Fonts

From ArchWiki

Contents

Summary

Covers the selection and installation of fonts on Arch Linux

Legal

Certain font licenses may impose some legal limitations

Related

Font Configuration: Font setup and beautification

Java Runtime Environment Fonts: Fonts specific to Sun's Java machine

MS Fonts: Adding Microsoft fonts and mimicking Windows' font settings

Font formats

Most computer fonts used today are in either *bitmap* or *outline* data formats. Bitmap fonts store fixed images for each glyph in each typeface and point size. Outline or *vector* fonts store characters as instructions for drawing each glyph's lines and curves. Outline fonts scale smoothly in size over a wide range.

Common font filename extensions include:

- `bdf` and `bdf.gz` – bitmap fonts, *b*itmap *d*istribution *f*ormat and gzip compressed `bdf`
- `pcf` and `pcf.gz` – bitmaps, *p*ortable *c*ompiled *f*ont and gzip compressed `pcf`
- `psf`, `psfu`, `psf.gz` and `psfu.gz` – bitmaps, *P*C *s*creen *f*ont, *P*C *s*creen *f*ont *U*nicode and the gzipped versions (not compatible with Xorg)
- `pfa` and `pfb` – outline fonts, *P*ostScript *f*ont *A*SCII and *P*ostScript *f*ont *b*inary. PostScript fonts carry built-in printer instructions.
- `ttf` – outline, *T*rue*T*ype *f*ont. Originally designed as a replacement for the PostScript fonts.
- `otf` – outline, *O*pen*T*ype *f*ont. TrueType with PostScript typographic instructions.

For most purposes, the technical differences between TrueType and OpenType can be ignored, some fonts with a `ttf` extension are actually OpenType fonts.

Other formats

The typesetting application, *TeX,* and its companion font software, *Metafont,* render characters using their own methods. Some of the file extensions used for

fonts by these two programs are `*pk`, `*gf`, `mf` and `vf`.

FontForge, a font editing application, can store fonts in its native text-based format, `sfd`, *s*pline *f*ont *d*atabase.

Installation

Various methods of installing fonts.

Pacman

Fonts and font collections in the enabled repositories can be installed using pacman. Available fonts may be found by using:

```
$ pacman -Ss font
```

Or to search for `ttf` fonts only:

```
$ pacman -Ss ttf
```

Some fonts like *terminus* are installed in `/usr/share/fonts/local`, which is not added to the font path by default. By adding the following lines to `~/.xinitrc`

```
xset +fp /usr/share/fonts/local
xset fp rehash
```

the fonts can be used in X11.

Creating a package

If you want to give pacman the ability to manage your fonts, you can create an Arch package. These can also be shared with the community in the AUR. Here is an example of how to create a basic package. To learn more about building packages, read PKGBUILD.

```
pkgname=ttf-fontname
pkgver=1.0
pkgrel=1
depends=('fontconfig' 'xorg-font-utils')
pkgdesc="custom fonts"
arch=('any')
source=(http://someurl.org/$pkgname.tar.bz2)
install=$pkgname.install

build()
{
  mkdir -p $pkgdir/usr/share/fonts/TTF
  cp $srcdir/$pkgname/*.ttf $pkgdir/usr/share/fonts/TTF
}
```

This PKGBUILD assumes the fonts are TrueType. An install file (`ttf-fontname.install`) will also need to be created to update the font cache:

```
post_install() {
  echo -n "Updating font cache... "
  fc-cache -fs >/dev/null
  mkfontscale /usr/share/fonts/TTF /usr/share/fonts/Type1
  mkfontdir /usr/share/fonts/TTF /usr/share/fonts/Type1
  echo "done"
}

post_upgrade() {
  post_install
}
```

Manual installation

The recommended way of adding fonts to your system that are not in the repositories is described in #Creating a package. This gives pacman the ability to be able to remove or update them at a later time. Fonts can alternately be installed manually as well.

To install fonts system-wide (available for all users), move the folder to the `/usr/share/fonts/` directory. To install fonts for only a single user, use `~/.fonts/` instead.

Also you may need to update `/etc/X11/xorg.conf` or `/etc/xorg.conf` with the new directory. Search for `FontPath` to find the correct location within the file to add your new path. See #Fonts with Xorg for more detail.

