

FONTS FOR DYNAMICS

MUSIC FONTS

TEXT FONTS

Maestro 24pt

mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff

👉 Never liked the ligature in mp (though it can also be made from component letters); otherwise a good all-rounder.

Engraver 24pt

mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff

👉 Nice, but takes more room than Maestro. Somehow seems a bit less curvy.

November 24pt

mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff

👉 Really don't like the difference in x-height between the p and other letters. The f also seems much thicker than the other forms. It's like all the letters are from different typefaces. The serif clash of the p and f is also not nice. Shame, because otherwise it's such an excellent font.

Oslo 24pt

mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff

👉 Nothing objectionable, but a bit thick.

Opus Text 12pt

mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff

Opus Text cleverly manages to make all the symbols just by joining individual characters together. (ppp is 3 x p.) Probably my favourite.

Stockholm Plate 24pt

mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff

👉 Too fat and squishy.

Vienna 24pt

mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff

👉 The p is almost too big, the f is almost too fat, but it just manages to get away with it. Nice, classic look.

Bravura 24pt

mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff

👉 Again, don't like the mp ligature. Again, it can be avoided with component symbols.

Sonata (Std.otf) 24pt

mp mf fp fz sf ppp fff

👉 Sonata lacks some of the combined forms as single glyphs.

Closest in form to the music fonts, but a bit thin. Very nice for 'sempre', though.

Monotype Modern Bold Italic 16pt

mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff

These next three are all good choices for a text font replacement. 📄 ITC Century Bold Condensed Italic 15pt

mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff

Bodoni Bold Italic 15pt

mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff

ITC New Baskerville Bold Italic 16pt

mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff

Bembo Extra Bold Italic 16pt

mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff

New Century Schoolbook Bold Condensed Italic 14pt

mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff

NCS is frequently used as a text font in music: but it's not much good for dynamics. The Fs look cut off at the feet. 👉

Garamond Premier Pro Bold Italic 16pt

mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff

ITC Garamond Bold Condensed Italic 14pt

mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff

Very few text faces manage to achieve the 'weight' of the music font symbols, so even their heaviest Bold Italic appears weak by comparison.

Adobe Caslon Pro Bold Italic 14pt

📄 *mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff*

Might suit a more casual or faux hand-written style. 📄

New Caledonia Black Italic 13pt

mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff

Novello used to use a modern, 'slab' semi-serif, square-bodied face for dynamics and other text in some of their scores. Similar to this. 📄

Berthold City Light Italic 15pt

📄 *mp mf fp fz sfp ppp fff*