

2 Definitions

Table 1 lists the most important terms used in this document, and explains their meaning. Any text in the explanation that has been written in blue italics is a reference to another term in the same Table.

Table 1: List of terms used in this document

Term	Meaning
MS	The Voynich Manuscript, a codex that consists of a blank cover, paper end leaves, and parchment <i>leaves</i> . It includes text and illustrations. The vast majority of the text is written in an otherwise unknown alphabetic script. There are also a few entries in the normal (Latin) alphabet.
Voynichese	The name used here for the unknown script in the <i>MS</i> .
Text block	The complete set of parchment <i>leaves</i> of the <i>MS</i> that have been bound together.
Quire	(Also: gathering). One of the 18 sets of stacked parchment <i>sheets</i> that together form the <i>text block</i> .
Bifolio (also: sheet)	A large piece of parchment folded (usually) in the middle and bound into the <i>MS</i> . A complete <i>bifolio</i> consists of two <i>folios</i> . (There are only 2 incomplete <i>bifolios</i> in the <i>MS</i>).
Folio (also: leaf)	A double-sided piece of parchment, usually half of a <i>bifolio</i> . The <i>folios</i> in the <i>MS</i> have been numbered 1-116 though a few are missing. All <i>folios</i> have text and/or illustrations on both sides. The ‘front’ of each <i>folio</i> is called the recto side, and the ‘back’ is called the verso side.
Foldout	A <i>folio</i> that is two or more times as wide as a standard <i>folio</i> , and has been folded to fit into the <i>MS</i> .
Page	One side of a <i>folio</i> . <i>Foldout folios</i> are two or three <i>pages</i> (or panels) wide, and, depending on the layout, may have several separate <i>pages</i> on each side.
Foliation	Handwritten numbers in the corners of every <i>folio</i> , running from 1 to 116. Several numbers are skipped, as if these <i>folios</i> have been lost.
MS text	In the present format description document, the <i>MS text</i> is considered to be all text in the <i>Voynichese</i> script. Text in the Latin alphabet is not considered.
Eva	One of the conventional transliteration alphabets.
Page name	An identifier of a <i>page</i> in the <i>MS</i> . It consists of the letter f, followed by the <i>folio</i> nr, followed by r or v (for recto or verso), and optionally by a number (1-3) in case it is a <i>foldout folio</i> . This is described in more detail below (Section 4.2).
File header	The first line of an IVTFF transliteration file
Page header	A piece of text that identifies the start of a new <i>page</i> in the transliteration file. It is described in more detail below.
Page variable	An annotation included in a <i>page header</i> that defines a testable property of the entire <i>page</i> .
Locus	An identifier for a unique piece of <i>MS text</i> . It is described in more detail below.