Then update the fontconfig font cache:

```
$ fc-cache -vf
```

Older applications

With older applications that do not support fontconfig (e.g. GTK1 applications, and `xfontsel`) the index will need to be created in the font directory:

```
$ mkfontscale
$ mkfontdir
```

Or to include more than one folder with one command:

```
$ for dir in /font/dir1/ /font/dir2/; do xset +fp $dir; done && xset fp rehash
```

At times the X server may fail to load the fonts directory and you will need to rescan all the `fonts.dir` files:

```
# xset +fp /usr/share/fonts/misc # Inform the X server of new directories
# xset fp rehash               # Forces a new rescan
```

To check that the font(s) is included:

```
$ xlsfonts | grep fontname
```

Pango Warnings

When Pango (http://www.pango.org/) is in use on your system it will read from fontconfig (http://fontconfig.org/wiki/) to sort out where to source fonts.

```
(process:5741): Pango-WARNING **: failed to choose a font, expect ugly output. engine-type='PangoReno
(process:5741): Pango-WARNING **: failed to choose a font, expect ugly output. engine-type='PangoReno
```

If you are seeing errors similar to this and/or seeing blocks instead of characters in your application then you need to add fonts and update the font cache. This example uses the `ttf-liberation` (`https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-liberation`) fonts to illustrate the solution and runs as root to enable them system-wide.

```
# pacman -S ttf-liberation
  -- output abbreviated, assumes installation succeeded --

# fc-cache -vfs
/usr/share/fonts: caching, new cache contents: 0 fonts, 3 dirs
/usr/share/fonts/TTF: caching, new cache contents: 16 fonts, 0 dirs
/usr/share/fonts/encodings: caching, new cache contents: 0 fonts, 1 dirs
/usr/share/fonts/encodings/large: caching, new cache contents: 0 fonts, 0 dirs
/usr/share/fonts/util: caching, new cache contents: 0 fonts, 0 dirs
/var/cache/fontconfig: cleaning cache directory
fc-cache: succeeded
```

You can test for a default font being set like so:

```
# fc-match
LiberationMono-Regular.ttf: "Liberation Mono" "Regular"
```

Fonts with Xorg

In order for Xorg to find and use your newly installed fonts, you must add the font paths to `/etc/X11/xorg.conf` (another Xorg configuration file may work too).

Here is an example of the section that must be added to `/etc/X11/xorg.conf`. Add or remove paths based on your particular font requirements.

```
# Let Xorg know about the custom font directories
Section "Files"
    FontPath    "/usr/share/fonts/100dpi"
    FontPath    "/usr/share/fonts/75dpi"
    FontPath    "/usr/share/fonts/cantarell"
    FontPath    "/usr/share/fonts/cyrillic"
    FontPath    "/usr/share/fonts/encodings"
    FontPath    "/usr/share/fonts/local"
    FontPath    "/usr/share/fonts/misc"
    FontPath    "/usr/share/fonts/OTF"
    FontPath    "/usr/share/fonts/TTF"
    FontPath    "/usr/share/fonts/util"
EndSection
```

Font packages

This is a selective list that includes many font packages from the AUR along with those in the official repositories. Fonts are tagged "Unicode" if they have wide Unicode support, see the project or Wikipedia pages for detail.

Braille

- `ttf-ubraille (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-ubraille)` - Font containing Unicode symbols for *braille*

International users

Arabic

- ttf-sil-lateef (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-sil-lateef&SeB=x) - Unicode Arabic font from SIL *(AUR)*
- ttf-sil-scheherazade (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-sil-scheherazade&SeB=x) - Unicode Arabic font from SIL *(AUR)*
- arabeyes-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=arabeyes-fonts&SeB=x) - Collection of free Arabic fonts *(AUR)*

Birman

- ttf-myanmar3 (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-myanmar3&SeB=x) - Font for Myanmar/Burmese script *(AUR)*

Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese

(Mainly) Chinese

- ttf-tw (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-tw&SeB=x) - Kai and Song traditional Chinese font from the Ministry of Education of Taiwan *(AUR)*.
- wqy-microhei (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=wqy-microhei&SeB=x) - A Sans-Serif style high quality CJK outline font. *(AUR)*
- wqy-zenhei (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=wqy-zenhei) - Hei Ti Style (sans-serif) Chinese Outline font embedded with bitmapped Song Ti (also supporting Japanese (partial) and Korean characters).
- ttf-arphic-ukai (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-arphic-ukai) - *Kaiti* (brush stroke) Unicode font (enabling anti-aliasing is suggested)
- ttf-arphic-uming (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-arphic-uming) - *Mingti* (printed) Unicode font
- opendesktop-fonts (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=opendesktop-fonts) - *New Sung* font, previously is ttf-fireflysung package
- wqy-bitmapfont (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=wqy-bitmapfont) - Bitmapped Song Ti (serif) Chinese font
- ttf-hannom (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-hannom) - Chinese and Vietnamese TrueType font

Japanese

- otf-ipafont (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=otf-ipafont&SeB=x) - Formal style Japanese Gothic (san-serif) and Mincho (serif) fonts set; one of the highest quality open source font. Default of openSUSE-ja. *(AUR)*
- ttf-vlgothic (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-vlgothic&SeB=x) - Japanese Gothic fonts. Default of Debian/Fedora/Vine Linux *(AUR)*
- ttf-mplus (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-mplus&SeB=x) - Modern Gothic style Japanese outline fonts. It includes all of Japanese Hiragana/Katakana, Basic Latin, Latin-1 Supplement, Latin Extended-A, IPA Extensions and most of Japanese Kanji, Greek, Cyrillic, Vietnamese with 7 weights (proportional) or 5 weights (monospace).
- ttf-ipa-mona (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-ipa-mona&SeB=x) , ttf-monapo (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-monapo&SeB=x) - Japanese fonts to show 2channel Shift JIS art (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2channel_Shift_JIS_art) properly. *(AUR)*
- ttf-sazanami (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-sazanami) - Japanese free TrueType font. This is outdated and not maintained any more, but may be defined as a fallback font on several environment.

Korean

- ttf-baekmuk (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-baekmuk) - Collection of Korean TrueType fonts
- ttf-alee (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-alee&SeB=x) - Set of free Hangul TrueType fonts *(AUR)*
- ttf-unfonts-core (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-unfonts-core&SeB=x) - Un fonts (default Baekmuk fonts may be unsatisfactory) (*AUR*)

Cyrillic

Also see #Monospace, #Sans and #Serif

- font-arhangai (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=font-arhangai&SeB=x) - Mongolian Cyrillic (*AUR*)
- ttf-pingwi-typography (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-pingwi-typography&SeB=x) - PingWi Typography (PWT) fonts (*AUR*)

Greek

Almost all Unicode fonts contain the Greek character set (polytonic included). Some additional font packages, which might not be contain the complete Unicode

set but utilize high quality Greek (and Latin, of course) typefaces are:

- otf-gfs (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=otf-gfs&SeB=x) - Selection of OpenType fonts from the Greek Font Society *(AUR)*
- ttf-mgopen (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-mgopen&SeB=x) - Professional TrueType fonts from Magenta *(AUR)*

Hebrew

- culmus (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=culmus&SeB=x) - Nice collection of free Hebrew fonts

Indic

- ttf-freebanglafont (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-freebanglafont) - Font for Bangla
- ttf-indic-otf (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-indic-otf) - Indic OpenType Fonts collection (containing ttf-freebanglafont)

  (This one contains a ಠ_ಠ "look of disapproval" that might be more to your liking than the bdf-unifont (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=bdf-unifont) one mentioned elsewhere in this document)

- lohit-font (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=lohit-font) - Indic TrueType fonts from Fedora Project (containing Oriya Fonts and more) *(AUR)*

Khmer

- ttf-khmer (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-khmer) - Font covering glyphs for Khmer language
- Hanuman (http://code.google.com/webfonts/family?family=Hanuman&subset=khmer) (ttf-google-webfonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-google-webfonts&SeB=x))

Sinhala

- ttf-lklug (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-lklug&SeB=x) - Sinhala Unicode font (*AUR*)

Tamil

- ttf-tamil (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-tamil&

SeB=x) - Tamil Unicode fonts (*AUR*)

Thai

- ttf-thai (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-thai) - Font covering glyphs for Thai

Tibetan

- ttf-tibetan-machine (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-tibetan-machine) - Tibetan Machine TTFont

Math

- font-mathematica (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=font-mathematica) - Mathematica fonts by Wolfram Research, Inc.
- ttf-mathtype (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-mathtype&SeB=x) - MathType fonts *(AUR)*
- ttf-computer-modern-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-computer-modern-fonts&SeB=x) - *(AUR)*

Microsoft fonts

See MS Fonts.

