

Goldenbook

THE STORY OF

SIX STYLES

Light
Regular
Bold
Extrabold
Heavy
Black

THE INSPIRATION



GOLDENBOOK WAS INSPIRED by a visit to a used book store in Saint Paul back in 2002. On the floor I saw a box filled with tattered copies of *The Golden Book Magazine*, which was published monthly from 1925 to 1935 and featured short fiction from well-known writers.

What caught my attention was its elegant hand-lettered logotype. I have no idea who did it, but I had never seen anything quite like it. With its large capitals and small lowercase, it struck me as an Art Deco take of the classic Trajan Roman. I fell in love with it and thought I might be able to use it as the basis for a typeface design.

There wasn't much to go on, just the letters in the words "Golden Book" and "Magazine." Yet the basic forms were there: Old style proportions; very small x-height; round, open shapes; short, spur-like serifs; lapidary terminals on the lowercase letters like *a* and *r*; and a certain fussy charm that brought to my mind top hats and tails.

Spinning all this out into a complete font is the kind of challenge I enjoy, a bit like writing historical fiction, I suppose. If a typeface in this style had been made around the time the magazine existed, what would it have looked like?

Given that there was so little to work from, the resulting typeface comes mostly from my imagination and familiarity with the letterforms of different eras. The initial version had three rather light weights: Light (based on that large *G*), Regular, and Bold.

I first released it in 2003. Since then, I have seen it most often used on book covers. (Maybe it's the name...?) Designers also seem to favor the capitals over the lowercase.

Goldenbook has been slowly becoming more popular in recent years, so, in 2019, I added three new weights—Extrabold, Heavy, and Black—support for Cyrillic, and lots of under-the-hood improvements. All of which I hope will make it more useful and versatile. —MARK SIMONSON

LIGATURES

fi fl ff ffi ffl
fb fh fj fk ffj
ct st

ALTERNATE CHARACTERS

R > R E > &

LINING & OLD STYLE FIGURES

1938 > 1938

CASE-SENSITIVE FORMS

«x-ray»

«X-RAY»

ARBITRARY FRACTIONS

off: 33/100

on: 33/100

LANGUAGES SUPPORTED

English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Basque, German, Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Czech, Polish, Hungarian, Croatian, Esperanto, Maltese, Turkish, Romanian, Albanian, Russian, Serbian, Macedonian, Ukrainian, and Bulgarian.

OPENTYPE FEATURES SUPPORTED

Standard Ligatures, Stylistic Alternates, Stylistic Sets (3), Class-Based Kerning, Case-sensitive Forms, Proportional Lining Figures, Proportional Old Style Figures, Fractions, Superscript, Subscript, Scientific Inferior, Mark-to-Base, and Mark-to-Mark, Localized Forms for Dutch, Bulgarian, and Serbian.

City
EARTH
ДМИТРОВ
CHICAGO
Magnificently
BOOK JACKET
Parlez-Vous Français?
MANHATTAN ISLAND
Wine & Dine Quarterly 2019
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

The humorous story is told gravely. The teller does his best to conceal the fact that he even dimly suspects that there is anything funny about it. But the teller of the comic story tells you beforehand that it is one of the funniest things he has ever heard, then

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City
EARTH
Павлово
CHICAGO
Magnificently
BOOK JACKET
Parlez-Vous Français?
MANHATTAN ISLAND
Wine & Dine Quarterly 2015
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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Goldenbook Regular

THE COMPLETE CHARACTER SET

LATIN CAPITALS

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R R S T U V W X Y Z
Á À Â Ã Ä Å Æ Ç È É Ê Ë Ì Í Î Ï Ñ Ò Ó Ô Õ Ö Ø Ù Ú Û Ü Ý Þ ß à á â ã ä å æ ç è é ê ë ì í î ï ñ ò ó ô õ ö ø ù ú û ü ý þ ß
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LATIN LOWERCASE

