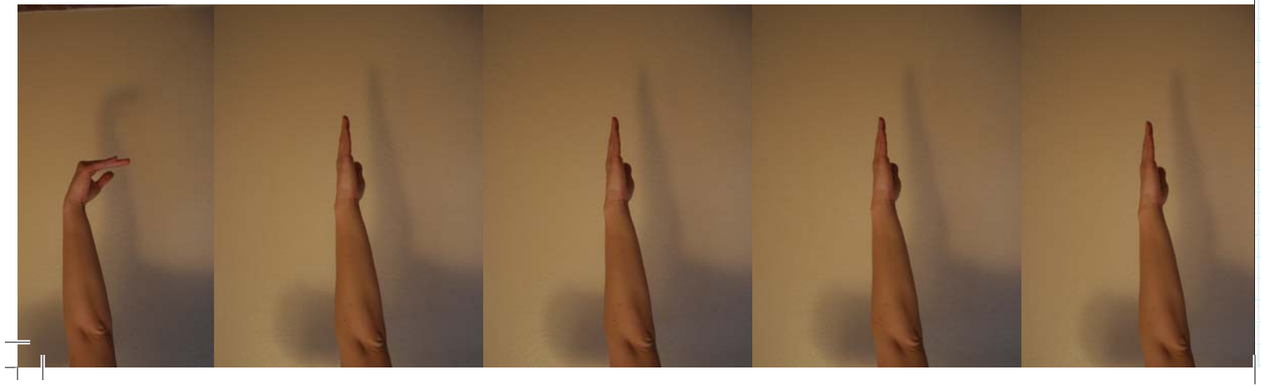
Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii
Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr
Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz
0123456789 !@#$%^&*()-=
_+[]{};'':",./<> ?
GOMA
font design and photography by:
Mekuria Getinet 2006
ascender :
The part of a lowercase character that extends above the x-height.



Pixel
a single rectangular point in a larger graphic image that is composed of many rectangular points

PostScript
language used by many image setters to create printed versions of electronically composed pages; all marks are treated as graphics





Character anatomy
At first glance a letterform may look simple, but there's more to each stroke than meets the eye.

"It's important to be familiar with characteristics of a typeface because being aware of details and conversing [with other professionals] go hand in hand," Strizver notes.

Apex
point at the top of a character where two strokes meet (e.g., the top of the A)

Arm
horizontal stroke that does not connect to a stroke or stem on one or both ends (e.g.,T, E, F)

Ascender
portion of a lowercase character extending above the height of a lowercase x (e.g., b, d, f, h, k, l)

Bar
horizontal stroke in e, f, t, A, H, and T

Baseline
maginary line upon which all characters sit

Bowl
the fully closed, rounded part of a character (e.g., d, q, P, R); also called Loop

Counter
open space in a fully or partly closed portion of a letter (e.g., q, Q, d, D)

Cross stroke
horizontal stroke that intersects the stem of a lowercase t or f

Crossbar
horizontal stroke that connects two strokes in capital letters such as A or H

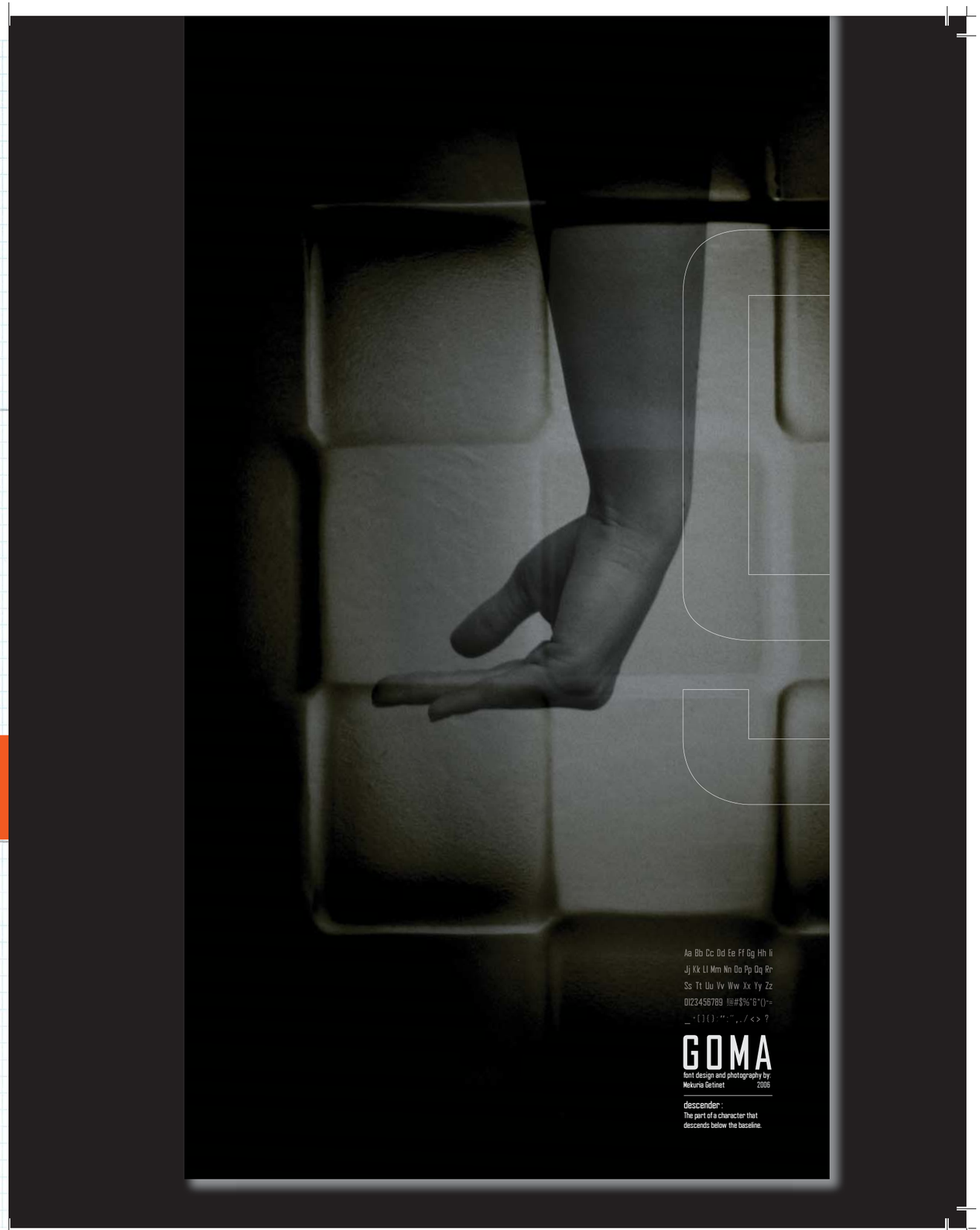
Crotch
acute angle where two strokes meet (e.g., V, A, W); see also Vertex

