



TrueType font technology

for the Apple IIGS

By Alan Bird



POINTLESS

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POINTLESS

TrueType™ Font Technology for the Apple IIGS®

by Alan Bird



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Introduction

***T**his chapter introduces you to Pointless. In this chapter you'll learn about TrueType fonts and how Pointless works.*

W elcome to Pointless

Pointless is a font management utility for the Apple IIGS that incorporates TrueType font technology into the GS/OS System Software. Instead of the ragged text you sometimes get with your current fonts, *Pointless* creates smooth, crisp and clean text at any point size, both *on screen* and *on the printed page*.

To create high-quality text, *Pointless* uses TrueType fonts, the new font standard for the Macintosh and Microsoft Windows. This remarkable font technology allows text to be scaled to any size, with perfect clarity. With *Pointless* you'll never again see characters with the stair-step effect commonly called the "jaggies."

The *Pointless* program is a small application, called an INIT, that automatically loads when you start your System Software and operates in the background. *Pointless* is also a Control Panel Device (CDev) that lets you configure various settings from the GS control panel.

Pointless quickly installs in the GS/OS System Folder on your startup disk. Once installed, it operates transparently behind the scenes, so you'll continue to work with your IIGS programs as you always have. You'll continue to choose a font from a pull-down menu, and you'll still have an option of choosing a style, such as bold or italic. Any TrueType fonts you have installed using *Pointless* will appear in the Font menu along with your other standard bit-mapped fonts. Everything works the same; you just get better quality fonts.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

To use *Pointless* you'll need:

- An Apple IIGS with a minimum of 1.25 megabytes (1280K). Additional memory is recommended if you are using a high-resolution printer, such as the HP DeskJet.
- Apple GS System Software 5.0 or higher (including System 6.0).

Optional equipment:

- An accelerator card will enhance the performance speed of *Pointless* and all your other GS software.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT

At WestCode Software we're dedicated to creating outstanding software that's available at a reasonable price. Our goal is to ensure that you're satisfied with our products and service. If you ever have a question or problem with Pointless, call us for a quick solution. Please check the manual before calling — it may answer your question.

Our knowledgeable and friendly customer support staff is available to help you from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Pacific Time, Monday through Friday. Call or write to:

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Please include your product registration number on all correspondence and have it available whenever you call.

We're always looking for ways to improve our products and frequently add new features requested by our customers. We welcome and encourage your comments and suggestions for making our products even better.

Registration

Please take a moment now to complete the Registration Card included with this manual. Registration will allow us to notify you of updates and enhancements to Pointless and to tell you about new products from WestCode Software.

Remember, product support is available only to registered users.

ABOUT THIS MANUAL

There's a lot of information contained in this manual about Pointless, the GS/OS System Software, and about fonts. You don't necessarily need to understand all the technical aspects of Pointless in order to use it, but we're providing that technical information nonetheless. If you read this entire manual, cover to cover, you should understand all aspects of Pointless, including how it works and why it works.

If you are the type that likes to explore and start using software without first reading the manual, please feel free to skip ahead to the *Installing Pointless* chapter, which explains how to install Pointless.

Once you have installed Pointless, go through the *Using Pointless* chapter, which contains a brief tutorial on how to use Pointless — you'll see for yourself why TrueType outline fonts are superior to the bit-mapped fonts you've been using on your IIGS.

We strongly suggest that once you've seen Pointless in action that you return to this manual, and read it completely.

Are You Experienced?

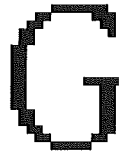
In this manual we assume that you are familiar with basic GS skills, such as selecting menu items. If terms such as *double-click*, *icons* and the *Finder* are new to you, please review the manuals that were included with your computer before reading this manual.

BIT-MAPPED FONTS AND THEIR LIMITATIONS

Let's take a look at where we've been, font-wise, before looking at the future.

All standard GS/OS application programs use bit-mapped fonts. In a *bit-mapped* font, each character is made up of a pattern of dots that are displayed on the screen when you type a character. Because bit-mapped fonts are created in specific sizes, usually 10, 12, 14, 18 and 24 point, they will appear crisp and legible only at these sizes. If you select any other size, you will get the "jaggies" – characters with a rough, stair-stepped appearance that makes the text difficult to read.

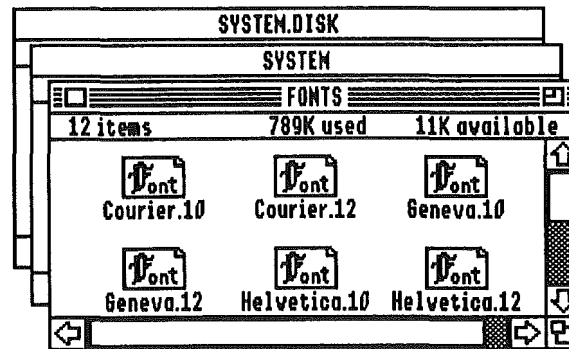
This happens when the GS tries to re-scale one of the existing bit-mapped fonts, by shrinking or stretching the dots that make up the font; usually with poor results.



Re-sized bit-mapped character with jagged edges

Several standard bit-mapped fonts, such as Courier and Geneva, were included with the Apple IIGS System Disk that came with your computer. These fonts are located within the **System** folder on your IIGS Startup disk in a folder named **Fonts**.

If you look at the **System/Fonts** folder on your startup disk, you'll immediately notice that there are many fonts in there that have the same name, but with different numbers (ie, Courier.10 and Courier.12).



FONTS folder on the GS System startup disk

The different numbers refer to the point size of a font. As a rule of thumb, a point is equal to about 1/72nd of an inch. For example, characters in a 72 point are about one inch tall.

Printers and Fonts

It's important to realize that printers have a greater resolution than the IIGS screen, so printed text requires fonts with more detail than the fonts used on the screen.

For instance, if you're printing on an ImageWriter II, the GS Print Manager will attempt to find a font that is twice as big as the one intended. Since the ImageWriter has twice the resolution of the GS screen, the font is printed at the proper size, but with a higher resolution.

As the resolution of the printer increases, so does its need for larger sized fonts. An ImageWriter I/Q requires fonts that are 3 times larger than the screen fonts, and an HP DeskJet requires fonts that are 4 times larger.

If you have bit-mapped fonts that are, respectively 2, 3 or 4 times larger than the font size you want to print, then your print-outs from bit-mapped fonts will look just fine. Unfortunately, large size bit-mapped fonts are just not that readily available. And, large fonts also require a large amount of disk space.

Fortunately, Pointless overcomes all these limitations — you'll never have to concern yourself again with point sizes, as Pointless will internally generate any size you need from a single TrueType font.

POINTLESS FONTS

Pointless allows the IIGS to use TrueType fonts, the industry standard font format used by the Apple Macintosh and Microsoft Windows 3.1. TrueType fonts can be referred to as *scalable* fonts or *outline* fonts.

In an *outline* font, each character is stored as a mathematical formula that describes the lines, curves and points that make up the shape of the character. Since an outline font is not a pattern of dots, it can be re-sized, while accurately retaining the shape of its characters.

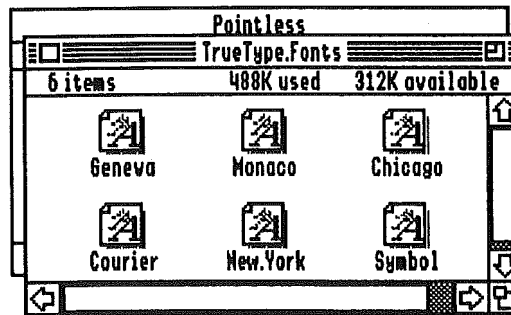


When a TrueType font is re-sized, Pointless enlarges or shrinks the outline to the selected size, and then converts it to a pattern of dots that most accurately fill the outline, for display on the screen or output on the printer.

