THE STORY OF

Proxima Nova Family

Proxima Nova Thin Proxima Nova Thin Italic Proxima Nova Light Proxima Nova Light Italic Proxima Nova Regular Proxima Nova Regular Italic Proxima Nova Medium Proxima Nova Medium Italic Proxima Nova Semibold Proxima Nova Semibold Italic **Proxima Nova Bold** Proxima Nova Bold Italic **Proxima Nova Extrabold** Proxima Nova Extrabold Italic Proxima Nova Black Proxima Nova Black Italic

Proxima Nova Condensed Thin Proxima Nova Condensed Thin Italic Proxima Nova Condensed Light Proxima Nova Condensed Light Italic Proxima Nova Condensed Regular Proxima Nova Condensed Regular Italic Proxima Nova Condensed Medium Proxima Nova Condensed Medium Italic Proxima Nova Condensed Semibold Proxima Nova Condensed Semibold Italic Proxima Nova Condensed Bold Proxima Nova Condensed Bold Italic Proxima Nova Condensed Extrabold Proxima Nova Condensed Extrabold Italic **Proxima Nova Condensed Black** Proxima Nova Condensed Black Italic

Proxima Nova Extra Condensed Thin Proxima Nova Extra Condensed Thin Italic Proxima Nova Extra Condensed Light Proxima Nova Extra Condensed Light Italic Proxima Nova Extra Condensed Regular Proxima Nova Extra Condensed Regular Italic Proxima Nova Extra Condensed Medium Proxima Nova Extra Condensed Medium Italic Proxima Nova Extra Condensed Semibold Proxima Nova Extra Condensed Semibold Italic Proxima Nova Extra Condensed Rold Proxima Nova Extra Condensed Rold Italic Proxima Nova Extra Condensed Extrabold Proxima Nova Extra Condensed Extrabold Italic **Proxima Nova Extra Condensed Black** Proxima Nova Extra Condensed Black Italic

ROXIMA NOVA is a typeface idea I've been working on in various forms since 1981. I originally called it Zanzibar, just because I liked the word. It was nothing more than rough

sketches back then, but the concept for the lowercase was quite similar to how it eventually turned out. The caps came later. ◆ In 1991, I was art director of Business Ethics magazine, where I was using Gill Sans. I liked it, but wished for something a bit plainer and more



modern that still had a geometric feel. Such a face did not seem to exist. Starting from my old Zanzibar idea, I began working on a new typeface to fill this void. I came up with the name Visigothic, since it was modeled somewhat on American "gothic" faces. ▶ Some existing faces influenced the look of Visigothic. I wanted the general proportions and stroke contrast of Helvetica or Akzidenz Grotesk, but with construction and details borrowed variously from Futura, Kabel, the ATF gothics (Copperplate Gothic, News Gothic, Franklin Gothic, etc.) and the U.S. Federal Highway signage typeface. The result was a hybrid; a face combining modern, even-width proportions with a somewhat geometric appearance. ★ I released it through FontHaus in 1994 as Proxima Sans, a family of six fonts-Regular, Medium, and Black with matching italics. I dropped the name Visigothic, first because of its similarity to the name of another recently released font, Visigoth, and, second, it was kind of a bad pun. I chose the name Proxima Sans because

PROXIMA SANS, 1994.

Proxima Sans It was neur to other sans tense letit was near to other sans serifs in ters happened to display some of

the distinctive characteristics of the design. • I had plans to do more weights, small caps, a condensed version, and other ideas. But between lackluster sales, becoming a new parent, and taking on a new full-time job, I found I didn't have the time or energy to continue working on it for a while. ▶ By the early 2000s, I started to get requests to expand the Proxima Sans family and Rolling Stone magazine chose it as part of its redesign in 2003. Encouraged by all this, I went back to work on a new Proxima Sans family even more ambitious than what I had originally planned. In 2005, I re-released it as Proxima Nova, a family of 42 fonts seven weights and three widths with matching italics. Built from the start with the OpenType format in mind, it featured advanced typographic features like small caps, different figure styles, fractions, and alternate characters, enough to take on the most demanding typographic applications. • Proxima Nova contained other improvements over the original. I reviewed and refined every character. I rebuilt the italics from scratch. I redid the hinting for better on-screen display. The character set grew from 245 to 699 characters (1432 with the latest version). I kept the special characters from the original, like the arrows and other dingbats, but gave them proper Unicode values, and created proper math symbols in the positions they'd previously occupied. I scrapped and rebuilt the spacing and kerning. As in Proxima Sans, the italics have been optically adjusted to eliminate the distortion caused by simply slanting the letters—true italics, not simple obliques. ▶ It's now been over ten years since I first released Proxima Nova. Since then, I've continued to make improvements and enhancements, such as additional language support, including Vietnamese, Cyrillic and Greek, and have added a new weight-Medium-bringing the total number of fonts in the family to 48. ■ -Mark Simonson

Features

CASE-SENSITIVE CHARACTERS

(x-ray) → (X-RAY)

TRUE SMALL CAPS

TRUE SMALL CAPS

LINING & OLD STYLE FIGURES

1234567890 \$¢€£¥ 1234567890 \$£¢€£¥

> PROPORTIONAL AND TABULAR FIGURES

12345 **→** 12345

12345 → 12345

FRACTION SUPPORT

2/3, 1/8, 53/72...

