

**The**  
**Dark**  
**Angel**  
**Font Manual**  
and Typesetting Guide

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Another Original



# Thank You!

If you've purchased Dark Angel, or are just looking into it—Thank You! This manual will explain how Dark Angel came to be, and how to access its unique features. It will also give you a few pointers on how to use it to set copy correctly.

Dark Angel began its journey towards the light years ago when this style was born as a sketch for a new logo for the California Angels baseball team (afterwards renamed the Anaheim Angels). The Angels logo never happened, but I recently resurrected that logo sketch to become the basis for this brand new font design. It was also the source for its name. Below you can compare the forms from that original logo pencil and the corresponding letters from the new font. Many accommodations had to be made to keep these forms working together as a font but, as much as possible, the spirit of that original logo design has been kept.



Dark Angel is kind of blackletter in feel, but as a display font it's so much more. It is far more legible than most "Old English" or "Gothic Script" styles, and incorporates many features never before seen in them, such as swashes, tails and a plethora of ligatures. Additionally its 1,163 glyphs can be used to set copy in 59 different languages.

The Dark Angel Family consists of three fonts. It is available as two individual single fonts—**1**Dark Angel and **2**Dark Angel Underlight—a handtooled font:

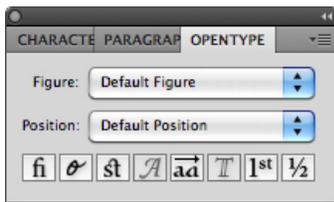
# Dark Angel

## Dark Angel Underlight

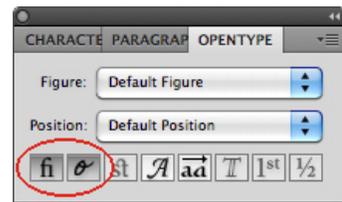
If both are purchased as a Family the package will contain a third font—Dark Angel Highlight. With this font layered over the basic font, you can achieve two-color typesetting when the highlight and the base font are assigned two different colors:

**Dark Angel** + *Dark Angel* =  
**Dark Angel**

## Typesetting tips for Dark Angel



Stigmatize  
Stigmatize



The “cardinal” rule that must always be followed when setting this font is that the **Standard Ligatures** and **Contextual Alternates** buttons in the OpenType palette must be pressed. The difference can be seen in the samples above. At top, without those buttons being pressed, “Stigmatize” is missing the “Sti” ligature, and the contextual alternate for the “r” preceding the “i” isn’t recognized. Below with those two buttons selected, the word sets properly.

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Cap Height

Usually it would not be a great idea to set fonts like this in all caps, but I’ve created a second set of caps just for this purpose. They’re a bit smaller and a bit more compact than the default caps. So if you’re compelled to set copy in all caps, first set it normally (above), then with the copy selected, go into the character palette and select “Small Caps”:

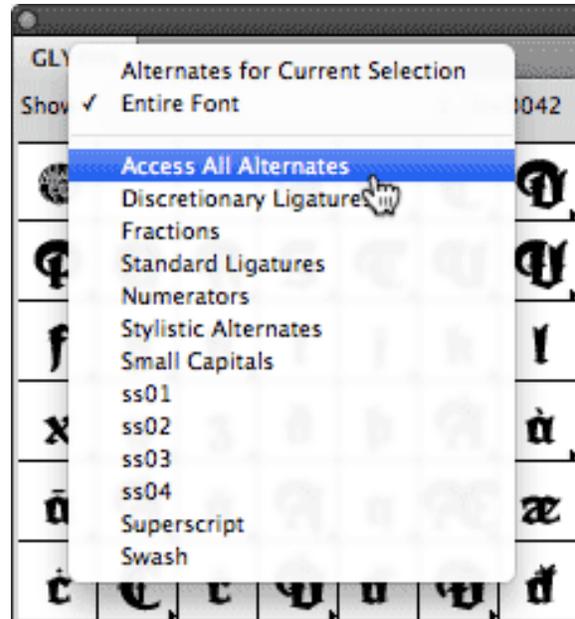
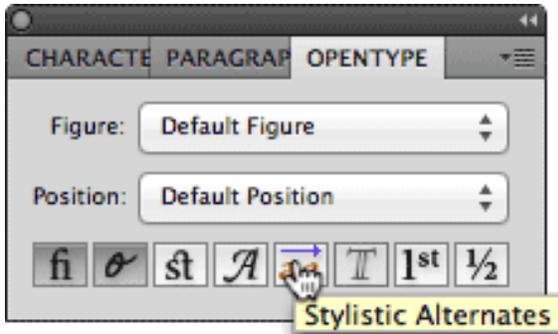
WANTE'S INFERNIO

Small Cap Height

As an alternative, setting in both caps and small caps can give a more pleasing effect:

WANTE'S INFERNIO

# — Using Stylistic Alternates —



By just selecting your copy and pressing the Stylistic Alternates button in the Open Type palette, you can change the look of your typeset, going from the first selection below . . . to the more elaborate looking selection below that.