Since a single TrueType font file can be used to create any point size, you'll no longer need many different fonts files for separate sizes — one TrueType file does it all — saving disk space and making font organization and installation much easier.

TrueType Fonts included with Pointless

Included with Pointless are several popular TrueType fonts. These fonts are initially located on the Pointless disk; however, unlike the bit-mapped fonts you're now using, Pointless will allow you to store TrueType fonts anywhere you wish, even on several different disks. This is a significant benefit to one or two drive users, who don't have a hard disk.



TrueType font files will appear in the Finder with a different icon than standard GS bit-mapped fonts, allowing you to readily tell the type of a font file.



Bit-mapped font file icon



TrueType font file icon

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU SELECT A FONT

Pointless operates transparently behind the scenes, so you'll continue to work with your IIGS programs as you always have. You'll continue to choose a font from a pull-down menu, and you'll still have an option of choosing a style such as bold or italic. Any TrueType fonts you have installed using Pointless will appear in the Font menu along with your other standard bit-mapped fonts.

The following steps and the flow diagram on the next page provide a visual summary of what happens when you select a TrueType font with Pointless installed.

- 1 First, a font and font size are selected.**
- 2 Pointless checks if a bit-mapped font is available.**
- 3 Pointless loads the TrueType font file from disk.**

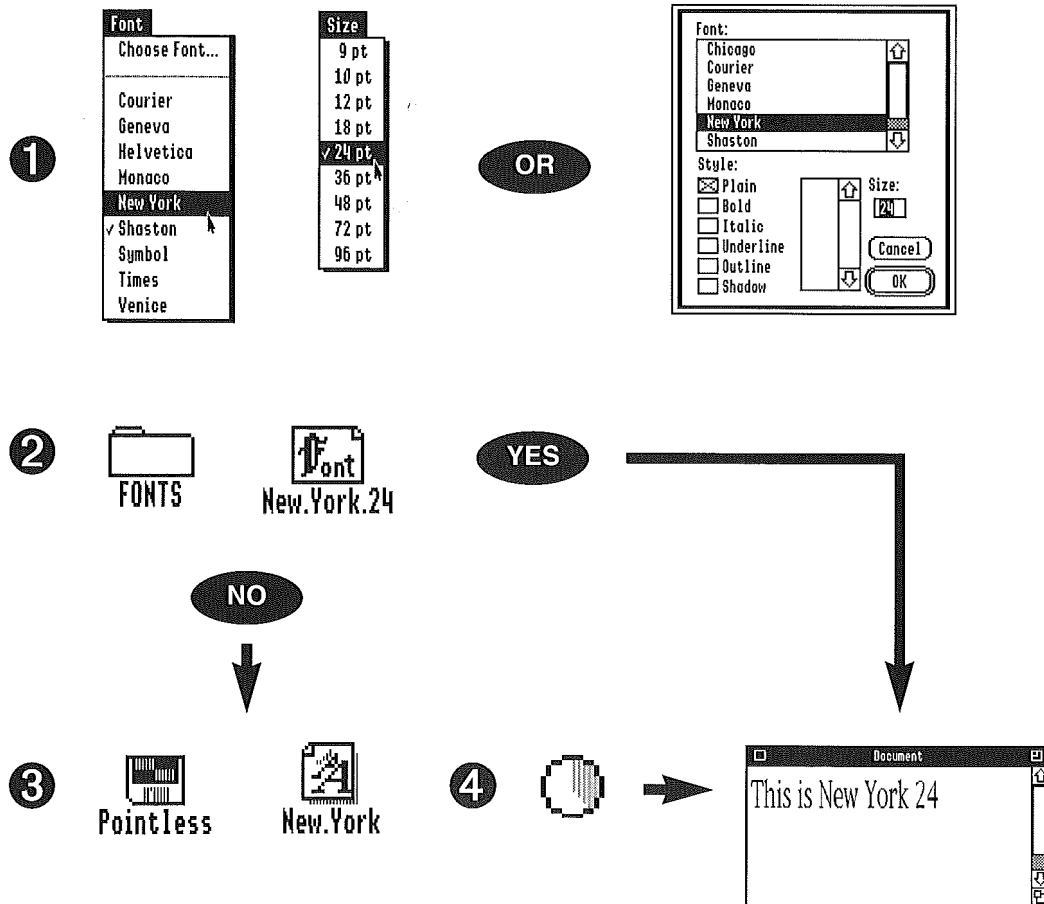
In most GS programs you select a font by choosing the font and size from the pull-down menus. Many GS programs also provide an alternate method of choosing the font, size and style from a single dialog window, as shown.

With a font and size selected, Pointless will first check if a regular bit-mapped font file is available in the selected size. If a bit-mapped font is available in the chosen size, then it will be used.

If a bit-mapped font file isn't available in the correct size, Pointless will load the font outline from the TrueType font file. At this point, depending on the disk location you have configured for the TrueType file, Pointless may ask you to insert the disk containing the font file, if it's not already in the disk drive or on your hard disk.

Pointless will leave the font file in memory, so the next time it's used, Pointless won't need to load it from disk (if you have sufficient memory), making access faster.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU SELECT A FONT



4 Pointless scales the font outline to the selected size.

After loading the TrueType file, Pointless will scale the font outline to the correct point size and create the font bit-map from the outline. It may take just a second for Pointless to create the font, or several seconds, depending on the size of the font (and your system speed). While Pointless generates the font, you'll see the Pointless cursor, as shown. The cursor indicates how far Pointless is in the process of creating a font.

This whole process happens automatically and takes just seconds. With the font created, it's ready to use for displaying and printing text.

INSTALLING POINTLESS

Now that you've learned about TrueType fonts and how Pointless works, you're ready to start using it. The next chapter explains how to install Pointless. The installation process takes only a few minutes.

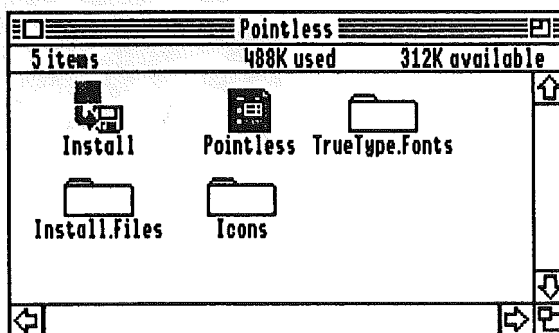
2

Installing Pointless

This chapter explains how to install Pointless on to your IIGS System Startup disk. Once Pointless is installed, it works as a built-in component of the GS System Software, transparently operating behind the scenes to generate high-quality TrueType fonts at every point size.

THE POINTLESS DISK

Pointless is supplied on a single 3.5" disk. Included on the disk is the Pointless Control Panel Device (CDev), a starter set of TrueType fonts, and an easy to use installer program.



The **TrueType.Fonts** folder contains several TrueType font files for use with Pointless (see the back of the manual for a printed sample of each typeface).

The **Install.Files** folder contains files needed during the installation process.

The **Icons** folder contains Finder icons for Pointless and TrueType font files.

INSTALLING POINTLESS

The Install program will automatically copy all the necessary files from the Pointless disk to your System startup disk.