→ ²/₃ ¹/₈, ⁵³/₇₂...

ORDINAL SUPPORT

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th... → 1st, 2nd, 3rd 4th...

ALTERNATE CHARACTERS

Gladly → Gladlu $01 \to 01$

LIGATURES

ff fi ffi fl ffl fb fh fj ffj fk

DINGBATS

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EXTENDED LANGUAGE SUPPORT

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EXTENDED CURRENCY SUPPORT

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PROXIMA NOVA THIN

1957 SPUTNIK 1958 EXPLORER 1961 VOSTOK 1962 MERC 1. MERCURY 2. VENUS 3. EARTH 4. MARS 5. JUPITER 6. SATU Vexed Buzz quietly watched Neil jumping to mark the surf

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PROXIMA NOVA SEMIBOLD

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PROXIMA NOVA THIN ITALIC

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PROXIMA NOVA LIGHT ITALIC

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PROXIMA NOVA MEDIUM ITALIC

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PROXIMA NOVA SEMIBOLD ITALIC

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PROXIMA NOVA BOLD ITALIC

1957 SPUTNIK 1958 EXPLORER 1961 VOSTOK 1962 M 1. MERCURY 2. VENUS 3. EARTH 4. MARS 5. JUPITER 6. S Vexed Buzz quietly watched Neil jumping to mark the s

PROXIMA NOVA EXTRABOLD ITALIC

1957 SPUTNIK 1958 EXPLORER 1961 VOSTOK 1962 M 1. MERCURY 2. VENUS 3. EARTH 4. MARS 5. JUPITER 6. Vexed Buzz quietly watched Neil jumping to mark the

PROXIMA NOVA BLACK ITALIO

1957 SPUTNIK 1958 EXPLORER 1961 VOSTOK 1962 1. MERCURY 2. VENUS 3. EARTH 4. MARS 5. JUPITER 6. Vexed Buzz quietly watched Neil jumping to mark th

PROXIMA NOVA CONDENSED THIN

1957 SPUTNIK 1958 EXPLORER 1961 VOSTOK 1962 MERCURY 1964 RAN 1. MERCURY 2. VENUS 3. EARTH 4. MARS 5. JUPITER 6. SATURN 7. URANUS Vexed Buzz quietly watched Neil jumping to mark the surface. Vexed B

PROXIMA NOVA CONDENSED LIGHT

1957 SPUTNIK 1958 EXPLORER 1961 VOSTOK 1962 MERCURY 1964 R
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Vexed Buzz quietly watched Neil jumping to mark the surface. Vexed

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PROXIMA NOVA CONDENSED MEDIUM

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1. MERCURY 2. VENUS 3. EARTH 4. MARS 5. JUPITER 6. SATURN 7. URA
Vexed Buzz quietly watched Neil jumping to mark the surface. Vex

PROXIMA NOVA CONDENSED SEMIBOLD

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Vexed Buzz quietly watched Neil jumping to mark the surface. Ve

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PROXIMA NOVA CONDENSED BLACK

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Vexed Buzz quietly watched Neil jumping to mark the surfac

PROXIMA NOVA CONDENSED THIN ITALIC

1957 SPUTNIK 1958 EXPLORER 1961 VOSTOK 1962 MERCURY 1964 RAN 1. Mercury 2. Venus 3. Earth 4. Mars 5. Jupiter 6. Saturn 7. Uranus Vexed Buzz quietly watched Neil jumping to mark the surface. Vexed B

PROXIMA NOVA CONDENSED LIGHT ITALIC

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PROXIMA NOVA CONDENSED SEMIBOLD ITALIC

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PROXIMA NOVA CONDENSED BOLD ITALIC

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PROXIMA NOVA CONDENSED EXTRABOLD ITALIC

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PROXIMA NOVA CONDENSED BLACK ITALIC

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PROXIMA NOVA EXTRA CONDENSED THIN

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1957 SPUTNIK 1958 EXPLORER 1961 VOSTOK 1962 MERCURY 1964 RANGER 1965 G
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Vexed Buzz quietly watched Neil jumping to mark the surface. Vexed Buzz quietly

1957 SPUTNIK 1958 EXPLORER 1961 VOSTOK 1962 MERCURY 1964 RANGER 196

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PROXIMA NOVA EXTRA CONDENSED THIN ITALIC

