*Miama*

a small introduction to the free font *Miama* by Linus Romer, August 24, 2010

## Contents

# 1 About the font

*Miama* is one of the cheapest script fonts out there – it is free (under terms of the OFL). *Miama* is not complete yet and it is not professional at all. This font has first been presented in January 2009 after half a year's work. The glyphs are based on the many handwritten letters of my girlfriend. There are currently more than 1'000 glyphs available, supporting all European languages based on Latin, Cyrillic or Greek alphabets. Among them are also some ligatures and ornamental glyphs. The most recent published version of *Miama* is 0.31 (note that version 0.1 was named 0.5, unfortunately).

Every single glyph has been drawn by myself using the free font editor Fontforge. Whenever you have suggestions for improvements of existing glyphs or have discovered errors, please feel free to post this errors on the *Open Font Library* as comments to the font *Miama*. As the font is still in progress,
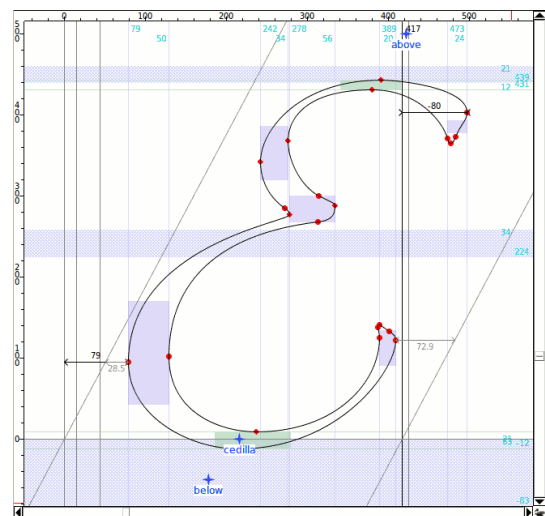


*Figure 1:* The capital letter *E* viewed in Fontforge

it is quite likely that your documents using *Miama* look very different after a font update. In particular, capital letters have been

changed heavily inbetween versions 0.2 and 0.3 but I always try to only touch the look and feel of glyphs if possible.



*Figure 2:* The capital letter *M* of version 0.2 compared to the same glyph in version 0.31

## 2 Installing

Unpack the `miama.zip` file wherever you wish to. Then copy `Miama.otf` (or `Miama.ttf` at your choice, see also section 4.4) to your font directory, which looks probably like this:

| | |
|---|---|
| `C:\Windows\Fonts` | Windows XP,Vista,7 |
| `~/.fonts` | Ubuntu, Debian |

## 3 Examples with different alphabets

The examples used in the following are parts of *Der Bauernspiegel* by Jeremias Gotthelf and *Euthyphro* by Plato.

### 3.1 Latin alphabet

*Ich bin geboren in der Gemeinde Unverstand, in einem Jahre, welches man nicht zählte nach Christus. Mein Vater war der älteste Sohn eines Bauern, der einen ziemlich großen Hof besaß und* *noch vier Söhne und drei Töchter hatte. Großvater und Großmutter waren von altem Schrot und Korn, beide viereckicht und rüstig früh und spät. Er war Meister in Feld und Stall. Das erstere bebaute er mit großem Fleiße, aber nach alter Mode, nahm lieber ein Klafter Naturgras, dessen Same ihn nichts kostete, als drei Klafter Pflanzengras, zu dem er den Samen hätte kaufen müssen. Aus dem Stalle zog er die Zinsen der schuldigen Kapitale. Er mästete alle Jahre etwas; aber dazu brauchte er lieber das Korn aus dem Speicher, als daß er mehr Erdäpfel geplanzt hätte als sein Vater.*