In order to install and use Pointless, you must have at least 32K of free disk space on your System Startup disk. This should not be a problem if you are using a hard disk or

other type of high-capacity disk drive. So, if you have enough space on your System Disk, skip ahead to the *Using the Install Program* section in this chapter.

However, if you do not have enough space available, you will need to delete some unnecessary files from your System Disk.

Removing Unnecessary Files from the System Disk

Since you'll need to modify your IIGS System Disk, it is a good idea to make a copy of it before continuing.

Start up your computer with the copy of the System Disk, then delete the following files to make enough space to install Pointless. The files and folders listed here are non-essential items typically found on the IIGS System Disk. It's unlikely that you'll need to delete all these files, so start at the beginning of the list and remove only the necessary items, until 32K of space is available.



To delete a file from the Finder, drag it to the trash then select the **Empty Trash** option from the **Special** pull-down menu. Remember to check how much disk space is available after deleting each item.

.....

Non-essential system files (in order of likely removal preference)

TUTORIAL folder

This folder, if present, contains files that you probably no longer need. Remove the entire folder from your disk.

BASIC.System and BASIC.Launcher

These two files can be deleted if you don't plan to run BASIC programs while using this particular System Disk.

Font files

Many of the bit-mapped fonts contained within the **System/Fonts** folder are expendable since the Pointless TrueType fonts make them redundant. Start by removing the largest-size fonts of the font families that are included with Pointless (ie. Courier, New York, Geneva, Monaco, and Symbol). Continue to remove fonts from these font families until you have enough space available on your disk or until you have removed the entire family from the folder. If you still do not have enough room, continue to the next non-essential files listed.

Desk.Accs files

The only *essential* file contained in the **System/Desk.Accs** folder is the Control Panel **CtlPanel.NDA** file. If necessary, remove any other unneeded desk accessory files until you have enough space available on your disk or until you have removed all but the Control Panel file from the folder. If you still do not have enough room, continue to the next files listed.

CDevs files

You can remove many of the CDev files in the **System/CDevs** folder, however, you will lose the ability to access the function or options that they provide once deleted (many of these CDevs duplicate functions available from the text-based control-panel). Be sure not to delete the **DirectConnect** file.

When you have 32K of free disk space, you're ready to proceed with the installation.



Using the Install Program

The Pointless disk itself is not a bootable disk. In order to install Pointless, it will be necessary for you to boot up your IIGS System disk, then run the installer program on the Pointless disk by double-clicking on the **Install** icon.

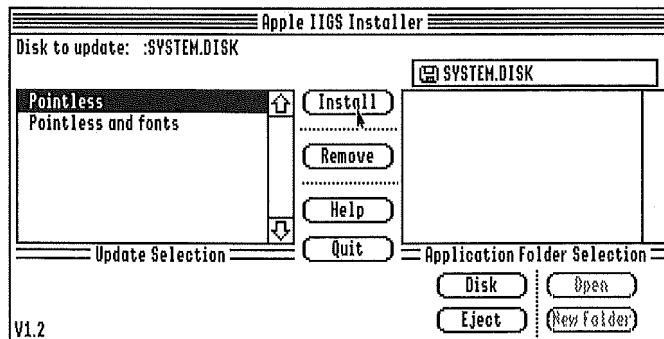
The first time you use the Install program, it will be necessary for you to personalize your *original* Pointless disk before installation is possible.

After the personalization window appears, enter your name on the first line, then press the *tab* key to move the cursor to the second line where you can enter your organization's name.



.....
 Please remember that Pointless is licensed for use on a single computer. If you plan to use Pointless on a network or on several computers, contact WestCode Software to obtain a network or site license.

After personalizing your Pointless disk, the standard GS/OS Installer window will appear. The upper left corner of the Installer window shows the **Disk to update**, which is the location where Pointless will be installed. This should be the volume name of your startup disk or hard disk. The box below this shows the installer update selections, with **Pointless** highlighted.



Hard Disk Installation

If you want to install Pointless on a hard disk, click on the **Pointless and Fonts** selection, then click on the **Install** button. The installer will copy both Pointless and the TrueType fonts to your hard disk. Pointless will be pre-configured to use the fonts copied to your hard disk.

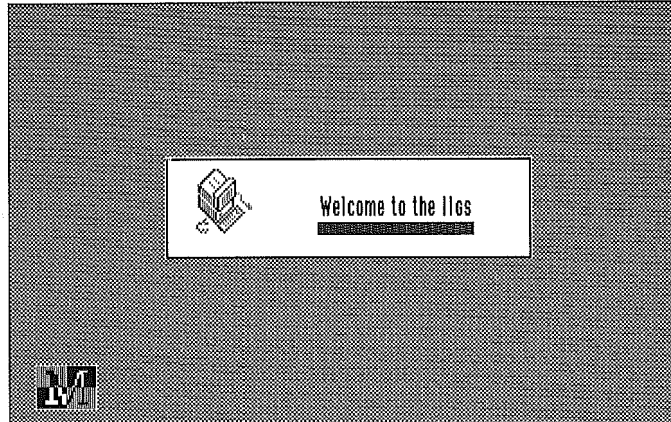
3.5" Disk Installation

If you don't have a hard disk, you can install Pointless on your 3.5" startup disk. Insert the disk that you use to startup your computer, normally the System Startup disk (if you have only one disk drive, remove the Pointless disk). Then click on the **Disk** button until the startup disk name appears next to **Disk to update**. Make sure that the **Pointless** selection is highlighted, then click on the **Install** button.

If you have just one disk drive, you will be prompted to alternately insert the Pointless and startup disks — you will need to switch disks several times. Since the TrueType fonts will not fit on the 3.5" startup disk, Pointless will be pre-configured to use the fonts on the Pointless disk. This means that whenever you use a TrueType font in any of your programs, the computer will prompt you to insert the Pointless disk. You can later specify a different location for these fonts, if you wish, by using the Pointless control panel to add the fonts at a different location.

To Activate Pointless Restart Your Computer

After successfully completing the installation, the Installer will tell you that "An update has altered system files on the startup disk." To restart the system and activate Pointless, click on the **Quit** button, then click the **Restart System** button. Pointless will load automatically when GS/OS starts up.



At the bottom of the GS/OS startup screen you will see the Pointless icon, verifying that Pointless is loaded and ready to use.

If the Pointless icon does not appear, there may be a compatibility problem with other Control panel files, such as screen blankers, or INITs on your startup disk. To determine if this is the problem, try removing any non-standard Control panel device (CDev) files installed in the **System/Cdevs** folder and INITs in the **System/System.Setup** folder by dragging these files into a temporary folder (create a folder called **Disabled CDevs**, for instance). Then restart your system. If Pointless loads correctly, re-add these files one at a time to determine which file is causing the problem.

Files copied by the Installer

If you're interested in what the Installer did, it copied the Pointless Control Panel Device (CDev) into the **System/CDevs** folder on your startup disk and the Pointless configuration file, **TrueType.List**, into the **System/Fonts** folder.

Additionally, if you selected **Pointless and fonts**, the TrueType fonts are copied into the **System/Fonts** folder on the startup disk.

USING POINTLESS

Now that you've installed Pointless, you're ready to learn how to use it with your GS software. Whether you're using a word processing program or a paint program, Pointless will make any text you type look great. The next chapter describes how to access and use TrueType fonts in any GS application.

