

**USEFUL
MATRIX
INFORMATION**



OCTOBER, 1937

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MERGENTHALER LINOTYPE COMPANY

29 Ryerson Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

NEW YORK CITY · CHICAGO · SAN FRANCISCO · NEW ORLEANS

CANADIAN LINOTYPE LIMITED, TORONTO

Representatives in the Principal Cities of the World

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Useful Matrix Information

The Mergenthaler Linotype Company carries in stock a full supply of matrices to meet the exacting demands of printers throughout the world. Matrices can be supplied for composition in over seventy different languages. With the great number of different characters to be supplied, the importance of giving careful attention to accuracy of detail in preparing orders will be appreciated.

Every possible facility is provided for the proper selection and ordering of matrices according to the style of face and the characters desired. Orders should be typewritten, preferably, and the name of the face given. One copy should be retained for reference.

MATRIX ORDER FORMS

Linotype matrix order forms are supplied in any quantity, free upon request. They should always be used in ordering matrices. This enables us to fill orders correctly and promptly.

Order forms can be supplied for regular characters, accents, fractions, logotypes and other special characters, border matrices and matrix slides, as well as for all foreign characters. Always use the correct type of order form. Use one sheet for each face and point size thereof.

It is important to know the Linotype model for which the matrices are intended, as well as the particular style of magazine used. This is necessary because various Linotype models differ in so far as milling of matrix lugs and magazine limitations are concerned.

FULL NAME OF FACE

The full name of the face should always be entered at the top of each order, thus

10 point Excelsior with Italic and Small Caps; or

10 point Excelsior with Bold Face No. 2; or

10 point Excelsior with Memphis Bold

We frequently receive orders, for example, 10 point Excelsior. As shown above, this face is made in various combinations, and in such cases it is difficult to fill the order correctly without asking for further information.

(4) USEFUL MATRIX INFORMATION

TRIANGLE NUMBERS

The system of marking matrices is shown in the illustrations on page 6. The triangle is the trade-mark of the Mergenthaler Linotype Company. When uncertain of the correct name of face, matrices may be ordered according to the numerical marking on the side. The triangle number should always be entered on the matrix order form. Always copy the marking exactly, as, for instance, 10 Δ 386. Do not choose a matrix at random or take one from a pi tray to obtain the triangle marking. Select a lower case n from the face for which matrices are wanted; if figures are ordered select a figure 5. The reason for this is that reference characters, quads, leaders, special characters and fractions in some fonts bear markings different from the alphabet character.

ACCENTED CHARACTERS

The standard accents shown on pages 81 and 82 will be supplied with any standard face at the regular sorts price. Characters not shown can be made to order at a special price which will be quoted on request.

There are two ways to accommodate accents on Linotype matrices—low cap accents and high cap accents. It is the usual practice to supply the low cap form of accented character so as to avoid the use of a special mold. The character is slightly reduced so that the diacritical mark and the character will not exceed the normal height of the cap character.

When low cap accents are considered undesirable, we can supply high cap accents. The extra space required by this style of accent on a cap character of full height makes it necessary to change the aligning point of the mold so that the accent will cast flush on the smooth edge of the slug without trimming off. This makes it necessary to cast a given size on a body two points larger than standard up to 14 point and approximately 4 points larger than standard on display faces. The high cap accent mold can be used on regular composition with or without accents and the extra space above mentioned will appear on the smooth edge instead of the ribbed edge of the slug.

High cap accents cannot be cast in display faces larger than 32 point, as full 36 point body is required for the cap character and its accent. Where caps only are used, high cap accents can be cast in display faces up to 36 point.