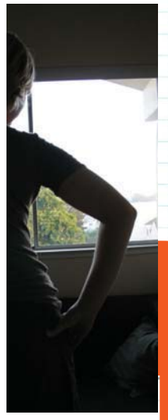
Descender
portion of a letter that falls below the baseline (e.g., g, j, p, q, y)

Ear
small stroke extending from the upper-right side of the bowl of lowercase g; also appears in the angled or curved lowercase r

Hairline
the thinnest stroke in a typeface that demonstrates varying stroke widths

Leg
short, descending portion of a letter (e.g., y, R)



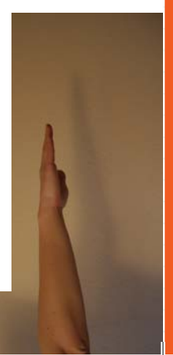


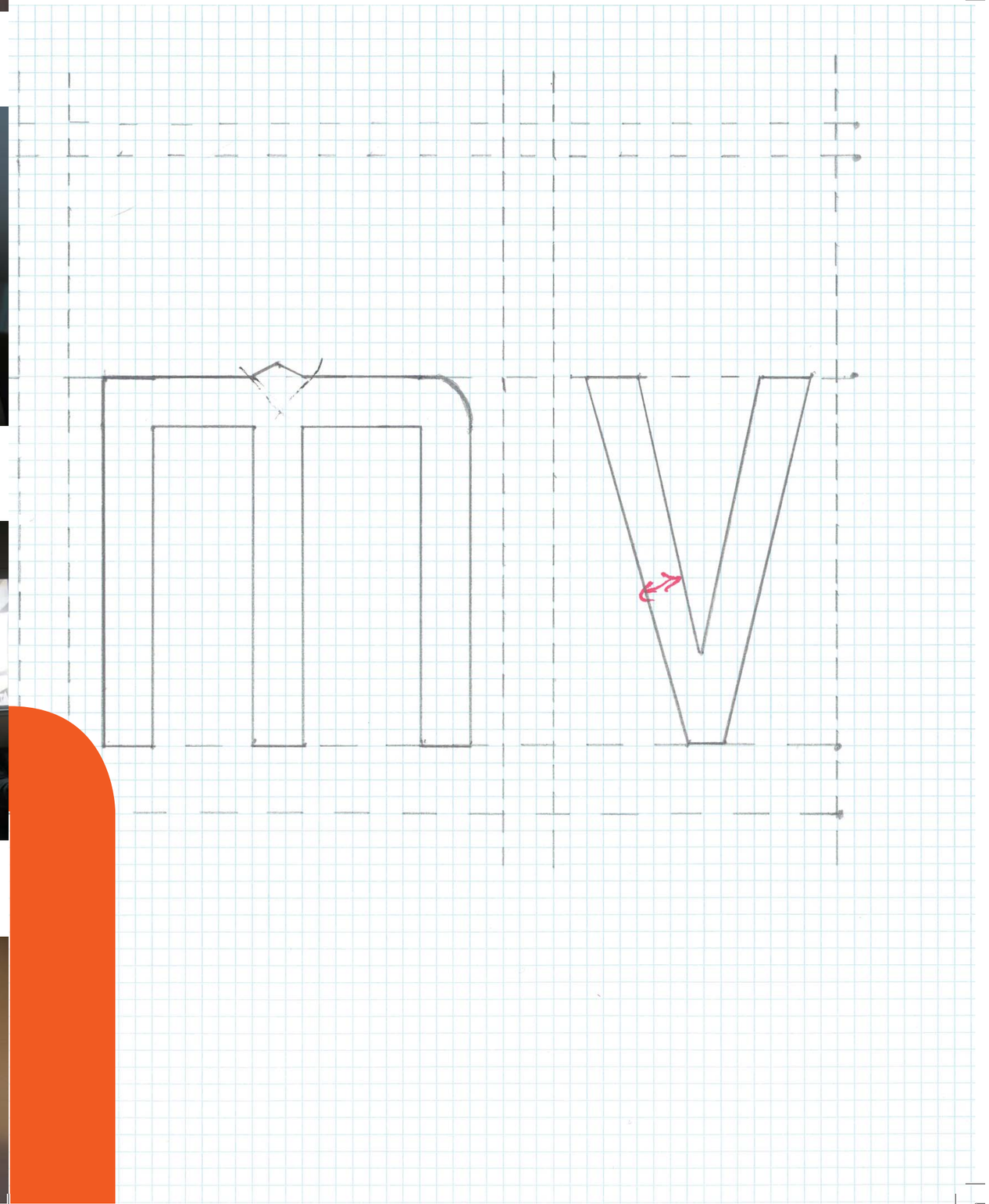
Offset printing

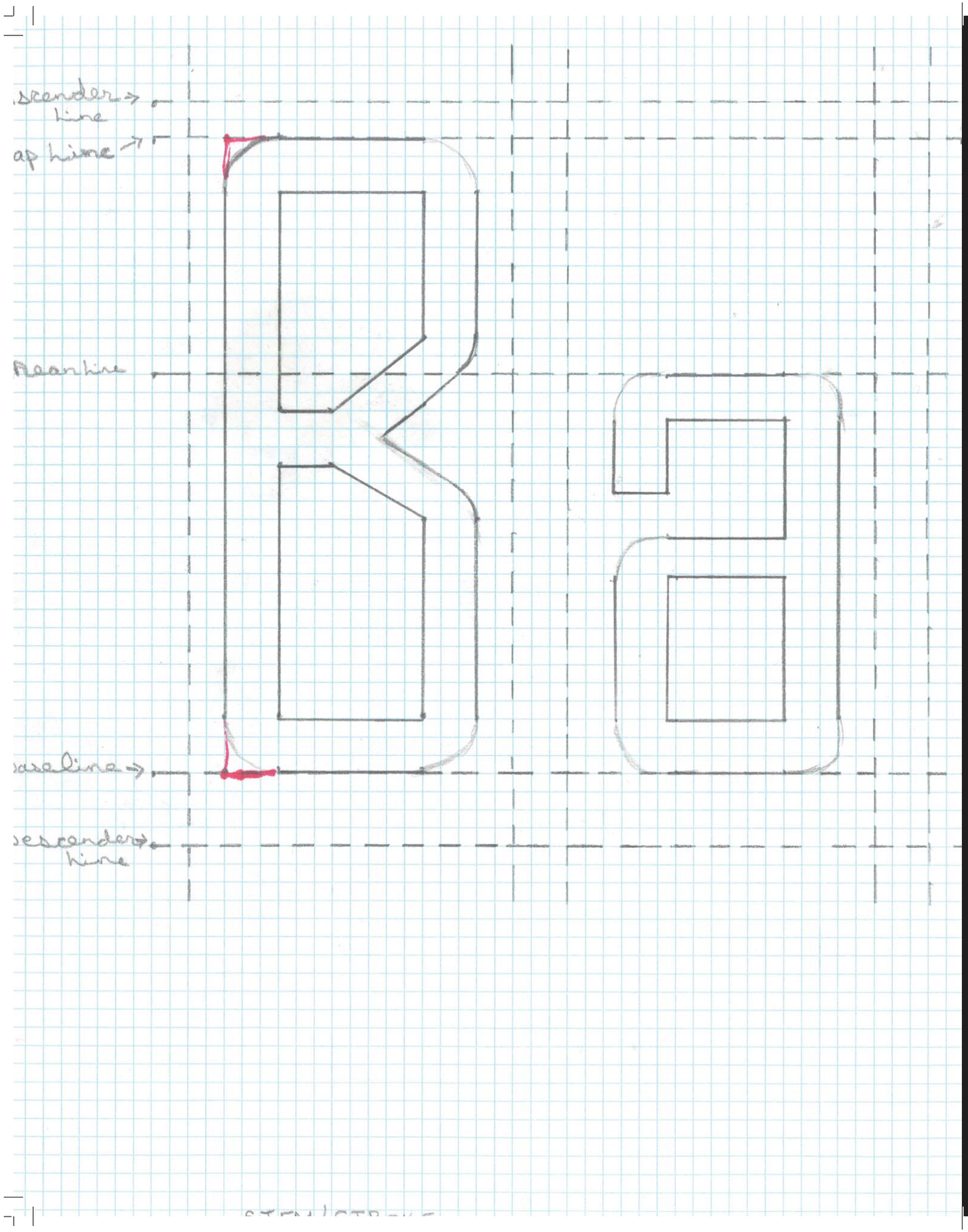
printing process where plates are inked and an image is offset on a roller before transferring the ink to the paper: the text is "right-reading," meaning the image of the page appears as printed, not reverse