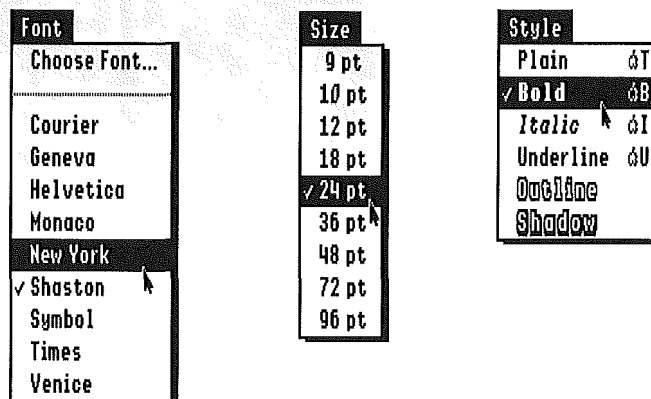
3

Using TrueType Fonts

*I*n this chapter you'll learn how easy it is to use Pointless TrueType fonts with your GS software. A simple tutorial will show you how to access TrueType fonts using your applications' menus.

THE FONT, SIZE AND STYLE MENUS

In most IIGS applications you select fonts from a standard **Font** menu; the font size, in points, from a **Size** menu; and the font style, such as bold or italic, from the **Style** menu, as shown below.



When you choose an item from one of these menus, it will be applied to the text currently selected in your document. If no characters are selected, any font changes will appear when you begin typing.

Font menu

The TrueType fonts installed with Pointless will appear in the **Font** menu along with your standard bit-mapped fonts. When you select a TrueType font from the menu, Pointless will automatically load it from disk (if it's not already loaded in memory) and create the currently selected point size.

Size menu

The **Size** menu shows the standard sizes available in the application, but remember that TrueType fonts will display and print in any size, so you're not limited to the standard sizes shown in the menu.

Style menu

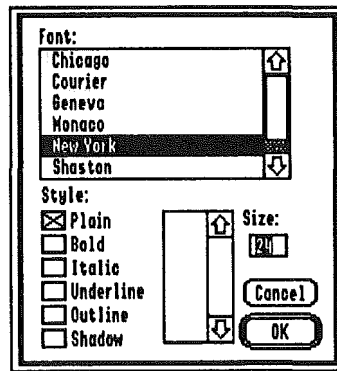
You can also select the font style, such as boldface or italic, from the application's **Style** menu.

With bit-mapped fonts, the GS mathematically derives the selected style from the plain, unstyled font; however, many TrueType typefaces actually have separate fonts for each different style, providing more precise and accurate styles than the computer generated styles.

For example, the Courier font included with Pointless contains both a plain and a boldface version of Courier. When you select Courier and apply the bold style, Pointless will use Courier Bold font instead of having the GS create the bold style from the plain Courier font.

Choose Font option

Most GS applications also have an option, usually called **Choose Font**, which allows you to select all font aspects (font, size and style) from a single menu item.



Choose Font dialog box

From this dialog box you can click on a font name, choose one or more font styles and enter non-standard point sizes (such as 11 point) in the size box.

The size scroll box shows the bit-mapped point sizes available with the selected font. Any sizes that have been generated by Pointless for the selected font will also appear in this box.



..... **Which Fonts are TrueType?**

Most users will have both TrueType and bit-mapped fonts installed. If you want to know whether a font is TrueType, type a line of text and try selecting a non-standard point size, such as 21. If the text appears smooth and readable, you're using a TrueType font.

.....

In the following tutorial, we describe the process of using these menu options in one of your GS applications to visually demonstrate the difference between standard bit-mapped fonts and the smooth, crisp text that TrueType fonts provide.

A POINTLESS EXERCISE

With Pointless installed, start up your favorite GS word processor. All word processing programs allow users to switch the font they are using, to change the point size of the font, and to change the style of the font.

NOTE: The examples in this tutorial use AppleWorks GS, but any standard GS program will produce the same results.

Once you've opened up a blank word processing document, look for the three menus that you'll want to pay special attention to: Font, Size and Style. Then, follow these steps:

- 1** Pull-down the **Font** menu and select the **Choose Font** option.

A dialog box will appear that lets you select all font aspects (font, style and size).

- 2** Choose the **Shaston** font by clicking on its name using your mouse.

If necessary, click on the scroll bar arrows to move through the list of fonts.

The Shaston font is a standard bit-mapped font that's on every IIGS System Disk.

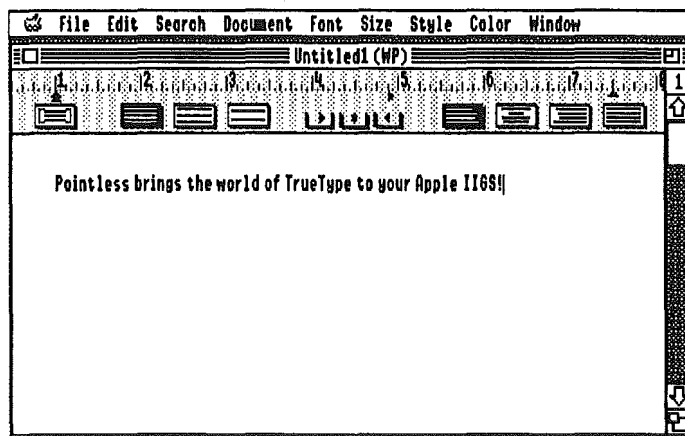
- 3** Make sure that the plain style is selected.

If it's not selected, click in the box next to the word Plain. An X will appear in the box.

- 4 Choose 16 point by clicking on the **16** in the size scroll box. You can also select 16 point by typing “16” in the size box.

Then, click on OK to accept the changes.

- 5 Next, type a few sentences in your blank document; it doesn't matter what you type (we typed something pointless).



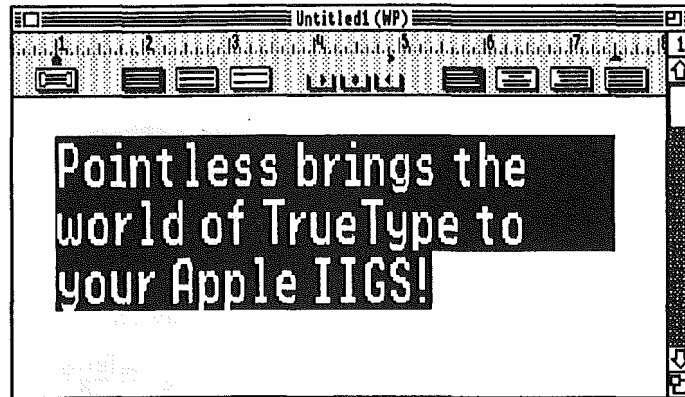
Notice that the text you typed with the Shaston font appears clear and readable.

- 6 From the **Edit** pull-down menu choose the **Select All** option, or type the keyboard equivalent command of *open-apple-A* (⌘-A).

This will select and highlight all the text in your document.

- 7** Pull-down the **Size** menu and choose **24 point**.

This will increase the size of the text in the document.



Notice that the text is not quite as smooth as it was with the smaller point size.

This happens because a standard bit-mapped font was not available for Shaston in the 24 point size, so the GS scaled whatever size was available for the Shaston font to 24 point by stretching the dots in the font.

Now, let's see what happens with a TrueType font.

- 8** If the text still isn't highlighted, go back to the **Edit** menu and choose **Select All**.

This will highlight all the text again.