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
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ŕ Ŗ ŗ Ř ř Ś ś ŝ ţ ŧ ũ ū ŭ ů ű ų ŵ Ŷ ŷ Ÿ ź ż Ż ż Đ đ^{ao}

LIGATURES

fb ff fh fi fj fk fl fffb ffi ffj ffl ct st

CYRILLIC CAPITALS

А В Г Г Д Е Ё Ж З И Й К Л М Н О П Р С Т У Ф Х Ц Ш Щ Ъ Ы Э Ю Я
Г Д Е Й К Л Ф Ц Ь Ъ Ы С Е И Й Ъ Ъ

CYRILLIC LOWERCASE

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LINING AND OLDSTYLE FIGURES, FRACTIONS, SUPERSCRIPT

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CURRENCY AND FIGURE-RELATED CHARACTERS

N ° \$ ¢ £ ¥ f € ¢ ₮ ₯ % ‰ ‰ ° © ® ™ ^ ~ < > = ≠ ≈ ≤ ≥ + × ÷ ∓ μ

PUNCTUATION AND MISCELLANEOUS CHARACTERS

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City
EARTH
Лабинск
CHICAGO
Magnificently
BOOK JACKET
Parlez-Vous Français?
MANHATTAN ISLAND
Wine & Dine Quarterly 2017
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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City
EARTH
Бодайбо
CHICAGO
Magnificently
BOOK JACKET
Parlez-Vous Français?
MANHATTAN ISLAND
Wine & Dine Quarterly 2014
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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City
EARTH
Жиздра
CHICAGO
Magnificent
BOOK JACKET
Parle-Tu Français?
MANHATTAN ISLAND
Wine & Dine Quarterly 2016
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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Goldenbook Heavy

THE COMPLETE CHARACTER SET

LATIN CAPITALS

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R R S T U V W X Y Z
Á À Â Ã Ä Å Æ Ç È É Ê Ë Ì Í Î Ï Ñ Ò Ó Ô Õ Ö Ø Ù Ú Û Ü Ý Þ ß
À Á Â Ã Ä Å Æ Ç È É Ê Ë Ì Í Î Ï Ñ Ò Ó Ô Õ Ö Ø Ù Ú Û Ü Ý Þ ß
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LATIN LOWERCASE

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
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í î ï ð ñ ò ó ô õ ö ø ù ú û ü ý þ ß
ŵ Ŷ ŷ Ÿ Ź Ɔ

LIGATURES

fb ff fh fi fj fk fl f ffb ffi ffj ffl ct st

CYRILLIC CAPITALS

А Б В Г Г Д Е Ж З И Й К Л М Н О П Р С Т У Ф Х Ц Щ Ъ Ы Э Ю Я
Г Д Е Й К Л Ф Ц Ь Ъ С Е И Й Т Ъ

CYRILLIC LOWERCASE

а б в г г д е ж з и й к л м н о п р с т у ф х ц щ ъ ы э ю я
г д е й к л ф ц ь ъ с е и й т ъ

LINING AND OLDSTYLE FIGURES, FRACTIONS, SUPERSCRIPT

1234567890 1234567890 1/2 1/4 3/4 1234567890/1234567890

CURRENCY AND FIGURE-RELATED CHARACTERS

N ° \$ ¢ £ ¥ f € ¤ ¤ ¤ ¤ ° © ® ™ ^ ~ < > = ≠ ≈ ≤ ≥ + × ÷ ∓ μ

PUNCTUATION AND MISCELLANEOUS CHARACTERS

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City
EARTH
Калязин
DETROIT
Affiliations
BOOKPLATE
Êtes-Vous Français?
MANHATTAN ISLAND
Wine & Dine Quarterly '19
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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Le JOURNAL

THE AGE OF KINGS

Constantia

2005

THE 85TH
ACADEMY
AWARDS

Arts & Crafts Today

SWORD &

SORCERY