### 3.2 Greek alphabet

*Ἀλλά καὶ τὸν μακροσκελή αὐτόν ὁρισμόν ὁ Σωκράτης ἀπορρίπτει ὡς ἐσφαλμένον, διότι συνοψίζων αὐτόν λέγει ὅτι τὸ εὐσεβές λοιπόν εἶναι κάποια ἐπιστήμη τοῦ νὰ εὔχεται κανείς καὶ νὰ θυσιάζῃ καὶ ὅτι τὸ μὲν νὰ θυσιάζῃ σημαίνει νὰ χαρίζῃ κανείς εἰς τοὺς θεούς, τὸ δὲ νὰ εὔχεται σημαίνει νὰ ζητῇ ἀπό αὐτούς, ὥστε τὸ εὐσεβές θὰ ἦτο τότε ἐπιστήμη ζητήσεως καὶ δόσεως, ζητεῖ δὲ κανείς ὅ,τι χρειάζεται καὶ χαρίζει ὅ,τι χρειάζονται οἱ ἄλλοι, ἄρα ἡ εὐσέβεια εἶναι κάποια ἐμπορική τέχνη μεταξύ θεῶν καὶ ἀνθρώπων.*

## 4 Dos and Don'ts

### 4.1 Purpose

Use *Miama* for main titles, short poems, greeting cards, wedding stuff et cetera. But please do not consider using it for longer texts, especially not for scientific texts.
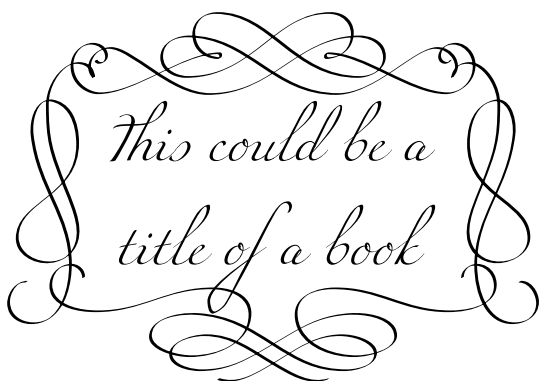


*Figure 3:* Example usage of the font *Miama*

### 4.2 Size

*Miama* is a very small typeface compared to other fonts. This is due to the very large ascenders and descenders. So if you want to look *Miama* as a font of 10pt, choose 15–20pt. Also keep in mind, that *Miama* then still looks quite light, so you want probably resize it even more for titles.



*Figure 4:* The glyphs *o* and *f* of *Linux Libertine* compared to *Miama* at the same point size

### 4.3 Spacing

Do not use any condensed nor extended spacing! *Miama* lives from connected strokes, which are killed as soon as you change spacing.



*Figure 5:* Extended spacing of 5pt and normal spacing

### 4.4 Font Format

*Miama* comes in two formats, `.ttf` and `.otf`. Please consider using the superior `.otf` version instead of `.ttf` whenever prossible. However, some text processing programs do not support OTF. The TTF fonts are supported by nearly any program and any OS.

## 5 About this document

The whole document is based on very, very free software.

**Typesetting:** The pdf–File was directly created with X∃TEX, which comes along with every TEX–system.

**Fonts:** The embedded fonts are all licensed under the Open Font License OFL or part of TEX. The main fonts are called *Linux Libertine* and *Linux Biolinum*, the funny looking font is *Miama.*

**Graphics:** All of the graphics have been created by me with free software. The wave on the titlepage has been done with METAPOST (which is also comes along with TEXLive) and matched together with the «Miama» characters in

Inkscape.   Here  is  the  METAPOST
source:

```
u=4mm;
beginfig(1);
z1=(u,29u);
z2=(10u,34u);
z3=(0,36u);
z4=(6u,34u);
z5=(8u,26u);
z6=(u,22u);
z7=(12u,13u);
z8=(3u,18u);
z9=(33u,9u);
z10=(12u,20u);
z11=(40u,10u);
z12=(42u,0);
pickup pencircle scaled 0.5pt;
for i=0 step 0.01 until 1:
  draw (i[z3,z4])..(i[z5,z6])
  ..(i[z7,z8])..(i[z9,z10])
  ..(i[z11,z12]);
endfor
endfig;
end
```