9 From the **Font** menu choose the **New York** font.

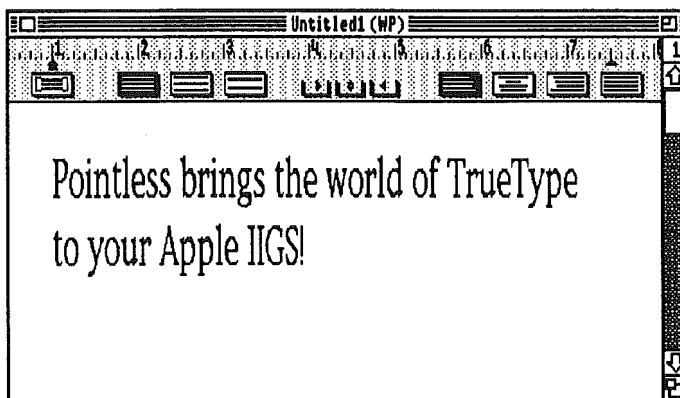
New York is a TrueType font included with Pointless.

If your Pointless fonts are stored on the Pointless 3.5" disk, you will need to insert that disk when prompted to do so.



After Pointless loads the font from disk, a round cursor will appear on the screen. Whenever Pointless re-sizes or creates a new TrueType font, this cursor indicates how far Pointless is in the process of generating the new font.

All the text will now change to the New York typeface.



Notice how sharp and clear the text appears, with no jagged edges and all the characters perfectly formed.

Now let's try it at even a larger size.

10 Use the **Choose Font** option to select a **48 point size**.

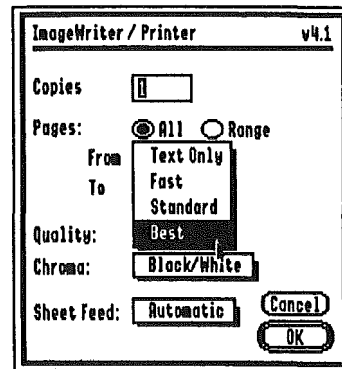
At 48 points, the text still appears smooth and crisp. Try other sizes, if you wish.

Even though the fonts look good on the screen, they'll look even better when you print them, because your printer has a greater resolution than the screen.

Go ahead and print your document.

11 Select the **Print** option from the **File** pull-down menu.

When the print dialog box appears, choose Best Quality, then click on OK to start printing. (Your printer may have a different print quality option than shown here. See Appendix A for information about printing options on other printers.)



ImageWriter II print dialog box

Once it's done printing, take a look — the high-quality text you see is the most significant benefit of TrueType fonts.

TYPING ALTERNATE CHARACTERS

Although the alphabet has only 26 letters, many font files contain up to 256 different characters. There are a number of alternate characters available, such as various math symbols (π \pm Δ) and symbols to represent American cents (¢) or British pounds (£).

These alternate characters can be entered directly from the keyboard by holding down the *option* key while typing other keys or by holding down the *option* and *shift* keys while typing. Some examples follow.

To type a copyright © symbol, hold down *option* while typing the letter g. To type a trademark symbol ™, hold down *option* while typing the number 2. To type a British Pound £, hold down *option* while typing the number 3. To type a Bullet symbol •, hold down *option* while typing the number 8.

Located at the back of this manual is a chart of all the characters contained within each TrueType font included with Pointless.

International Characters

Many fonts also include foreign language and punctuation characters, such as ä é ê ã and ÿ. These characters are entered with *two* keystrokes. First type the accent and then type the letter. Use the following *option* key combinations to select the accent symbol: *option-`* for ` , *option-e* for ' , *option-i* for ^ , *option-n* for ~ , and *option-u* for " .

For example, to type an ë, hold down the *option* key while typing a u (nothing will appear), then type an e (the character will then appear).

4

The Pointless Control Panel

The Pointless Control Panel device lets you configure various settings that control how Pointless works with fonts. This chapter describes the Pointless control panel options.

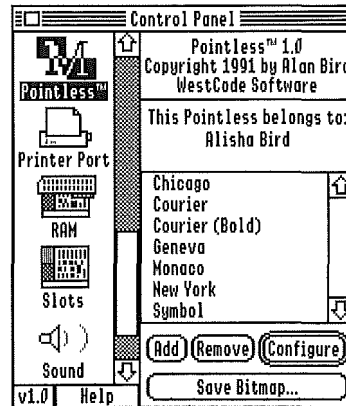
THE POINTLESS CONTROL PANEL

The Pointless Control Panel device (CDev) controls how Pointless works with TrueType fonts on your system. With the control panel you can select which TrueType fonts appear in the Font menu and configure which characters can be used in each font. In addition, you can save a font as a bit-mapped font file for use in non-GS/OS applications.



The control panel can be accessed anytime by selecting the **Control Panel** option from the **Apple** pull-down menu. In the scroll box at the left of the control panel window are various icons representing each control panel device.

To select Pointless, click on the scroll bar arrow to move down the list until you see the Pointless icon. Then double-click on the icon to bring up the Pointless window.



When it appears, you'll see a list of the TrueType fonts currently installed. Below the list are the four Pointless control panel options: Add, Remove, Configure and Save Bitmap.

To choose an option, click on its button, or type the keyboard equivalent command — hold down the *open-apple* key and type one additional key: ⌘-A for Add, ⌘-R for Remove, ⌘-C for Configure, and ⌘-S for Save Bitmap.

Here's a brief overview of each option:

Add Adds TrueType fonts to the Pointless font list, which controls what fonts will appear in the standard **Font** menu. This option also selects the disk location of each font.

Remove Removes a font from the font list, and consequently, the **Font** menu.

Configure Selects which characters in each font will be generated by Pointless.

Save Bitmap Saves a bit-mapped version of a TrueType font file in a specific point size.

These options are described in more detail in the sections that follow.

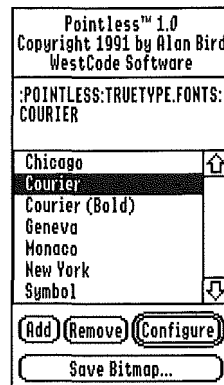
Any changes made with the Pointless control panel will be saved to disk, in the Pointless configuration file, when you exit the Control Panel by clicking in the close box in the upper left hand corner of the control panel window.

Fonts that are added (or removed) while you're inside an application will not appear in the application's **Font** menu until you quit and re-start the application.

Add

The **Add** option lets you add TrueType fonts to the standard **Font** menu that's used to select fonts in GS applications. Select this option to install additional fonts for use with Pointless.

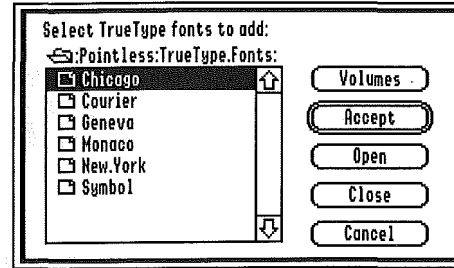
The scroll box in the Pointless control panel window shows the list of TrueType fonts currently installed in Pointless. By clicking on a font name in the list, Pointless will display the disk location of the font's file in the box above the list.



Pointless allows TrueType fonts to be stored anywhere. If you chose to copy both Pointless and the fonts when you installed Pointless, you'll see that the fonts are located in the Fonts folder on your System disk. Otherwise, they are located on the Pointless disk, as shown above.

To add additional TrueType fonts, click on the **Add** button.

The standard Get File dialog box will appear.



Click on the **Volumes** button until the name of the disk or partition that contains the new TrueType fonts appears. If the fonts are stored in a folder, open up the folder by double-clicking on the folder name.

To select a font file, click on its name, then press *return*. You can select more than one font by pressing the *open-apple* key while clicking on the additional files. And to select a range of files in the list, hold down the *shift* key while clicking on the last file you want.