1957 SPUTNIK 1958 EXPLORER 1961 VOSTOK 1962 MERCURY 1964 RANGER 1965 GEMINI 1966

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PROXIMA NOVA EXTRA CONDENSED EXTRABOLD ITALIC

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PROXIMA NOVA EXTRA CONDENSED BLACK ITALIC

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Proxima Nova Text Sample Summary

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A BALL OF FIRE said to have knocked out a 30-year-old Scout Master, has sent the Air Force Flying Saucer Investigation Squad to Florida. There it has been told a strange sto ry by ex-marine Scout Master D.S. Desver ges, who says he was going home with thr

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LATIN CAPITALS

LATIN LOWERCASE

LOWERCASE LIGATURES

fb ff fh fi fj fk fl ffi ffj ffl

LATIN LOWERCASE SUPERIORS abdehilmnorst

LATIN SMALL CAPS

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CYRILLIC CAPITALS

АБВГДЕЖЗИЙКЛМНОПРСТУФХЦЧШЩ ЪЫЬЭЮЯЁЂЃЄЅІЇЈЉЊЋЌЎЏѲѴҊҌҎҐҒ ҔҖҘҚҜҞҠӉҤҦҨҪҬҮҰҲҴҶҸҺҼҾ҃ӀӁ ӃӅӇӉӋӍӐӒӔӖӚӚӜӞӠӢӤӦѲӪӬӮӰӲӴ ӶӸӺӼӾЄӅѠПҺӅӮА҆ЕИО҆ӲӸӬЮЯЁЮѲ҃Ӛ ЋӋӲ҅О҅ҎӬҘӒ҄ӖЁ҃ЁӠ҅ŌŎӪӪ҃Ӹ҃ӬӬЄЯЯЮЮЛЙ ЫЁҒСДФЍ

CYRILLIC LOWERCASE

аабвгдежзийклмнопрстуфхцчшщъыьэ юяёђ ́ге siij љы ћ ќ ў џ ө v ҋ ь р ґ ғ ҕ җ ҙ қ ҝ ҟ ҡ ң ҥ ҧ ҩ ç ҭ ү ұ ҳ ҵ ҷ ҹ һ ҽ ҿ l ӂ ӄ ӆ ӈ ӊ ӌ ӎ ӑ ӑ ӓ ӕ ӕ ӗ ә ә ӝ ӟ ӡ ӣ ӥ ӧ ө ӫ ӭ ӯ ӱ ӳ ӵ ӷ ӹ ӻ ӽ ӿ є ӆ ѡ ҵ һ ӆ а а е е е в а б ю я ё ю б ә һ ӌ у о р э ҙ а а е е е в з о о ө ө ы э э е я я ю ю л й ы ё ғ ç в г д ж з и й к л т ц ш щ ю б

GREEK CAPITALS

ΑΒΓΔΕΖΗΘΙΚΛΜΝΞΟΠΡΣΤΥΦΧΨΩ ΆΈΉΊΙΟΎΫ́Ω

GREEK LOWERCASE

αβγδεζηθικλμνξοπρςστυφχψω άἑἡίοὑώϊϋϊΰκ

FLOATING ACCENTS

PROPORTIONAL & TABULAR LINING FIGURES

112345678900 112345678900

PROPORTIONAL & TABULAR OLDSTYLE FIGURES

112345678900 112345678900

SUPERSCRIPT AND SCIENTIFIC INFERIOR FIGURES (-,,\$¢1234567890) (-,,\$¢1234567890)

FRACTIONS

1/2 1/3 2/3 1/4 3/4 1/8 3/8 5/8 7/8 1234567890/1234567890

CURRENCY (STANDARD AND OLDSTYLE)

\$¢£€f¥₡F₤₺₦₱RpRs₹₽₩₫₪₴₸₼¤ \$₵₤€f¥₡

MATHEMATICAL OPERATORS

+- \times \div = \approx \neq \pm <> \leq \geq \neg ||^ \sim \Diamond $\sqrt{\mu}$ δ Δ π Ω

DASHES, DELIMITERS AND CONJOINERS (STANDARD AND CASE SENSITIVE)

PUNCTUATION (STANDARD, SMALL CAP, AND CASE SENSITIVE)

MISCELLANEOUS

#%% #%% $^{\mathbb{R}}$ $\mathbb{CP}^{\mathbb{M}} \cdot \mathbb{Q}^{*\dagger \ddagger} \S \P \circ \mathcal{C} \overset{}{\leftarrow} \mathsf{N}^{\mathsf{o}} \overset{\mathsf{a}}{\circ} \mathsf{O}$