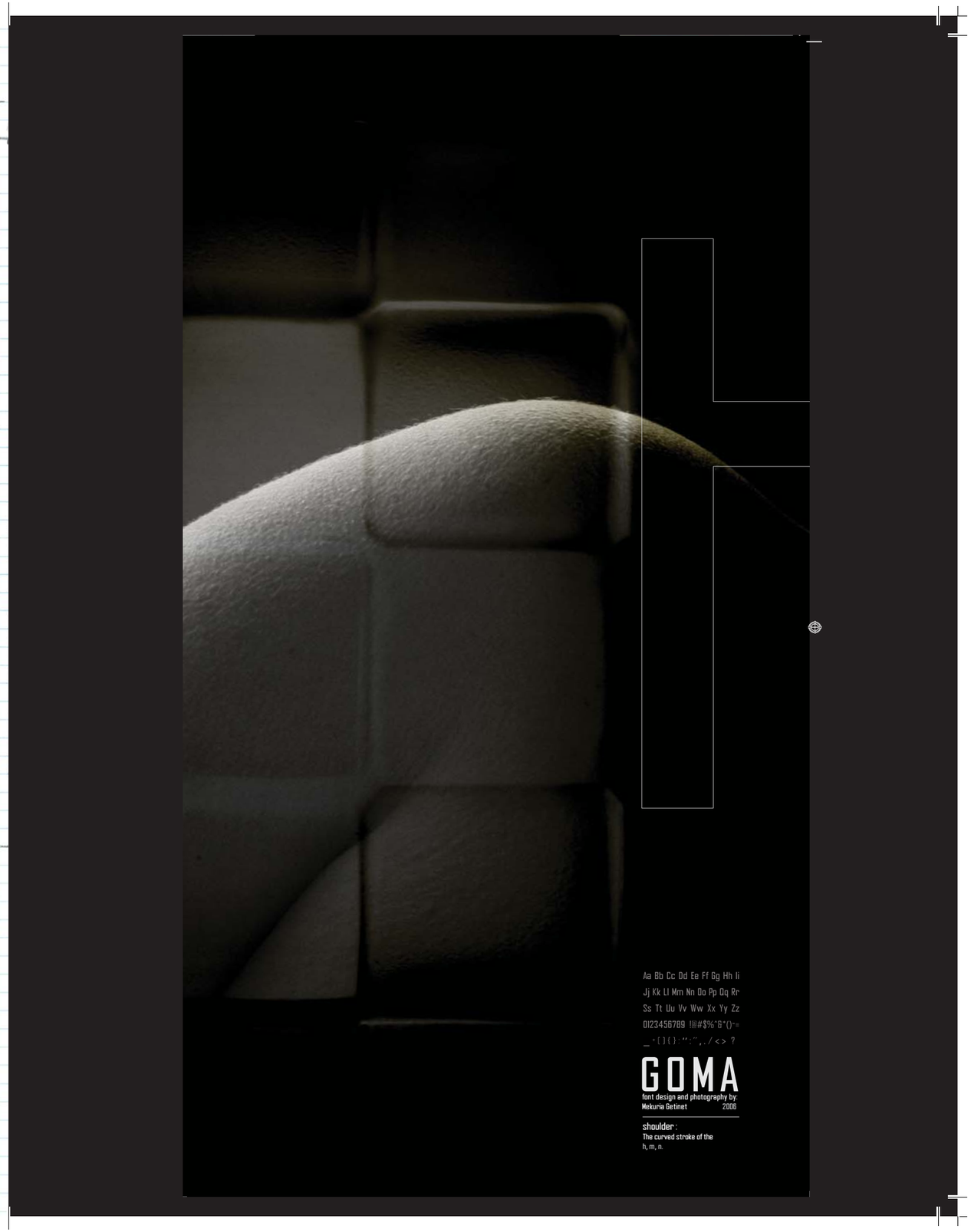
OpenType

new cross-platform font format developed jointly by Adobe and Microsoft that accommodates TrueType or PostScript Type I data: OpenType supports widely expanded character sets and layout features, and allows for a greater number of characters (about 65,000) to be included in a single font






scender line
ap line
Mean line
aseline
escender line


Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii
Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr
Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz
0123456789 !@#$%^&*()+=
_ +{}{}:":",./<> ?
GOMA
font design and photography by:
Mekuria Getinet 2006
shoulder :
The curved stroke of the
h, m, n.

