

How to use Bienchen handwriting fonts

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Font name: Bienchen

License: Open Font Licence (free)

URL: <http://www.dafont.com/bienchen-sas.font>

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S
T U V W X Y Z abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz ß à
é è ê î ç æ ö š Œ œ ø ñ

Happy Thought

~Robert Louis Stevenson

*The world is so full of a number of things,
I'm sure we should be as happy as kings.*

Installation

Download the font files Bienchen a.ttf and Bienchen b.ttf. Under Windows double click on each of them. Under Linux copy both files in /usr/share/fonts/truetype. It is very important that you really install both files as every character needs 2 shapes in order to link with the previous.

Basic usage

In the classroom

Handwriting fonts are more complex than printing fonts because every character needs to be available in different shapes in order to connect to the previous one. But first the good news: For basic usage like in the classroom or on monodpad etc. you just type as usual:

Happy Thought
The world is so full of a number of things,
I'm sure we should be as happy as kings.

Prepare documents for printing

As you can see it looks pretty already but not all characters are connected yet. For those characters we need to switch to the alternative font by selecting them first

Happy Thought
The world is so full of a number of things,
I'm sure we should be as happy as kings.

and then switching them to *italic*.



Happy Thought
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Fine tuning

For every day usage the following might not be necessary, but sometimes you like it to be “perfect”. There are still some tiny little spaces after the s in the words “so”, “sure” and “should”.¹

Happy Thought
The world is so full of a number of things,
I'm sure we should be as happy as kings.

The font has an extra symbol for this little missing connection line which you can insert by typing *§* in *italic*. It looks like:

you see	you type
	so
	§so

Happy Thought
The world is so full of a number of things,
I'm sure we should be as happy as kings.





¹ This s is designed to stand also alone at the end of words and has therefore no tail.

Advanced usage

Fine tuning for perfectionists



Here some tricks, nice to know that they exist:

In order to start a word exactly at the beginning of the base line insert `\` in regular style at the beginning of the word. Let them end exactly on the middle line by typing `~` in italic.

you see	you type
	so
	sso
	\sso
	\sso~

*The world is so full of a number of things,
I'm sure we should be as happy as kings.*

Some like leading tails at “u” “v” “w” and “y”. Add `\` in italic at the beginning of the word.

	u v w y
	\u \v \w

Generating lines

I personally prefer to draw my lines using the drawing feature of LibreOffice. It is much faster and more convenient. Nevertheless it is possible to obtain the same result with a font built in mechanism: Lines can be generated by inserting `_` *in italic* and `=` *in italic*. End symbols are `[]<>` all *in italic*. For example, type:

```
/Th_e _wo_r_ld _\is_ _\s$o _\fu_ll_ _of_ _\a_ _nu_m_b_er_ _of_ _\th_in_gs,_ _]  
<I'm= =s$u=re= ~we= s$=ho=u=ld= \b=e= as= \ha=pp=y= \as= \ki=ng=s.>
```

The result is shown below. Note that the line symbols `_` and `=` are usually after every second character. Big characters might need them earlier.

*The world is so full of a number of things,
I'm sure we should be as happy as kings.*

Where is the little bee?

Type * in regular for



Summary

character	meaning	without	with special character
usual character in regular	base font with connector line		<i>A B C D</i> <i>a b c d</i>
usual character in <i>italic</i>	alternative font without connector line		<i>A B C D</i> <i>a b c d</i>
§ in <i>italic</i>	connect s to the following character	<i>so</i>	<i>so</i>
\ in regular	connect the beginning of a character to the baseline	<i>so</i>	<i>so</i>
\ in <i>italic</i>	leading tail	<i>wo</i>	<i>wo</i>
~ in <i>italic</i>	connect the tail of a character to the upper line.	<i>so</i>	<i>so</i>
_ in <i>italic</i>	4 lines	<i>word</i>	<i>word</i>
= in <i>italic</i>	2 lines	<i>word</i>	<i>word</i>
[] in <i>italic</i>	4 lines delimiter	<i>word</i>	<i>word</i>
<> in <i>italic</i>	2 lines delimiter	<i>word</i>	<i>word</i>