

6 File format details

The high-level file structure definition in Section 5.1 fully applies and is not repeated here.

6.1 File header

The file header is the first line in the file. It must have at least 12 characters, but may be longer. The first 8 characters must be the sequence `#=IVTFF` followed by one `<space>`.

The four characters after this are used to identify the transliteration alphabet that is used in this file.

Following this code may be an indication of the version of the IVTFF format definition. This is of the format `A.B`, as given on the title page of this document. The format definition document may have a version number consisting of three parts (`A.B.x`), which refers to format definition `A.B` regardless of the values of `x`. The format indicators in the file are only meaningful for versions 1.5 or higher.

For the identification of the transliteration alphabet, the following cases have been pre-defined:

Table 4: List of pre-defined transliteration alphabet codes

4-character code	Char	Description
FSG-	F	The alphabet agreed by Friedman and his team
Curr	C	The alphabet used by Prescott Currier
FGuy	G	The 'froggy' alphabet by Jacques Guy
Eva-	E	Eva (either basic or extended Eva)
v101	V	The voynich-101 alphabet by Glen Claston

Additional codes may be added by users.

The single-character code is intended to allow the use of several different transliteration alphabets in one file. It can be used in a dedicated in-line comment as described in Table 10. This is not yet used in any transliteration file, and is reserved for a future extension.

6.2 Comment lines

Comment lines are recognised by:

- Obligatory `#` sign in the first position of the line
- Recommended (optional) single `<space>` character following the `#` sign

The comment line terminates at the end of the line.

Any character may appear in comment lines without restriction, and reserved characters are not interpreted. The `/` character can therefore not be used to continue a comment line. A block of comment lines needs to have a `#` in the first position of each line.