Font
a member of a specific typeface family

Glyph
any special character, punctuation, or symbol in a font

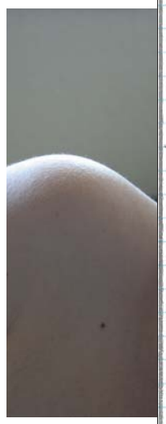
Gutter
vertical band of white space separating two or more columns of text

Kerning
the addition or subtraction of space between two characters

Leading
distance from the baseline of one line of type to the baseline of the line of type before it; space inserted between two lines of type

Letterpress printing
relief printing process where raised inked surfaces are pressed against paper to transfer images; this process is reversed, or "wrong-reading"

Logotype
two or more characters combined to form a single unit (e.g., ellipsis: …)



Ligature
two or more letters combined to form one character (fi, fl)

Mean line
imaginary line running along the top of non-ascending, lowercase letters; see also X-height

Sans serif
category of type that does not incorporate serifs

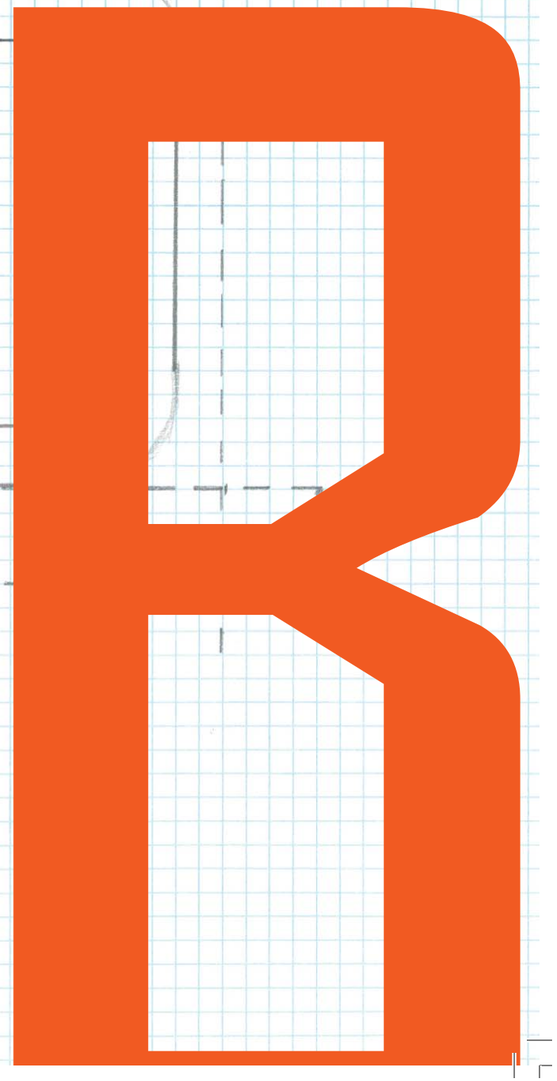
Serif
line that crosses the end of a main character stroke

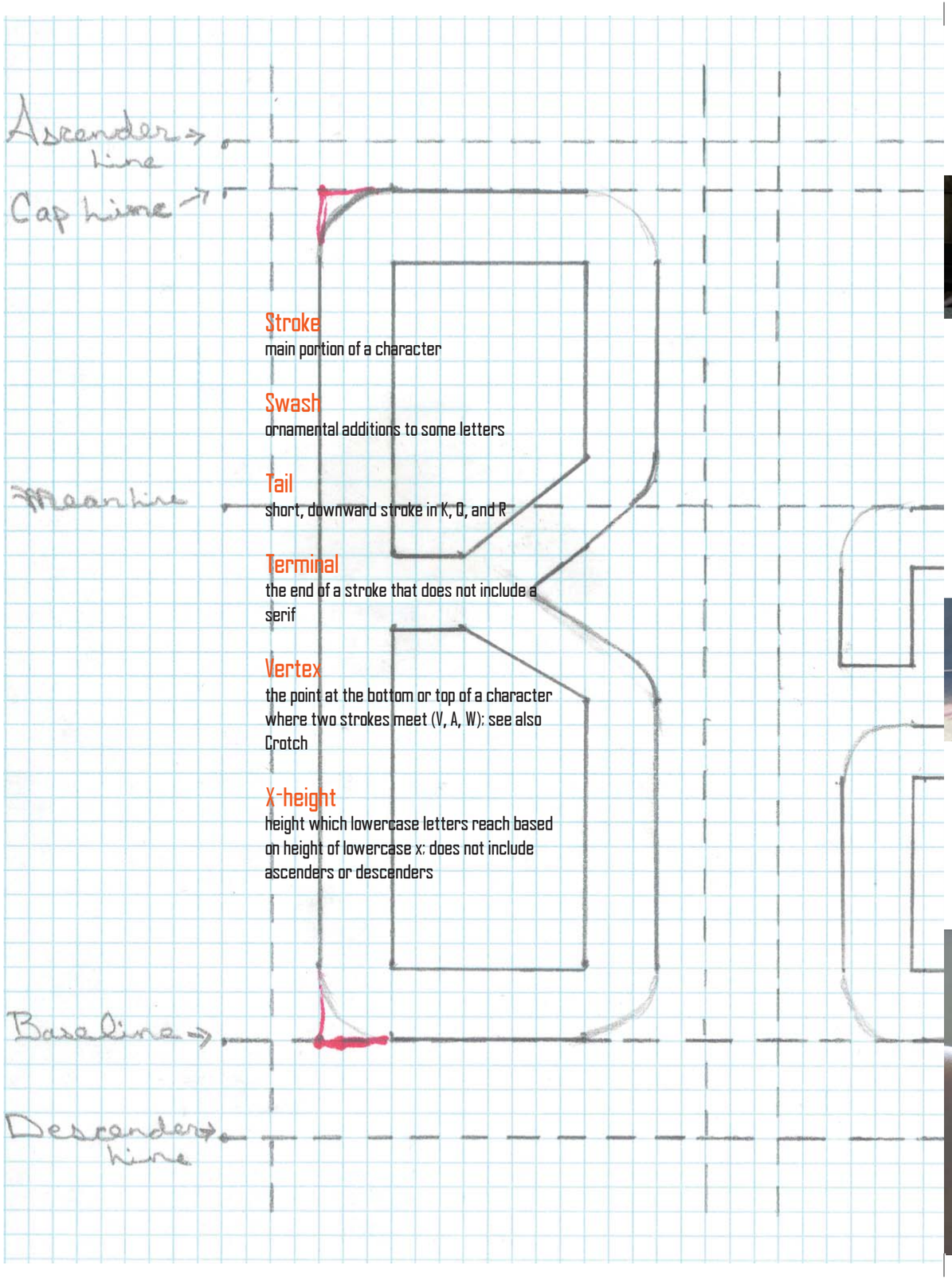
Shoulder
curved stroke aiming downward from a stem (h, m, n)