-
- ▲ A font file may actually contain multiple styles (bold, italic, bold italic, and plain), which will appear as separate fonts in the control panel font list; however, they will only appear as a single font in the Font menu or Choose font list that's displayed within a GS application. Pointless will use the correct font based on the selected style.
-

If you add a font that is already installed at a different disk location, Pointless will remove the previous font from the list and install the replacement font with the new location.

Remove

To remove a font that you don't want to use, click on the font name in the list, then click on the **Remove** button. The removed font will no longer appear in the **Font** menu.



As a short-cut, you can also click on a font name then press the *delete* key to remove a font from the list.

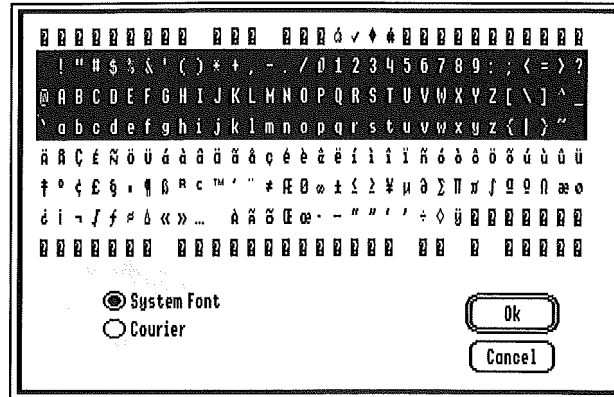
Configure

Every TrueType font can contain up to 256 different letters, numbers and symbols. Since the majority of IIGS users generally only require the upper and lower case characters, numbers, and standard keyboard symbols, we've provided a way for you to easily configure a font so that only the characters you need will be created when Pointless generates the font.

This will free up valuable RAM memory, which is especially important if you use memory intensive programs, such as AppleWorks GS, on a standard 1 megabyte IIGS. It also takes less time for Pointless to generate a font with fewer characters, making Pointless operate faster.

To configure a font, click on a font name in the list, then click on the **Configure** button. (As a shortcut, you can double-click on a font name).

The configuration window will appear showing all 256 characters that comprise a font.



You'll notice that in addition to all the standard letters, numbers and symbols there are many special symbols and foreign language characters. The currently selected characters will appear highlighted. These are the characters that Pointless creates when it generates a font.

Below the characters are two buttons that control how the characters appear in the configuration window. When you click on the **System Font** button the characters will be displayed using the standard System font (Shaston), making it much easier for you to see the characters. If you click on the font name itself, you'll see the actual characters in the font, but due to the small size of that window, it may be hard to see them clearly; however, this is the only way to determine which characters are really available in the font.

Many fonts do not provide all 256 characters. Any characters not defined in the font will appear as inverse blocks with a white question mark or as a rectangular box.

Selecting characters

To select the characters that you want available, highlight the characters by holding down the *shift* key and clicking on the characters that you want. You can also drag the mouse to select several character at once. Clicking on a character that's already highlighted will de-select it.

Once you're finished, click on the **Ok** button.

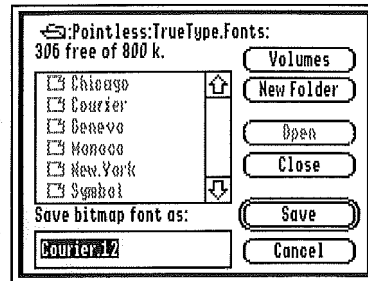
-
- ▲ **Important:** IIGS System Software versions before System 6.0 have a limitation that prevents Pointless from creating fonts that are larger than 64K. If you're using an earlier version of the System Software, it may be necessary for you to configure a font with fewer characters if you plan to create large point sizes with the font. This 64K limitation was fixed in System 6.0.
-

Save Bit Map

Will TrueType fonts make your older bit-mapped fonts obsolete? No, not entirely. Since Pointless works with GS/OS applications, you won't be able to use Pointless fonts 100% of the time, unless you run GS/OS software 100% of the time. That's why we've added an option that lets you save any TrueType font, at any point size, as a standard bit-mapped font. This option will benefit anyone who uses AppleWorks Classic with Beagle Bros' TimeOut SuperFonts or TimeWorks' Publish-It, both of which use GS bit-mapped fonts.

To save a TrueType font as a bit-mapped font, click on the font name in the font list, then click on the **Save Bitmap** button.

A standard Save File dialog box will appear and you'll see a prompt to "Save bitmap font as", with a file name box beneath.



The font file name will automatically appear, with a default file name extension of ".12", which indicates that a 12 point bit-mapped font will be saved to disk. To save the font in any other point size, just click right after the "12" and use the *delete* key to delete the "12", then type a new point size, from 1 to 255, and press *return*. (There must be a period between the font name and the point size).

Pointless will save the font in the indicated point sizes at the currently selected disk location. You can choose a different location by clicking on the **Volumes** button.

Another reason to use the Save Bitmap option

Even if you do use GS applications exclusively, you may still want to use this option to save TrueType fonts as bit-mapped fonts. When you're using a GS application and you choose a font, Pointless will first check to see if a bit-mapped font exists on your System Startup disk in the exact size and style you requested, and if that bit-mapped font is available, Pointless will use that font. If a bit-mapped font isn't available, then Pointless will load the TrueType font from disk and create the appropriate size font.

If you find yourself frequently using a font at a particular point size, it may actually be faster for you to save a bit-mapped copy of that font, in that point size, so that Pointless doesn't need to generate that particular size font during each session. As an example, if you always use a 24 point New York font with all your work, you'll save yourself a few seconds by saving a New York 24 point font to disk.

Bit-mapped fonts for use with GS applications must be saved in the the **System/Fonts** folder on your System Startup disk. Use the **Volumes** and **Open** buttons to select this folder.

Saving a bit-mapped font to save time is a matter of personal preference, as Pointless can, and will, create any point sized font in just a matter of seconds. If you have a TransWarp GS or a ZIP GS accelerator installed, it just might not be worth wasting valuable disk space to store bit-mapped fonts.

A

Printing Overview

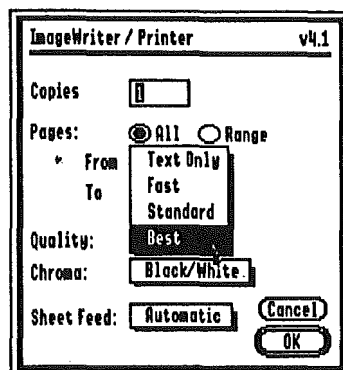
PRINTING OPTIONS

The printer drivers provided with the IIGS System software (for Apple-brand printers) or the drivers provided by third-party companies (for non-Apple printers), offer several options for controlling how a document will print, such as the page size and orientation; enlargement or reduction of the page; and ribbon selection with color printers. These options are explained in the manuals that came with your computer or with the print drivers, so we're not going to explain them here. However, we will review the options that directly affect the use of fonts in your printed documents — specifically the *print quality* and *aspect ratio* options.

Print Quality

The print quality option affects the appearance of the text in your printed documents.

This option is selected from the print dialog box that appears when you select **Print** from the **File** pull-down menu. Your print dialog box may have different options than shown here depending on which printer driver you have installed.



ImageWriter II Print dialog box

The standard ImageWriter II driver offers four print quality options: Text Only, Fast, Standard, and Best.

When printing with **Standard** quality, the printer will produce text that appears similar to the text displayed on the IIGS screen. This is because the printer is using a low resolution that closely matches the screen display resolution.