Monospaced

Here are some suggestions. Every user has their own favorite, so experiment to find yours. If you're in a hurry, you read Dan Benjamin's blog post: *Top 10 Programming Fonts* (http://hivelogic.com/articles/top-10-programming-fonts) .

Here's a long list of fonts by Trevor Lowing: http://www.lowing.org/fonts/

TrueType

- Andalé Mono (ttf-ms-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-ms-fonts&SeB=x))
- Anka/Coder (ttf-anka-coder (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-anka-coder&SeB=x))
- Anonymous Pro (ttf-anonymous-pro (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-anonymous-pro&SeB=x) , included in ttf-google-webfonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-google-webfonts&SeB=x))

- Bitstream Vera Mono (ttf-bitstream-vera (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-bitstream-vera))
- Consolas (ttf-vista-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-vista-fonts&SeB=x))
- Courier New (ttf-ms-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-ms-fonts&SeB=x))
- Cousine (ttf-google-webfonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-google-webfonts&SeB=x)) - Chrome/Chromium OS replacement for Courier New (metric-compatible)
- DejaVu Sans Mono (ttf-dejavu (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-dejavu)) - Unicode
- Droid Sans Mono (ttf-droid (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-droid) , included in ttf-google-webfonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-google-webfonts&SeB=x))
- Envy Code R (ttf-envy-code-r (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-envy-code-r&SeB=x))
- FreeMono (ttf-freefont (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-freefont)) - Unicode
- Inconsolata (ttf-inconsolata (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-inconsolata))
- Inconsolata-g (ttf-inconsolata-g (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-inconsolata-g&SeB=x)) - adds some programmer-friendly modifications
- Liberation Mono (ttf-liberation (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-liberation)) - Alternative to Courier New (metric-compatible)
- Lucida Console (ttf-ms-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-ms-fonts&SeB=x))
- Lucida Typewriter (included in package jre (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=jre))
- Monaco (monaco-linux-font (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=monaco-linux-font))
- Monofur (ttf-monofur (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-monofur&SeB=x))

Bitmap

- Default 8x16
- Dina (dina-font (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=dina-font))
- Lime (artwiz-fonts (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=artwiz-fonts))
- ProFont (profont (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=profont))

- Proggy Programming Fonts (proggyfonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=proggyfonts&SeB=x))
- Proggy opti cyrillic (proggyopticyr-font (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=proggyopticyr-font&SeB=x))
- Tamsyn (tamsyn-font (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=tamsyn-font&SeB=x))
- Terminus (terminus-font (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=terminus-font))
- Unifont (glyphs like ಠ_ಠ (look of disapproval)) (bdf-unifont (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=bdf-unifont))

Sans-serif

- Andika (http://scripts.sil.org/cms/scripts/page.php?site_id=nrsi&id=andika) (ttf-andika (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-andika&SeB=x) , included in ttf-sil-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-sil-fonts&SeB=x))
- Arial (ttf-ms-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-ms-fonts&SeB=x))
- Arial Black (ttf-ms-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-ms-fonts&SeB=x))
- Arimo (ttf-google-webfonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-google-webfonts&SeB=x)) - Chrome/Chromium OS replacement for Arial (metric-compatible)
- Calibri (ttf-vista-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-vista-fonts&SeB=x))
- Candara (ttf-vista-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-vista-fonts&SeB=x))
- Constantia (ttf-vista-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-vista-fonts&SeB=x))
- Corbel (ttf-vista-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-vista-fonts&SeB=x))
- DejaVu Sans (ttf-dejavu (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-dejavu)) - Unicode
- Droid Sans (ttf-droid (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-droid) , included in ttf-google-webfonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-google-webfonts&SeB=x))
- FreeSans (ttf-freefont (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-freefont)) - Unicode
- Impact (ttf-ms-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-ms-fonts&SeB=x))
- Liberation Sans (ttf-liberation (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-liberation) , improved/reworked Cyrillic: ttf-liberastika