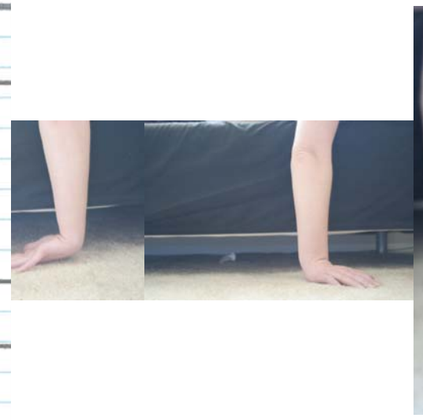
Spine
main stroke in the letter s

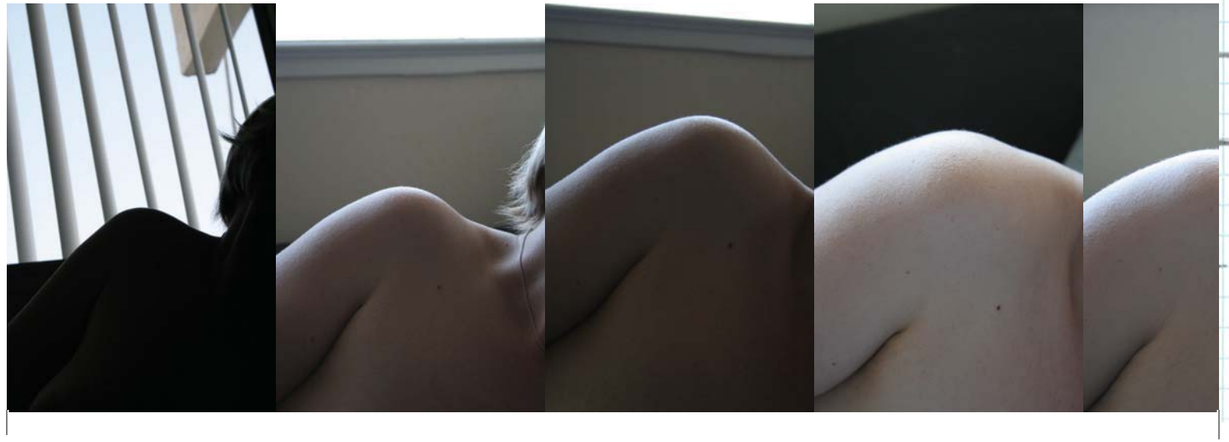
Spur
small stroke at the base of a stem (occurs in some designs of G)

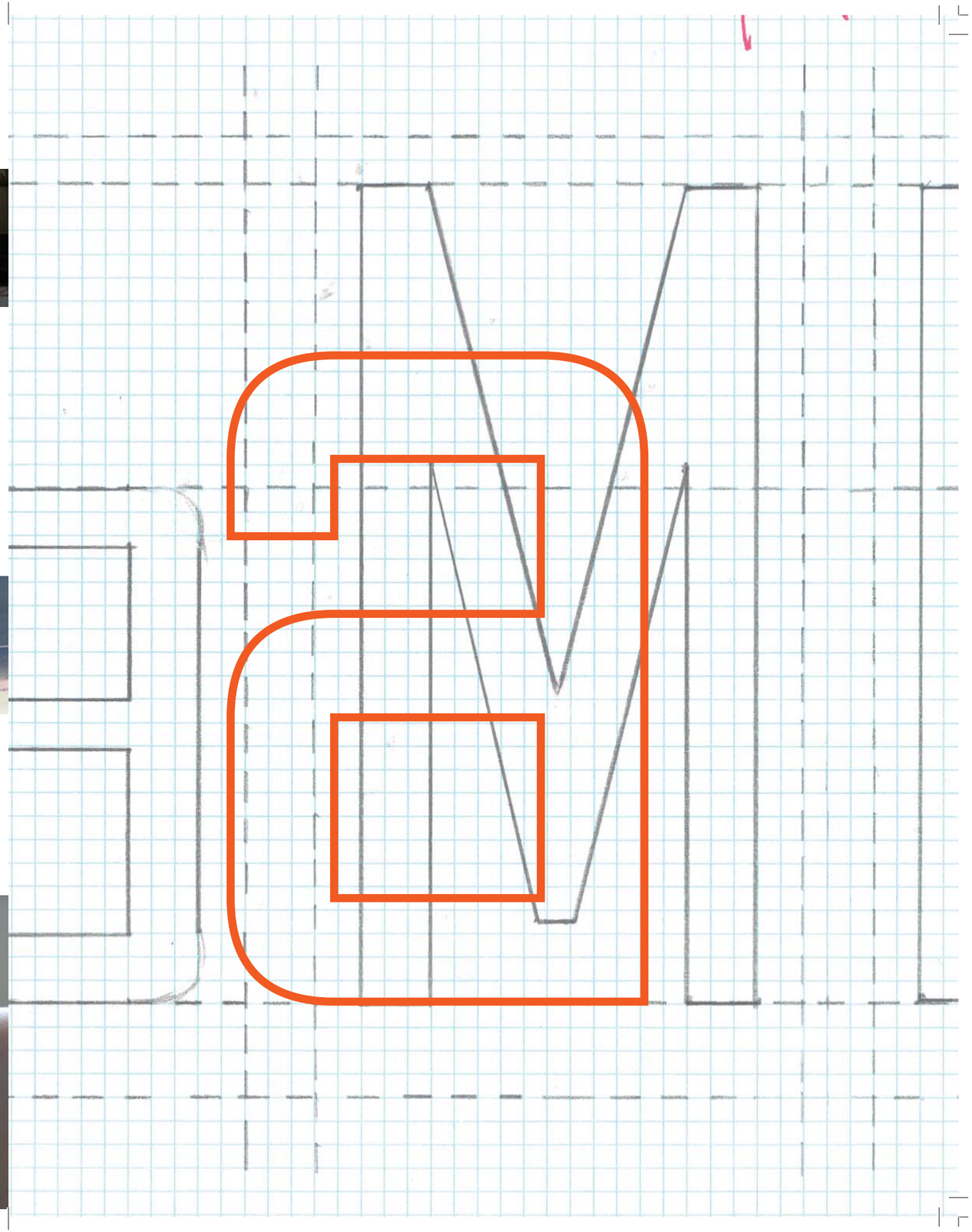
Stem
vertical, full-length stroke in upright characters like T or L; also called Main stroke