When printing with **Best** quality, the printer produces text with a more solid and smooth appearance. To achieve this, the printer uses a higher resolution with more closely spaced dots than the screen display. In order to maintain a proper size relationship to the screen display, the printer needs larger font sizes. For instance, the ImageWriter II printer has over twice the resolution of the screen (twice as many dots per inch), and therefore needs fonts that are twice the size of the screen fonts. These are referred to as 2x fonts. Other printers, like the ImageWriter LQ or HP DeskJet, use fonts that are three (3x) and four times (4x) the size of the screen fonts, respectively.

Some print drivers specify print quality selections using the printer's available print resolutions, in dots per inch. To determine approximately what size font will be required with these other settings, divide the printer resolution by 72 (screen fonts are based at 72 dots per inch). For example, if the printer is set to 150 DPI, then a 2x font will be used when printing ($150/72 = 2.08$).

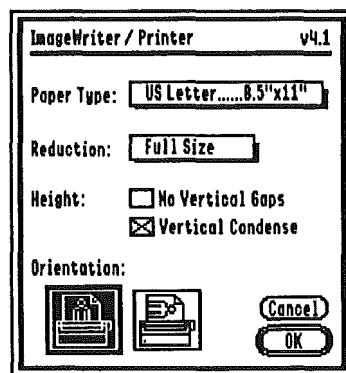
▲ **Printing on an Apple LaserWriter**

The LaserWriter printer driver supplied with the IIGS System Software does not utilize nor take advantage of larger fonts and therefore, does not benefit from Pointless. Instead, the printer uses its own built-in scalable fonts to generate text. This is fine when your documents contain fonts that are equivalent to those built-in fonts, however, when using other fonts, you will continue to get less than perfect print. As of this writing, there were no alternate printer drivers available to correct this problem.

Aspect Ratio

The aspect ratio affects the height and width of the text in your printed documents.

The aspect ratio is controlled from the Page Setup dialog box that appears when you select **Page Setup** from the **File** pull-down menu.



Page setup dialog box

The standard ImageWriter II driver has a **Vertical Condense** option, which can be clicked on or off, to select the vertical aspect ratio. Your page setup dialog box may have different options than shown here depending on which printer driver you have installed. Other drivers typically provide means to alter the vertical and horizontal sizing.

Keep in mind that TrueType fonts were designed to be displayed on Macintosh computers, which uses square display pixels. When printing, to maintain the same width/height proportions, the **Vertical Condense** box must be selected. If there is no Vertical Condense selection, set the horizontal and vertical sizing to correspond to the display ratio of the Macintosh.

PRINTING TIPS

Here are a few things to keep in mind when printing documents containing TrueType fonts. Most importantly, the print quality that you select will affect memory requirements, maximum font size and printing time of the document.

Memory Requirements

More fonts means more memory. The more fonts and font sizes used in a document means that more memory will be required to create and later print the document. A typical 10 point font, for instance, requires 3 to 4K of memory. Whereas, a 40 point font will require 20 to 30K of memory.

This is further compounded by the type of printer you are printing with and the print quality that is selected, since a higher print quality requires larger font sizes.

When printing with the highest quality, the print driver will request fonts that are 2, 3 or even 4 times the size of the fonts that you have used in your document. This might not seem too important when simply printing text with one 10 point font. But imagine printing a document that has several different fonts at various sizes. It isn't hard to understand how memory can be used up very quickly.

An out of memory condition is typically indicated with the substitution of the System's Shaston font for a font that you used in the document. Whenever the System is unable to complete a font activity because of a lack of memory or because it couldn't load the required font for whatever reason, it will utilize the default System font.

Other indications of insufficient memory may include a message describing the condition or a system hang up. If any of these conditions are the result of too many fonts, your only remedy may be to use fewer fonts, print in a lower quality mode or add more memory to your computer.

- ▲
 To minimize the amount of memory required by a TrueType font, take advantage of the configuration feature provided by Pointless that allows you to specify which characters Pointless will generate when creating a font. Many of the available characters within a font character set are never used in your documents, so there is no need to waste valuable memory with these characters.

Maximum Printable Point Size

The maximum character point size allowed on the GS is 255 points. With this in mind, it is important to understand that when printing in the highest quality mode available to your printer, the maximum printable point size for your printer will be less than 255 points.

For instance, the maximum printable point size for the ImageWriter II at **Best** quality is 127, since the print driver uses fonts that are 2 times the size of the fonts you are using in the document (127 times 2 is 254, so 127 is the maximum print size because of the 255 point limitation). Likewise, the maximum printable size at the highest print quality for the ImageWriter LQ and 24-pin dot-matrix printers is 85 ($85 \times 3 = 255$). And the maximum size at the highest print quality for the HP DeskJet/Writer, LaserJet, and similar printers is 63 ($63 \times 4 = 252$).

- ▲
 An indication that you have used a font that exceeds the maximum point size allowable will be the printing of tiny characters in place of the larger characters that you expected.

Printing Delays

The printing process may be delayed momentarily when you begin printing because Pointless must generate the fonts requested by the print driver before printing can begin. You will see the Pointless cursor being displayed as the necessary fonts are being generated.

The length of this delay will be relative to the number of fonts that must be created. However, once the required fonts are generated, there will be no further delays.

B

Application Limitations

LIMITATIONS OF POPULAR PROGRAMS

Although Pointless gives you the capability of creating very large size fonts up to 255 points, many GS programs impose restrictions on the maximum point size allowed within the program.

Among the most popular programs, we found these point size limitations:

AppleWorks GS	48 Points
GraphicWriter III	96 Points
HyperCardGS	80 Points
HyperStudio	125 Points
Platinum Paint	100 Points
BeagleWriteGS	48 Points

If you attempt to use a font larger than a particular program can handle, you may or may not be notified via a dialog box that you've exceeded the limit imposed by the program. If you attempt to create, for example, a 200 point font, yet it displays on screen at a smaller size, you'll know that you've exceeded the limit allowed by the program. This is not a limitation of Pointless; it is a limitation of the application program you are using.

C

Additional TrueType Fonts

WESTCODE TYPE COLLECTIONS

To add even more style to your projects, WestCode Software offers additional TrueType font disks for use with Pointless. Each package contains an outstanding collection of professionally-designed typefaces, selected for their superior printing qualities on the Apple IIGS. They make perfect additions to Pointless.

Please contact us for more details and pricing information.

MACINTOSH TRUETYPE FONTS

Pointless has the ability to directly read Macintosh TrueType font files. You can transfer fonts from a Mac disk, download fonts from an online service, or access them over a network.

Transferring Fonts from a Macintosh Disk

There are two ways to transfer TrueType fonts from a Macintosh disk to a ProDOS disk: the first requires IIGS System 6, which has a File System Translator for reading Mac disks, while the second uses the *Apple File Exchange*™ program.

Whichever method you use, make sure that the fonts being transferred are truly TrueType fonts and not bit-mapped fonts – Pointless will only recognize the TrueType variety.

System 6 HFS File System Translator

Apple IIGS System 6 software provides the ability to directly read Macintosh format disks via the HFS FST (File System Translator) included with the System disk. This provides the easiest way to transfer TrueType fonts from a Macintosh disk – just insert a Mac disk and copy the fonts to your hard disk. If you only have a 3.5" disk drive, you can directly access the fonts on the Mac disk, just like a ProDOS disk.

WORKS
GOOD
Save entire
Suitcase -
Pointless sorts it out.

