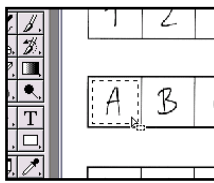


Fontographer Tutorial

Quick and Dirty page 1/3

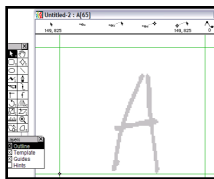
1. Download and print the two PDF files: Font sheet and Overlay sheet. Fill out all the characters you want to include in your font. (you dont need to use the provided sheets, a napkin will do fine - the sheets just makes everything a lot easier for you).

2. Scan the overlay sheet in **grayscale, 200 DPI** and save the file.

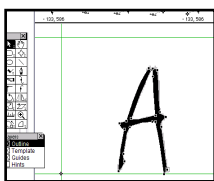


3. Open the scanned file in your image editing software - I use Photoshop, but Paintbrush will do the job. Use the marquee tool to **select the capital A** (we need the capital A to learn about kerning...) Copy the A.

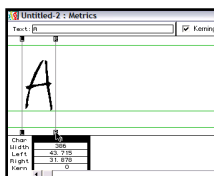
4. Open Fontographer, create a new font (**ctrl+n**) - dbl click the capital A, this opens the **outline window**.



5. Paste the A we copied from the scan. The image will be placed in the **template layer**. You will see a faded gray version of your A from the scan. Go to the template layer, select the A and move it, so that the feet of the A are on the **green baseline**.



6. Go back to the **outline layer**. Now we need to trace the A, you can either do it manually or use the Auto-Trace function (This being a quick and dirty tutorial, we will Auto-Trace) - **Choose Auto-Trace** from the Element menu, play with the settings. Loose will make the characters curvy, thight will make them more precise.

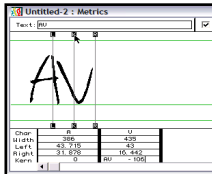


7. Choose **Metrics window** from the Window menu, it opens the character you just traced in the **Outline window**. Drag the two **guides** to set how much space there will be between this character and the characters to the left and right when writing with the font.

Fontographer Tutorial

Quick and Dirty page 2/3

8. Repeat steps 5 thru 7 with the capital V (we need the V to **learn about kerning**).

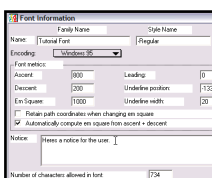


9. When you are done with steps 5 thru 7 using the capital V, type in "AV" in the **text field**. You now see the two letters you created, and they both have their own set of guides. (**Now for the point in using the capital A and V**). A and V needs to be close together than H and K, V and V otherwise it will look like there is too much space between the two characters (A V) **This adjustment is called Kerning**). Drag the V characters K guide towards the A character until you think it looks right.

10. Type in VA in the **text field** and drag the **K guide** of the A towards the V until this combination it looks right. Everytime you type in new text in the text field, **Fontographer saves the kerning pair in the fontfile**.

To make a font useable, you have to **make as many kerning pairs as needed** for your font (how you design your font determines how many kerning pairs needed, so there is no fixed set characters you have to kern, but here is a short list of characters that typically needs kerning: 4,6,7,9,A,C,D,F,G,J,K,L,P,S,T,U,V,W,Y and most of the lower characters.

11. **SAVE** your font (ctrl + s) (This is not the TrueType file, but Fontographers own file format)

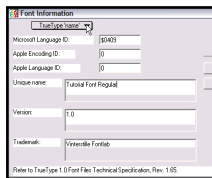


12. Before you export the font as a true type file, you need to give your font a name, and some other info. Choose **Font Info -> General** from the element menu. Give your font a name (no more than 30 characters long) and a style (regular, bold or whatever).

Fontographer Tutorial

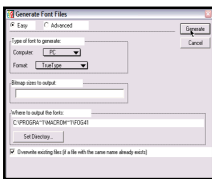
Quick and Dirty 3/3

Fontographer writes the program name several places into your font info. If you don't want that edit the following Font info:



True Type 'name': Type in the name, version and trademark (if any) of the font.

OS/2 'data': Remove the vendor ID to delete the "made with Fontographer" line of text, shown when previewing the font.



12. To generate a True Type file, choose **generate font files** from the file menu.

Set the directory to output the true type file to, and **click generate**.

AND THATS IT (you can now install the font, or better yet - share it)

I hope you found this useful, for questions and comments, visit <http://vinterstille.dk>

Klaus Nielsen
vinterstille

Hint: Try not to limit your font to just A-Z and 0-9, this keeps international users from using the font...