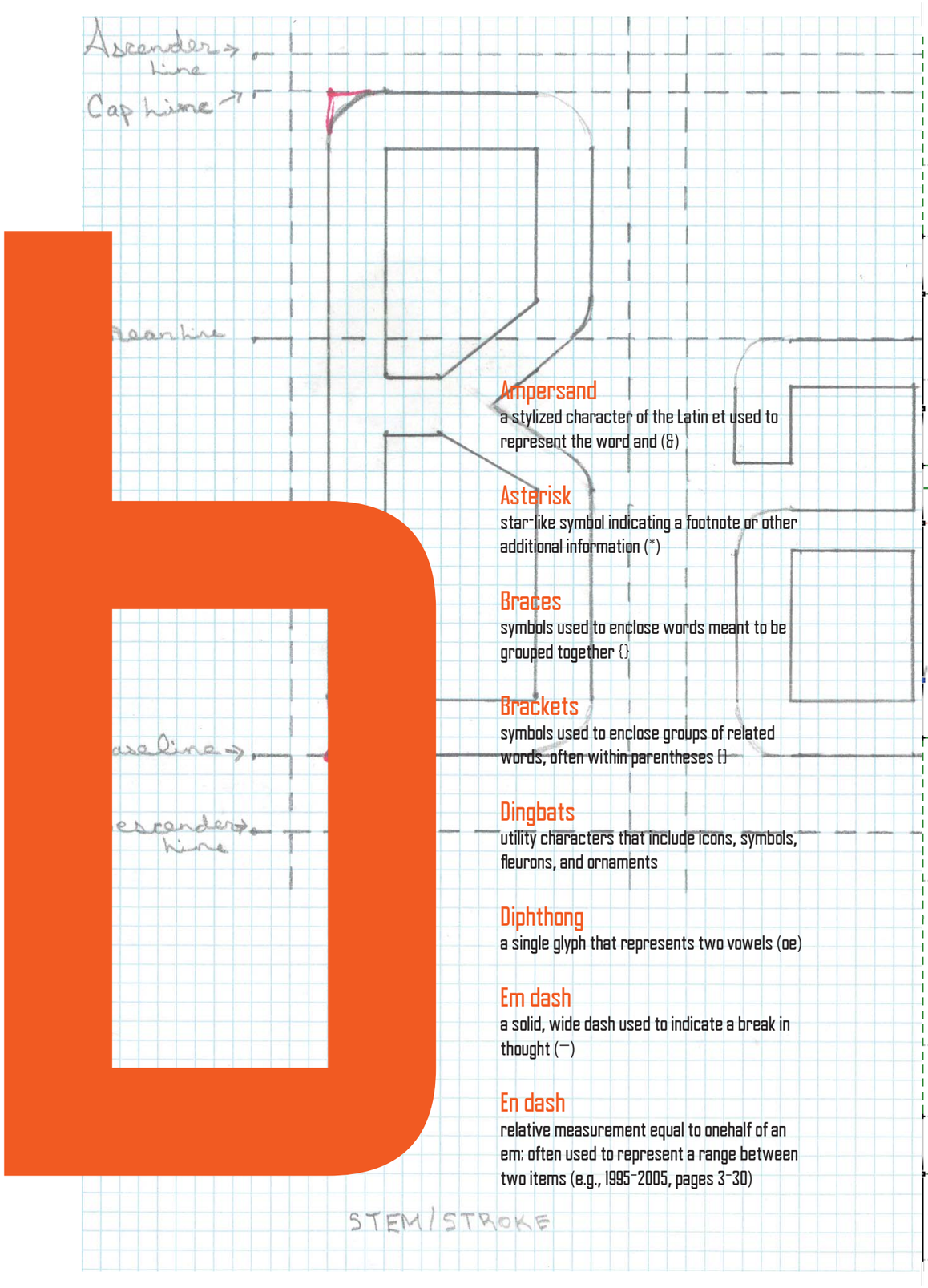



Ascender line
Cap line
Stroke
main portion of a character
Swash
ornamental additions to some letters
Tail
short, downward stroke in K, Q, and R
Terminal
the end of a stroke that does not include a serif
Vertex
the point at the bottom or top of a character where two strokes meet (V, A, W); see also Crotch
X-height
height which lowercase letters reach based on height of lowercase x; does not include ascenders or descenders
Baseline
Descender line









Ampersand
a stylized character of the Latin et used to represent the word and (&)

Asterisk
star-like symbol indicating a footnote or other additional information (*)

Braces
symbols used to enclose words meant to be grouped together {}

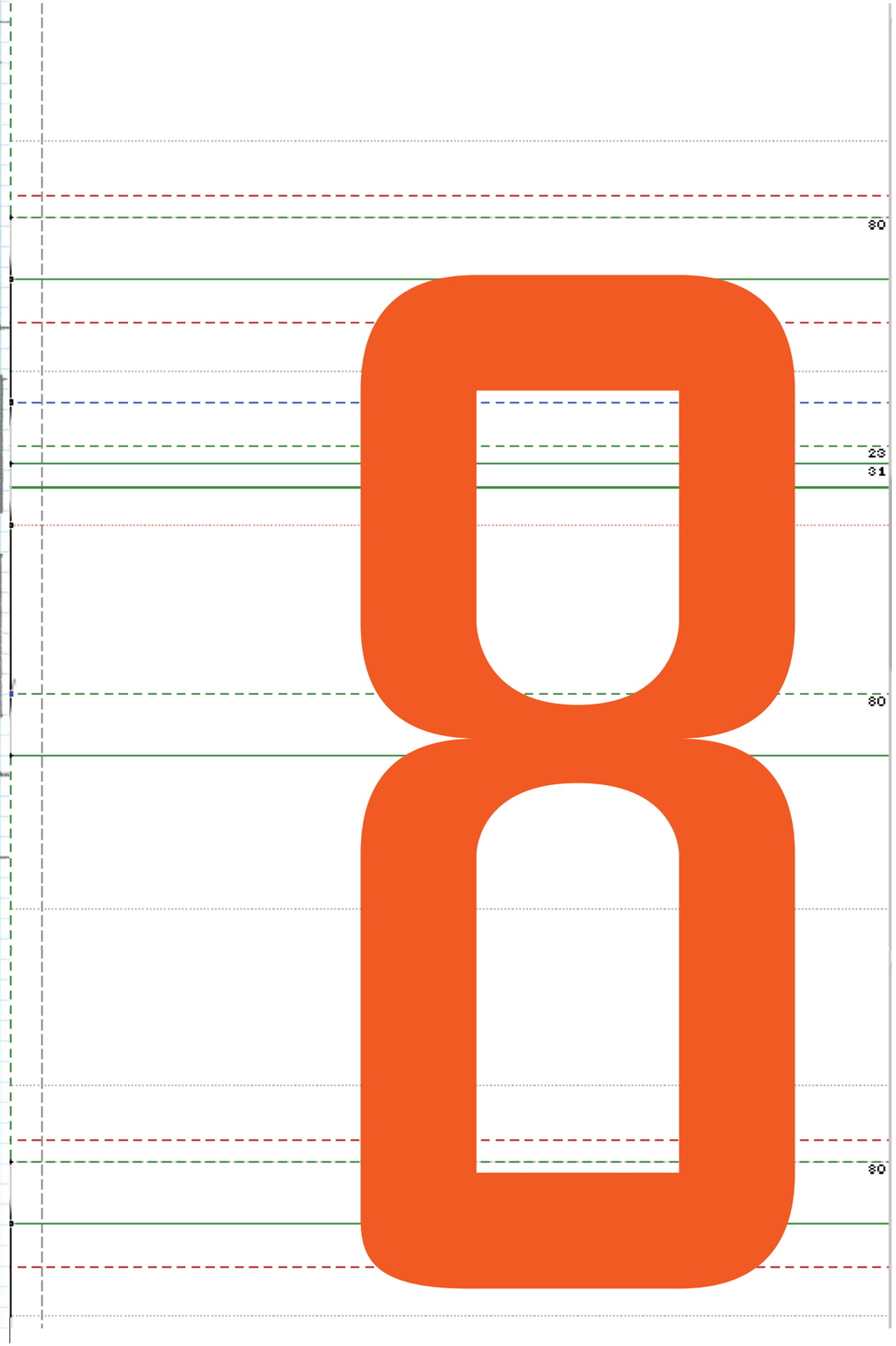
Brackets
symbols used to enclose groups of related words, often within parentheses []

