

FONT ANATOMY

COMPANY » DOWNLOAD AREA

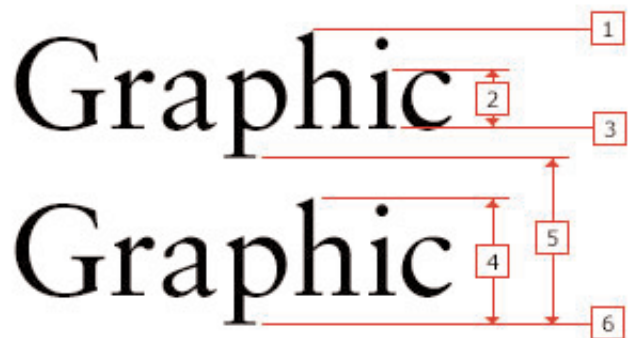
Each character in a line of type has its own individual characteristics. The terminology relating to different parts of a character is extensive, here are some of the most commonly used.

1. Apex
2. Counter
3. Bar
4. Serif
5. Arm
6. Ascender
7. Ear
8. Bowl
9. Down stroke
10. Tail
11. Spine
12. Loop
13. Descender



A typeface's point size is defined as the distance from the top of the ascender to the bottom of the descender. This measurement is constant across different typestyles when set in the same point size. It is the 'x' height, which is the measure of the main body of the typeface, that varies from style to style and is the reason why some typefaces appear larger or smaller even when set at the same size.

1. Ascender line
2. x height
3. Base line
4. Point size
5. Leading
6. Descender line



Tracking is the individual spacing of characters in a word.

No tracking

Tracked +

Horizontal scale is the forced 'stretching' or 'squashing' of text.

Horizontal scale +

Horizontal scale -