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System 7: Italic, Bold, and Bold Italic in TrueType

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TOPIC -----

Why are Italic, Bold, and Bold Italic listed as separate typefaces for TrueType (and Postscript fonts), but not for bitmap fonts?

DISCUSSION -----

When you're using a bitmap font and you choose Italic or Bold from the Style menu, the italic or bold type you see on the screen is a manipulation of the plain bitmap typeface. The plain font itself is modified--slanted forward for italic or thickened for bold--to create the style you've chosen.

TrueType and PostScript fonts give you separate, specially-designed typefaces, not just manipulations of the plain typeface, for italic, bold, and bold-italic styles. These look even better than the modified bitmaps, and are truer to the original designs.

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