(https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-liberastika)) - Alternative to Arial (metric-compatible)
- Liberation Sans Narrow (ttf-liberation (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-liberation)) - Alternative to Arial Narrow (metric-compatible)
- Linux Biolinum (ttf-linux-libertine (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-linux-libertine))
- Lucida Sans (ttf-ms-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-ms-fonts&SeB=x))
- Microsoft Sans Serif (ttf-ms-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-ms-fonts&SeB=x))
- PT Sans (ttf-google-webfonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-google-webfonts&SeB=x)) - 3 major variations: normal, narrow, and caption - Unicode: Latin, Cyrillic
- Tahoma (ttf-tahoma (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-tahoma&SeB=x))
- Trebuchet (ttf-ms-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-ms-fonts&SeB=x))
- Ubuntu-Title (ttf-ubuntu-title (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-ubuntu-title&SeB=x))
- Ubuntu Font Family (ttf-ubuntu-font-family (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-ubuntu-font-family))
- Verdana (ttf-ms-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-ms-fonts&SeB=x))

Script

- Comic Sans (ttf-ms-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-ms-fonts&SeB=x))

Serif

- Cambria (ttf-vista-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-vista-fonts&SeB=x))
- Charis (ttf-charis (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-charis&SeB=x) , included in ttf-sil-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-sil-fonts&SeB=x)) - Unicode: Latin, Cyrillic
- DejaVu Serif (ttf-dejavu (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-dejavu)) - Unicode
- Doulos (doulos-sil (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=doulos-sil&SeB=x) , included in ttf-sil-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-sil-fonts&SeB=x)) - Unicode: Latin, Cyrillic
- Droid Serif (ttf-droid (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-

droid) , included in ttf-google-webfonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-google-webfonts&SeB=x))
- FreeSerif (ttf-freefont (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-freefont)) - Unicode
- Gentium (ttf-gentium (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-gentium) , included in ttf-sil-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-sil-fonts&SeB=x)) - Unicode: Latin, Greek, Cyrillic, Phonetic Alphabet
- Georgia (ttf-ms-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-ms-fonts&SeB=x))
- Liberation Serif (ttf-liberation (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-liberation)) - Alternative to Times New Roman (metric-compatible)
- Linux Libertine (ttf-linux-libertine (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-linux-libertine)) - Unicode: Latin, Greek, Cyrillic, Hebrew
- Times New Roman (ttf-ms-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-ms-fonts&SeB=x))
- Tinos (ttf-google-webfonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-google-webfonts&SeB=x)) - Chrome/Chromium OS replacement for Times New Roman (metric-compatible)

Unsorted

- ttf-google-webfonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-google-webfonts&SeB=x) - a huge collection of free fonts (including ubuntu, inconsolata, droid, etc.) - Note: Your font dialog might get very long as >100 fonts will be added
- ttf-mph-2b-damase (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-mph-2b-damase) - Covers full plane 1 and several scripts
- ttf-sil-fonts (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-sil-fonts&SeB=x) - Gentium, Charis, Doulos, Andika and Abyssinica from SIL *(AUR)*
- font-bh-ttf (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=font-bh-ttf) - Xorg Luxi fonts
- ttf-cheapskate (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-cheapskate) - Font collection from *dustismo.com*
- ttf-isabella (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-isabella) - Calligraphic font based on the *Isabella Breviary* of 1497
- ttf-junicode (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=ttf-junicode) - Junius font containing almost complete medieval latin script glyphs
- arkpandorafonts ttf-arkpandora (https://aur.archlinux.org/packages.php?K=ttf-arkpandora&SeB=x) — Alternative to Arial and Times

New Roman fonts
- xorg-fonts-type1 (https://www.archlinux.org/packages/?name=xorg-fonts-type1) — IBM Courier and Adobe Utopia sets of PostScript fonts

Console fonts

The console, meaning a terminal running with no *X* Window System, uses the ASCII character set as the default. This font and the keymap used are easily changed.

