Charis SIL - Resources

Requirements

These fonts are supported by all major operating systems (macOS, Windows, Linux-based, iOS, and Android). However, the extent of that support depends on the individual OS and application.

Installation

Install the fonts by decompressing the .zip archive and installing the fonts using the standard font installation process for .ttf (TrueType/OpenType) fonts for your platform. For additional tips see the help page on Font installation.

Keyboarding and character set support

These fonts do not include keyboards or other software for entering text. To type the symbols in these fonts use the keyboarding systems provided in your OS or use a separate utility. SIL's Keyman provides keyboards for over 2000 languages and works on all major desktop and mobile platforms. For information on other keyboarding options see the overview at Keyboard Systems Overview (ScriptSource).

See Character set support for details of the Unicode characters supported by these fonts.

Rendering and application support

These fonts will work normally like any other fonts in most applications. If the writing system requires special diacritic positioning the application/OS will need to support OpenType.

These fonts also include extensive OpenType features for small caps, literacy forms, character alernates and language-specific preferences. For information on the specific features available in these fonts see Font features.

If special font features are to be activated, the application will need to provide a way to turn on the feature or choose the feature setting. Details of current application support, and specific techniques for activating features, are on the Using Font Features help page.

Although the current fonts support only OpenType, previous versions provided support for Graphite and AAT (Apple Advanced Typography) technologies. Graphite was supported through version 5 and AAT was supported up to version 4. These older versions remain available from our Previous Versions archive.

TypeTuner

The TypeTuner Web service allows you to choose smart font features and download a font with those features preset. This enables them to work in many applications that do not fully support OpenType.

Web fonts

Web font versions of these fonts (in WOFF and WOFF2 formats) are available in the web folder. These can be copied to a web server and used as fonts on web pages. A very basic HTML/CSS demo page is also included. For more information on the options and techniques available for using these fonts on web pages see Using SIL Fonts on Web Pages.

Text conversion

These fonts are encoded according to The Unicode Standard. If you have text that uses a legacy, non-Unicode encoding there are tools that can help you convert that text for use with Unicode fonts. See Introduction to Text Conversion and Transliteration.

This guide is from the Charis SIL project version 6.200 and is copyright © 1997-2023 SIL International.