

Here is how to identify (and communicate) what typeface is in use

Domaine Text Bold Italic 24 pt

Family

Optical Size- Weight or Use-Variant Slant

Size

Typefaces

Think of a *typeface* as the *face* that the font-file helps one make. It speaks of a distinct design (purpose and intent) and a recognisable similarity in appearance across styles and sizes.

Optical Sizes

Certain typefaces have optical size variants designed to work at certain specific sizes. *Micro* for smaller than *text* sizes, *display* for large text, etcetera, with features like contrast adjusted to work best at that specific size.

Family

A **typeface family** has a set of typefaces with all kinds of weights and widths and styles (bold, light, regular, condensed, extended, roman, italic, etc.) that share common visual characteristics.

To be precise, describing a typeface involves specifying the family, weight, width, slant and other visual features.

Fonts

A *font* (from *fount*, meaning source in Old English) is the 'source' of the information for making a type'face' appear on paper or screen (or anywhere).



In the days of exclusively metal-orwood-type, the 'font' was the metal or wooden blocks (sorts) of a specific design and size. Not anymore.

Variable Fonts

Unlike regular font files which can only render one specific weight, width or slant, a variable font file can let one vary these parameters and produce many styles.



Recursive-Variable Font_CASL,CRSV, MONO,slnt,wght

Recursive (a variable font) looks like this and can render typefaces varying along Casual, Cursive, Mono, Slant and Weight Axes.