Dingbats
utility characters that include icons, symbols, fleurons, and ornaments

Diphthong
a single glyph that represents two vowels (oe)

Em dash
a solid, wide dash used to indicate a break in thought (—)

En dash
relative measurement equal to onehalf of an em; often used to represent a range between two items (e.g., 1995–2005, pages 3–30)



Alternate font

complements a text font; includes alternate characters such as fractions, small capitals, old-style numbers, etc.; also called an Expert set font

Anti-aliasing

smoothing out images (in this context, glyphs) by shading pixels at the character edges

Baseline shift

typesetting control; allows characters to be raised or lowered according to the baseline

Bitmap

an image composed of pixels with a fixed resolution

Cap height

the height of capital letters in a specific typeface

Display type

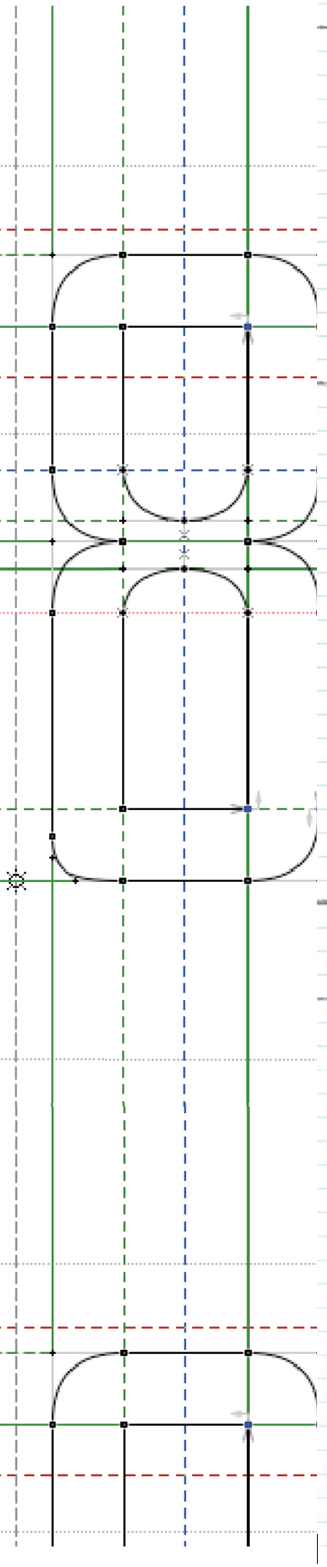
large type (14 pt. and up) often used for titles, headings, subheads, etc.