A console font is limited to either 256 or 512 characters. The fonts are found in `/usr/share/kbd/consolefonts/` .

Keymaps, the connection between the key pressed and the character used by the computer, are found in the subdirectories of `/usr/share/kbd/keymaps/` .

Previewing and testing

Unfortunately, no organized library of images is available to preview console fonts. The user can, however, use `setfont` to temporarily change the font and be able to consider its use as the default. The available *glyphs* or letters in the font can also be viewed as a table with the command `showconsolefont` .

If the newly changed font is not suitable, a return to the default font is done by issuing the command `setfont` without any arguments. If the console display is totally unreadable, this command will still work—the user just types in `setfont` while "working blind."

Note that `setfont` only works on the console currently being used. Any other consoles, active or inactive, remain unaffected.

Examples

Change the font. This example is distinctive:

```
$ setfont /usr/share/kbd/consolefonts/gr737b-9x16-medieval.psfu.gz
```

Or change the font to one with 512 glyphs and set the keymap to *ISO 8859-5* using the `-m` option:

```
$ setfont /usr/share/kbd/consolefonts/LatArCyrHeb-16.psfu.gz -m 8859-5
```

Then issue commands that send text to the display, perhaps view a *manpage* and try *vi* or *nano*, and view the table of glyphs with the command, `showconsolefont`.

Return to the default font with:

```
$ setfont
```

Changing the default font

To change the default font, the `CONSOLEFONT=` and `CONSOLEMAP=` settings in `/etc/rc.conf` must be altered. Again, the fonts can be found in `/usr/share/kbd/consolefonts/` directory and keymaps can be found in the subdirectories of `/usr/share/kbd/keymaps/`.

Examples

For displaying characters such as *Č, ž, đ, š* or *Ł, ę, ą, ś* using the font `lat2-16.psfu.gz`:

```
CONSOLEFONT="lat2-16"
```

It means that second part of ISO/IEC 8859 characters are used with size 16. You can change font size using other values like lat2-08...16. For the regions determined by 8859 specification, look at the Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO/IEC_8859#The_Parts_of_ISO.2FIEC_8859) . You can use a Terminus font which is recommended if you work a lot in console without X server. ter-216b for example is latin-2 part, size 16, bold. ter-216n is the same but normal weight. Terminus fonts have sizes up to 32.

Now, set the proper keymap, for lat2-16 it will be:

```
CONSOLEMAP="8859-2"
```

To use the specified font in early userspace, that is, early in the bootup process, add the `consolefont` hook to `/etc/mkinitcpio.conf`:

```
HOOKS="base udev autodetect pata scsi sata filesystems consolefont keymap"
```

Then rebuild the image:

```
# mkinitcpio -p linux
```

Note: The above steps must be repeated for each kernel if more than one kernel package is installed.

See Mkinitcpio#HOOKS for more information.

Boot Error

If "Loading Console Font" fails at boot time, this is probably because you didn't choose a valid font during your archlinux install.

To get rid of this message, simply empty the CONSOLEFONT var in /etc/rc.conf (CONSOLEFONT=). It will fallback on default font at boot.

Fallback font order with X11

Fontconfig automatically chose a font that match the current requirement. That is to say, if one is looking at a window containing English and Chinese for example, it will switch to another font for the Chinese text if the default one doesn't support it.

Fontconfig lets every user config the order they want thanks to `~/.fonts.conf` . If you want a particular Chinese font to be selected after your favorite Serif font, your file would look like that:

```
<?xml version="1.0"?><!DOCTYPE fontconfig SYSTEM "fonts.dtd">
<fontconfig>
<alias>
   <family>serif</family>
   <prefer>
     <family>Your favorite Latin Serif font name</family>
     <family>Your Chinese font name</family>
   </prefer>
 </alias>
</fontconfig>
```

You can add a section for Sans-serif and monospaced as well. For more informations, have a look at the fontconfig manual.

Retrieved from "https://wiki.archlinux.org/index.php?title=Fonts&oldid=200517"
Categories: Fonts | Graphics and desktop publishing