NB: Some letters have multiple Stylistic Alternates. These can be found in the Glyph Palette either under “Access All Alternates”, or “Alternates for Current Selection”.

**And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years.**

**And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years.**

# — Using Swash Caps —

There are several caps for which I’ve created “Swash” alternatives. These are K, L, M, N, R, X, Z, and the ligatures Li, Lh, and Ll. These can be accessed by selecting your cap letter, then clicking on the Swash button in the OpenType Palette:

**Leviathan Leviathan**

Above, right, not only was the swash L selected, but also Stylistic Alternates (note the v, a, h, and n. Additionally the swash L comes with three different lengths of tail.

## — Discretionary Ligatures —

Most ligatures are accessed through the Standard Ligatures button, but there are a few that you may or may not want to use, so they're placed in the "Discretionary" category, and can be accessed through the Discretionary Ligatures button or through the pull-down menu in the Glyph Palette. These are both the cap/lowercase and small cap/lowercase versions of the Ae and Oe ligatures, the Li, Lh, and Ll ligatures (in two different lengths), and the ri, st, and sti ligatures:

**Ae**sop **Oe**dipus  
**L**igatures **st**ickiest

## — Lowercase Swash —

Lending quite a bit of versatility to Dark Angel are the multitude of Lowercase Swashes that have been built in to the font. Most of these characters have at least four variations (some more), each comprised of different lengths which can be changed to suit the particular situation or word you're dealing with. They can all be seen in the Glyph Palette's pull-down menu under "Access All Alternates".

gig gag glug gong gig gag glug gong  
hi hay hinge hang oh yah yeah girth  
gik milk gink jerk kif keg kay knob  
mig muy men many jim yum foam  
in gun gain yarn nip nez reige nosy  
so sag sing shop fist yes his gods  
glut duet boot burnt baguet sexiest  
tot ted teah trap tepee terrae teaser  
hix fax jinx faux xu xis xyst xerox  
yip yay ying yang oy my cy gray  
oz fez coz geez zig zag zax zori

The character set for Dark Angel is large—1163 glyphs, so it's not feasible to show all the foreign and accented characters in this guide. Nor is it feasible to show and demonstrate all the various caps and lowercase ligatures, alternates, swashed alternate caps, lowercase with varied extension/swashes, free-standing swashes, etcetera. However they all can be seen in and accessed through the glyph palette. Below are some examples of how, utilizing Dark Angel's various features, words can be put together to build creative configurations, wordmarks and "Logos". The free-standing swashes or underlines you see in these examples were set independently and then manually moved into position.

Die  
Young  
Stay  
Pretty

Hellfire &  
Brimstone

Their  
Satanic  
Majesties  
Request

Lucifer's  
Daughter

## — The Tower of Babel —

Dark Angel has enough language support to make the builders of Babel envious—from A to Z: Afrikaans, Albanian, Basque, Bemba, Bosnian, Catalan, Cornish, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Esperanto, Estonian, Faroese, Filipino, Finnish, French, Galician, Ganda, German, Hungarian, Icelandic, Indonesian, Irish, Italian, Kalaallisut, Kamba, Kikuyu, Kinyarwanda, Lithuanian, Luo, Malagasy, Malay, Maltese, Manx, Morisyen, North Ndebele, Norwegian Bokmål, Norwegian Nynorsk, Nyankole, Oromo, Polish, Portuguese, Romansh, Sango, Shona, Slovak, Slovenian, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Swiss German, Turkish, Welsh, and last (but not least) Zulu.

# Dark Angel Blackletter Hybrid

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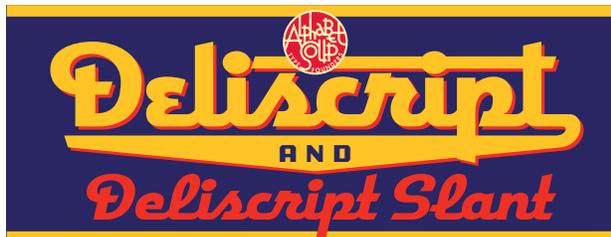
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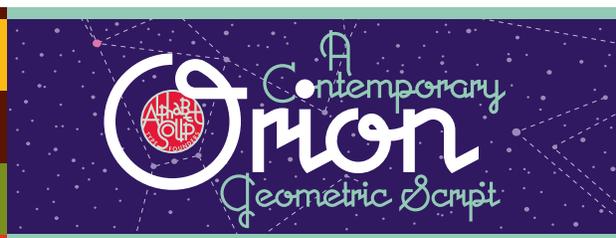
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# Dark Angel



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