←→↑↓▶◀▲▼■●★◆□□□✓₩



Proxima Nova Language Support, OpenType & Usage Notes

LANGUAGES SUPPORTED

Afrikaans, Albanian, Asu, Azerbaijani, Basque, Belarusian, Bemba, Bena, Bosnian, Breton, Bulgarian, Catalan, Chechen, Chiga, Colognian, Cornish, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Embu, English, Esperanto, Estonian, Faroese, Filipino, Finnish, French, Friulian, Galician, Ganda, German, Greek, Gusii, Hungarian, Icelandic, Inari Sami, Indonesian, Irish, Italian, Jola-Fonyi, Kabuverdianu, Kalaallisut, Kalenjin, Kamba, Kazakh, Kikuyu, Kinyarwanda, Koyra Chiini, Koyraboro Senni, Kyrgyz, Latvian, Lithuanian, Lower Sorbian, Luo, Luxembourgish, Luyia, Macedonian, Machame, Makhuwa-Meetto, Makonde, Malagasy, Malay, Maltese, Manx, Meru, Mongolian, Morisyen, North Ndebele, Northern Sami, Norwegian Bokmål, Norwegian Nynorsk, Nyankole, Oromo, Ossetic, Polish, Portuguese, Quechua, Romanian, Romansh, Rombo, Rundi, Russian, Rwa, Sakha, Samburu, Sango, Sangu, Scottish Gaelic, Sena, Serbian, Shambala, Shona, Slovak, Slovenian, Soga, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Swiss German, Taita, Tajik, Tasawaq, Teso, Turkish, Turkmen, Ukrainian, Upper Sorbian, Uzbek, Vietnamese, Vunjo, Walser, Welsh, Western Frisian, Zarma, Zulu

NOTE: Access to extended language features requires application and/or operating system Unicode or OpenType support.

OPENTYPE FEATURES SUPPORTED

Small Caps from Lowercase, All Small Caps, Standard Ligatures, Stylistic Alternates, Stylistic Sets (00-09), Case-Sensitive Forms, Class-Based Kerning, Proportional Lining Figures, Tabular Lining Figures, Proportional Oldstyle Figures, Tabular Oldstyle Figures, Slashed Zero, Fractions, Ordinals, Superscript, Scientific Inferior, Mark to Base, and Mark to Mark.

NOTE: Access to OpenType features requires application and/or operating system OpenType support.

ALTERNATE CHARACTER ACCESS

There are ten Stylistic Sets, providing access to alternate characters in Proxima Nova. In applications that support it, the name of the Stylistic Set is displayed (e.g., "Schoolbook Style"):

Set	Name	Roman	Italic
1	Schoolbook Style	aly⇒aly	Iy→ly
2	Geometric Sans Style	Ga→Ga	G → G
3	Alternate Uppercase G	G → G	G → G
4	Alternate Roman Lowercase a	a → a	a*
5	Alternate Italic Lowercase a	a*	a → a
6	Alternate Lowercase I	l→l	1 → [
7	Alternate Lowercase y	y → y	<i>y</i> → <i>y</i>
8	Straight Quotes to Primes	' " → ′ "	'" > ' "
9	Tabular One with Serifs	1 + 1	<i>1</i> → <i>1</i>
10	Alternate Sharp S	β → β	B → B

* NO CHANGE

In programs that support Stylistic Sets, more than one Set may be applied at a time. For example, Stylistic Set 1 could be recreated by applying Sets 4, 6, and 7 all at once.

Note that Stylistic Sets 4 and 5 affect roman and italic differently. If you prefer a two-story lowercase "a" in italic as well as roman, apply Set 5. The roman "a" will keep its normal two-story design because Set 5 has no effect on the roman. Similarly, if you prefer to have a one-story "a" in both roman and italic, apply Set 4 instead, which changes the roman but not the italic.

STYLISTIC MAPPING (PLAIN, ITALIC, BOLD, BOLD ITALIC)

In Microsoft Office and other Windows applications, Proxima Nova is broken into smaller "sub-families" that work with the *I* (italic) and *B* (bold) buttons on toolbars.

Only the first member of each group appears in the font listing in such applications and is the "plain" style within that group. The others are "italic," "bold," and "bold italic" respectively:

GROUP 1: Thin, Thin Italic

GROUP 2: Light, Light Italic

GROUP 3: Regular, Regular Italic, Bold, Bold Italic

GROUP 4: Medium, Medium Italic GROUP 5: Semibold, Semibold Italic

GROUP 6: Extrabold, Extrabold Italic

GROUP 7: Black, Black Italic

For example, to use Proxima Nova Bold Italic, choose Proxima Nova Regular from the font list and then click the *I* and *B* buttons on the toolbar (or use the keyboard shortcuts). Note: The "bold" button only works with the Regular style. The "italic" button works with all styles.

Stylistic mapping is the same for Condensed and Extra Condensed. Not all applications support stylistic mapping. Use of stylistic mapping is optional and not necessarily recommended for some pre-press workflows.

