
FHA Condensed French

a specimen of type

by James Stirling



TM

FHA Condensed French Family

by Michael G. Adkins & James L. Stirling

FHA Condensed French Specimen by James Stirling

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Fontry
West

inspired by Frank H. Atkinson

Condensed French

STYLES

Normal, Shaded & Shade

Alternates, Ligatures, and Language Support

One could speculate that FHA Condensed French probably started life as wood type for displays, headlines and posters. The exaggerated sharp serifs and condensed forms were not uncommon for that period. At some point, sign painters picked up Condensed French and added their own touches to the letterforms. At the end of the nineteenth century, Frank H. Atkinson included Condensed French in samples of lettering for his book, "Sign Painting, A Complete Manual." This book became one of the definitive guides for signwriting and hand lettering.

Regular **ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ!@ \$&?**
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz1234567890

Shade *ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ!@ \$&?*
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz1234567890

Shaded **ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ!@ \$&?**
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz1234567890

In 1999, Mike Adkins digitized Condensed to add to our Atkinson collection. For its re-release, Condensed French has been updated with more language support, ligatures, and OpenType alternates. It has true vintage character but still plays well in modern designs. A font for all seasons, the condensed forms and sharp serifs fit in every layout from Wild West Days posters and creepy film credits to Christmas ads and Mother's Day cards. While I can't really see FHA Condensed French as a font for phone apps or video game text, it will provide impact to logos, branding, and product labeling.

FHA Condensed French with Shade

FHA Condensed French

FHA Condensed French

FHA Condensed French Shade

+ FHA Condensed French

FHA Condensed French with Shade

= FHA Condensed French

OpenType Features *Subject to operating system and software support.*

Examples of Stylistic Alternates

A A C C K K a a q q ſ ſ
BASE ALT BASE ALT BASE ALT BASE ALT BASE ALT

Ligatures & Fraction Features

FT FT st st 7/10 7/10 3/7 3/7
Type Replaced By Type Replaced By Type Replaced By Type Replaced By

Contextual Alternates

< < ◀ ▶ > ▶ No. Nȯ c/o C/o
Type Replaced By Type Replaced By Type Replaced By Type Replaced By

LOREM IPSUM DOLOR

*144
PTS* Sit Amet, Consect

ALIQUAM CONSEQUAT TURPIS IN ORCI *72
PTS*

Ullamcorper Imperdiet. Sed At Vulput.

**60
PTS** AENEAN BIBENDUM PHARETRA PURUS, AQUET.
Lobortis Nisl Consequat Id. Aliquam Erat.

**48
PTS** VOLUTPAT SUSPENDISSE POTENTI. ETIAM VESTIBULUM.
Placerat Est Id Cursus. Proin Hendrerit Venenatis Nunc.

**30
PTS** AT LAOREET, CRAS ELEIFEND MOLESTIE, VITAE FEUGIAT TORTOR SCELERISQUE
Donec sodales risus sit amet sapien interdum fringilla. Phasellus cursus.

**24
PTS** NISI NEC POSUERE ALIQUET, METUS FELIS ELEIFEND.
Lurem eu eros consectetur egestas facibus mal.
Vitae feugiat libero. Proin eros mi, vulputate sed.

**18
PTS** MAURIS ADIPISCING TELLUS SED NIBH SODALS PUL VINAR PENTESQUE.
Justo enim, accumsan ut consectetur tempor, posuere a lorem.
Pellentesque habitant morbi tristique senectus et netus et male
suada fames ac turpis egestas. In hac habitasse platea dictumst.

Sample Layouts

Condensed French was finally completed and released in December of 2012. It seemed natural to include a sample that was seasonal. This worked out well because the font is ideal for Christmas and greeting cards with a vintage style. The holly leaf border was taken from a metal-type specimen book published in 1932.

Merry Christmas^{to} all
and to all a Good Night!



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FHA Condensed French

I have read that a banner headline is an old newspaper term for copy that stretched across the face of the paper. En Your Face Quarterly is a good example of the font in a publishing format. In case anyone is curious, the fonts used for the subordinate text in this specimen are from the Deathe Maach (deeth mawsh) family, also from the Fontry.

Fontry
West



En Your Face

DEC
2012

Q U A R T E R L Y

Announcing The Release of
FHA Condensed French

A retro art deco face inspired by Frank H. Atkinson
Digitized and adapted by Mike G. Adkins and James L. Stirling

Condensed French looks like a font made for a whiskey label. Back in the day, a shot of whiskey was probably the only thing that would mask the pain of rheumatoid arthritis. This inspired the Granny's Jug moniker, and its claim to have medicinal properties. As for the bottler, my great grandfather was rumored to have sold corn whiskey to Pretty Boy Floyd.



Barrel
Aged

GRANNY'S JUG

Since 1878

150
Proof

PURE CORN



WHISKEY

“Good fer what ails ya!”



DISTILLED & BOTTLED BY OLD MAN McHENRY • TULSEY TOWN • OKLAHOMA TERRITORY

I've been using Condensed French in Halloween layouts for years. In this sample, Mr. Smiley Death resides over an advertisement for the Haunted Hayride. There is a place out on Iron Post Road, just south of old Hwy 33, that sits on several acres of twisted blackjack oaks. Blackjacks are scrub oaks with black bark and tortured limbs. It would be an ideal, creepy place for a scare trail.

HAUNTED

Shreaks
Weekends
From dusk
til 2am

TICKETS

FAMILY \$25

COUPLES \$15

SINGLES \$10

HAIRIDE

3 Miles So. of Old Hwy 33 on Iron Post Rd, turn East

a fontry west™
production



TM

The format of my specimen for Condensed French is not conducive to a greeting card, so I thought a Mother's Day ad for a floral and gift shop would be a suitable alternative. In case you're wondering, Ted's Hamburgers is a local icon and makes for a good landmark. Back in the day, they served the best hamburgers and French fries on the West Side — when Ted wasn't gone fishing.

...every mom deserves flowers on

mother's day

May 13th

Gifts, Bouquets &
Live Flowers



Jackie B's
FLORAL & GIFTS

Tel: Luther 9662

33rd & Edison

Next to Ted's Hamburgers.