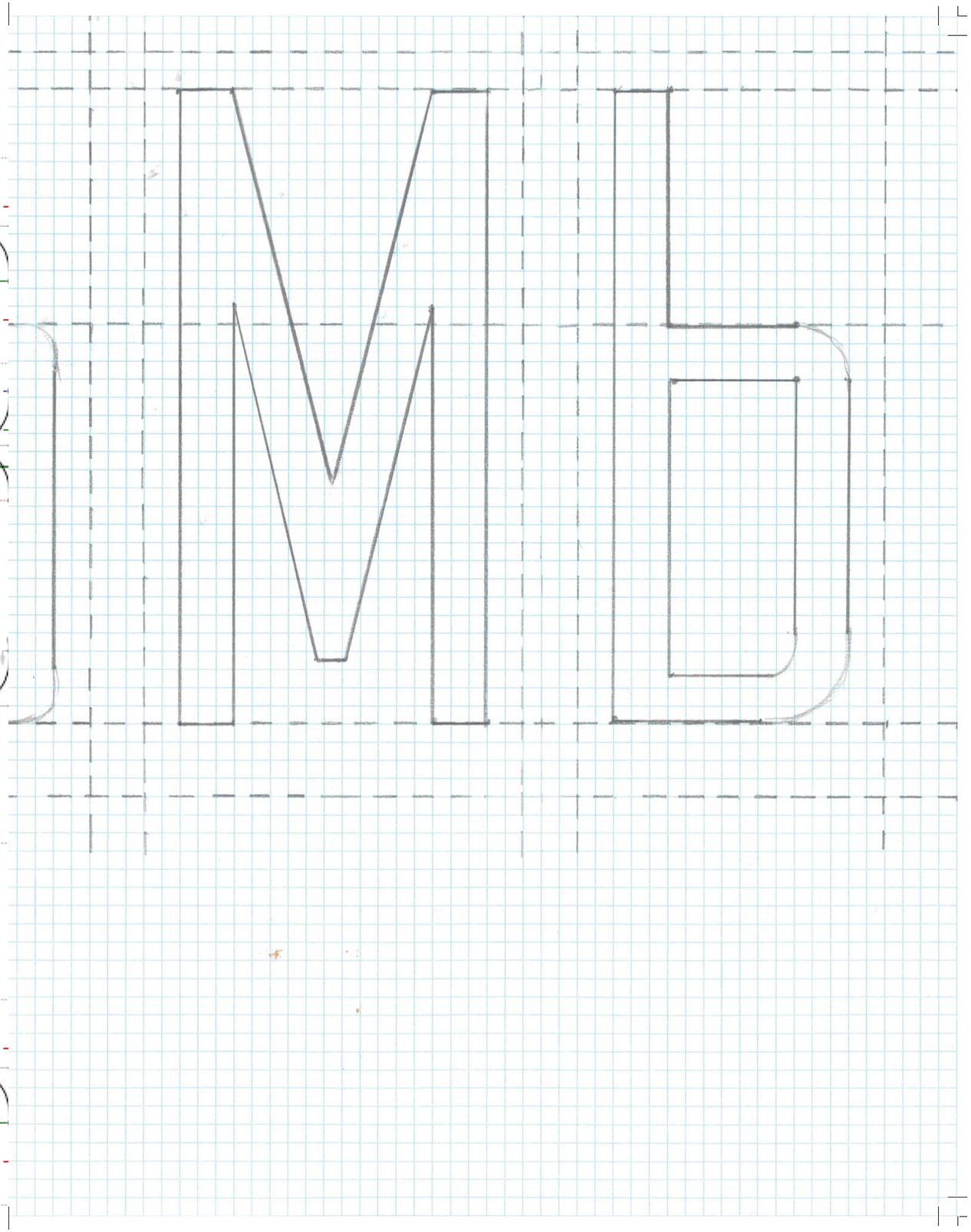
Drop cap

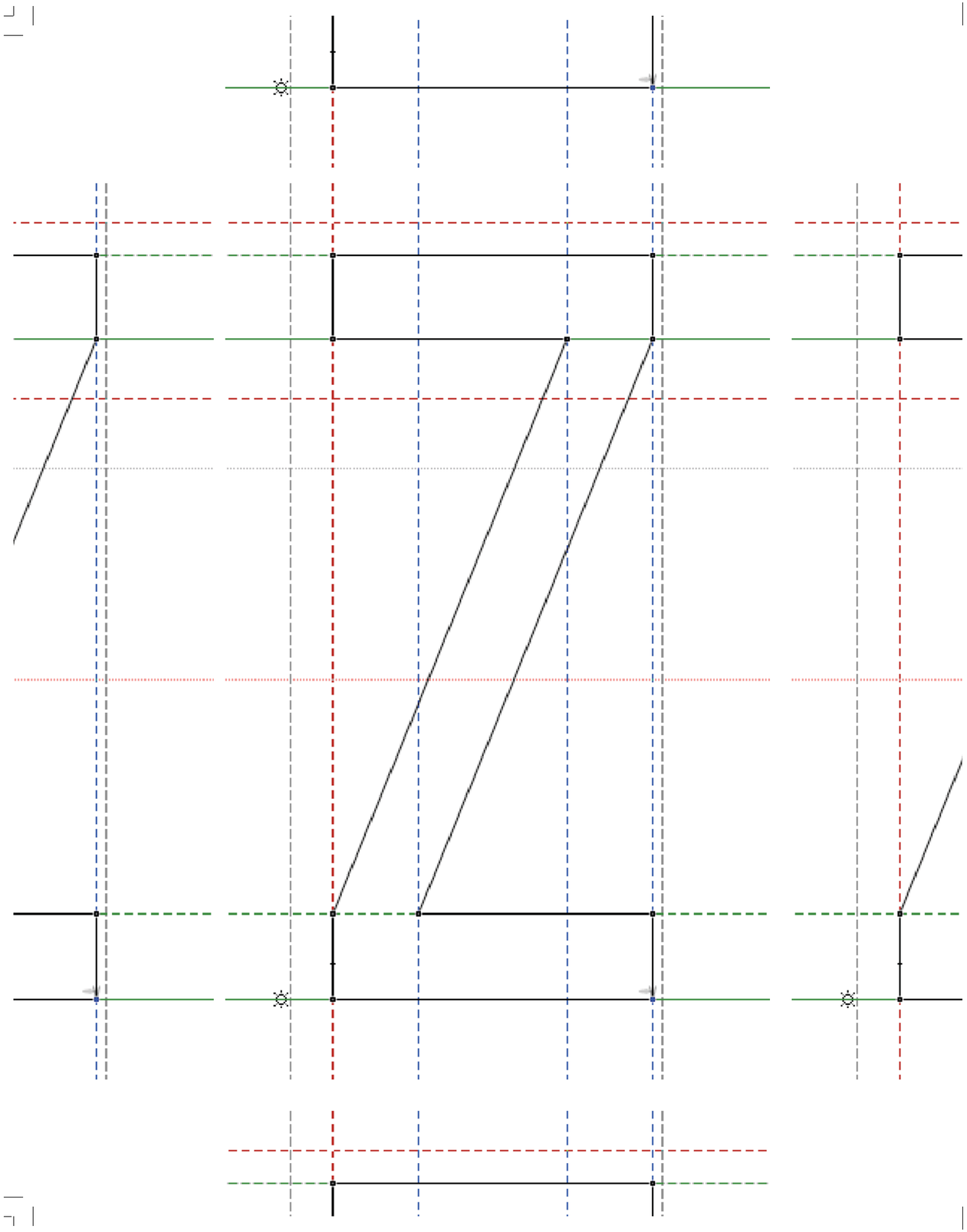
an oversized, first letter in a paragraph (or article) whose baseline hangs below the normal baseline

Encapsulated PostScript (EPS)

PostScript language file format containing vector and sometimes bitmap info with encapsulated bitmap preview



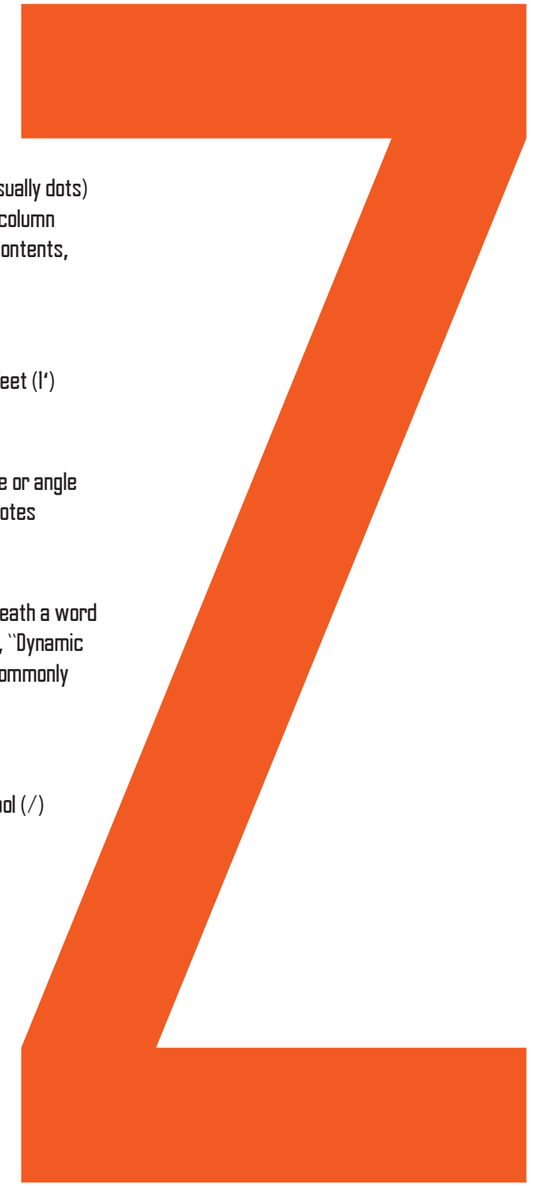




Leader
series of repeated characters (usually dots) used to connect type on opposite column margins or pages (e.g., tables of contents, menus, etc)

Prime
symbol denoting inches (12″) and feet (1′)

Smart
quotes quotation marks that curve or angle inward (“Hi.”); also called Curly quotes

Underscore
line appearing on the baseline beneath a word or phrase notating italic type (e.g., “Dynamic Graphics magazine”); now more commonly used in e-mail addresses

Virgule
alternate term for the slash symbol (/)