To let Pointless know the location of the fonts you've transferred, use the Pointless control panel **Add** option to select the fonts from the hard disk or the 3.5" disk.

Using Apple File Exchange to Transfer Fonts

If you don't have System 6, you'll need access to a Macintosh and two Mac programs: *Apple File Exchange*™ and *StuffIt*™. On your IIGS you'll need the *ShrinkItGS* program. Apple File Exchange is included with every Mac system. StuffIt and ShrinkItGS are available from Apple User Groups and from online services, such as GENie®, CompuServe® and America Online®.

Apple File Exchange (AFE) transfers files from a Macintosh format disk to a ProDOS disk. However, since AFE can't transfer files containing system resources (and TrueType fonts are stored as resources), you'll first need to use StuffIt to create an archive file containing the fonts you want to transfer. The archive file can then be transferred to a ProDOS disk using AFE and then the font files can be extracted from the archive using ShrinkItGS.

TrueType fonts transferred from a Macintosh disk will have an undefined file type, so they will not appear with the correct icon in the Finder. After you install them with the Pointless control panel **Add** option, the file type will automatically be set to the correct type by Pointless.



TrueType fonts that are already installed in the Macintosh System file must be copied into a folder or suitcase of their own. Use Font/DA Mover to make a copy of the fonts and create a suitcase containing the fonts. If you are using System 7 on the Mac, simply hold down the *option* key and drag the desired fonts from the opened System file into a folder or suitcase.

.....

Accessing Fonts over a Network

If you have a Macintosh and IIGS connected on a network using AppleShare, you can directly access Macintosh TrueType fonts over the network. To do this, simply use the Pointless control panel **Add** option and open up the Macintosh volume. Locate and select the fonts in the same manner as you would with a GS disk or folder.

Downloading TrueType Fonts

If you own a modem and you're familiar with downloading files, you have access to the many additional TrueType fonts available on the online services. You can typically find TrueType fonts in the Macintosh and DeskTop Publishing sections on these services. Usually the fonts are stored in a Stuffit archive file (usually designated with the .SIT extension in the file name). You can download these files with your IIGS and then extract the fonts using ShrinkItGS.

ShrinkItGS is available from Apple User Groups and from online services, such as GENie®, CompuServe® and America Online®.

WHERE TO STORE ADDITIONAL FONTS

Additional TrueType fonts can be stored on separate 3.5" disks or anywhere on your hard disk (preferably in a separate folder, such as the **System/Fonts** folder). To make the fonts available for use with Pointless, you'll need to use the Pointless control panel **Add** option. You'll probably also want to use the **Configure** option to select only specific characters to be generated by Pointless. Please review *The Pointless Control Panel* chapter for more information.

D

Trouble-
shooting

ANSWERS TO TYPICAL POINTLESS QUESTIONS

Q. Anytime I highlight text and select a new font all I get is the Shaston font. What's wrong?

A. Whenever your GS is unable to load a font into memory, it will use the default system font, which happens to be the Shaston font, as a substitute. This is typically caused by a lack of memory. To free up memory, try using a smaller sized font or using fewer fonts in your document. Remember, you can also configure Pointless to only generate specific characters of the fonts character set (see *Configure* in Chapter 4). This can save a lot of memory. Ultimately, the best solution is to add more memory to your computer.

Q. None of my TrueType fonts show up in my program's font menu?

A. Pointless may not have been installed correctly or the TrueType fonts need to be added to the built-in font list by using the Pointless control panel's **Add** feature (see *Add* in Chapter 4).

Also, there are a few GS applications, such as PrintShop GS and Word Perfect GS, that use a non-standard font system. Pointless will not work with these applications.

Q. When I try typing a character all I get is a rectangular box?

A. There are two possible reasons for getting a missing character box when typing a character. The character may not be included in the selected character set as defined by Pointless. For the fonts included with Pointless, the selected character set is pre-configured as the 96 common keyboard characters. If the character you want is not part of that predefined set, you must configure the font to include that character (see *Configure* in Chapter 4).

The other reason for the missing character box is that the character is not defined in the current font and therefore does not exist.

Q. After re-configuring a font, none of my changes seem to be in effect when I exit the control panel and return to my current program?

A. If you made changes to Pointless while using a program, you must quit and restart the program before the changes will take effect. Don't forget to save your work before quitting the program.

Q. Why are my TrueType fonts not showing up with the TrueType files icon in the Finder windows?

A. The **Pointless.Icons** file was not properly installed into the **Icons** folder on the System disk. Simply drag the Pointless.Icons file from the Icons folder of your original Pointless disk into the System disk Icons folder or re-run the Pointless installer. Then, close and re-open the folder or disk that contains the fonts.

Q. When I try typing an alternate character using the *option* and *option-shift* keys all I get is the regular character?

A. Make sure that **Keyboard translation** in the GS control panel keyboard options is set to **Standard**.

Q. How can I make Pointless work with my AppleWorks or Publish-It! programs?

A. Though Pointless will not work directly with these applications since they are ProDOS 8 programs, Pointless can generate and save bit-mapped fonts, in any point size, from

TrueType fonts (see *Save Bitmap* in Chapter 4).

Once saved to disk, these fonts can be used with the AppleWorks TimeOut SuperFonts enhancement, Publish It!, and any other ProDOS 8 program that uses the standard GS bit-mapped fonts.

Q. When I type very small text or use a very ornate font, it's difficult to read on the screen?

- A.** Because the IIGS screen has a relatively low vertical resolution, small text and fonts with fine design elements will not display with much detail; there just are not enough pixels for Pointless to work with. These fonts will print with much greater detail, because the printer has a higher resolution than the screen.

When working with these type of fonts, you can always edit your text at a larger, more readable size, then change to the final size before printing.

Font Samples

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
 UVWXYZabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
 01234567

key	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
shift	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
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shift	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
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ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
 WXYZabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
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key	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
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shift	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
option	à	á	ç	ð	´	¸	©	·	^	Δ	·	¬	μ	~	ø	π	œ	®	£	†	”	√	Σ	≈	℥	Ω
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ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
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key	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
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shift	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
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Monaco

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
WXYZabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
0123456789!?\$&

key	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
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shift	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
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ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
 TUVWXYZabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
 012345678

key **A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z**

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

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READ ME – POINTLESS

Thank you for your purchase of **Pointless**.™ This sheet describes additional information and changes that have occurred since the manual was printed. Please read this sheet in addition to the manuals.

Conflicts with other Control Panel Devices

If the Pointless icon does not appear on the GS/OS startup screen or if you cannot access Pointless from the control panel, this may indicate a compatibility problem with other CDevs (control panel devices) or INITs installed on your System Disk. Try removing any non-standard CDev files in the **System/CDevs** folder and INITs in the **System/System.Setup** folder by dragging these files into a temporary folder (create a folder called **Disabled CDevs**, for instance). Then restart your system. If Pointless loads correctly, re-add these files one at a time to determine which file is causing the problem.

Memory Requirements

Pointless will work on a system with a minimum of 1.25 megabytes of memory. However, if you are using a high-resolution printer, such as the HP DeskJet, you will need additional memory to get the best results. In addition, if you're using System 6 or large applications, such as AppleWorks GS, which require a lot memory, we highly recommend that you have at least 2 megabytes of memory.

Printing at Large Point Sizes

When printing text at large point sizes (usually 40 point and higher), if the text prints with jagged edges or with the Shaston font instead of the correct font, this may indicate that you've encountered the 64K memory size limitation for fonts in GS/OS System 5.0 thru System 5.04. This problem was corrected with GS/OS System 6.0.

Print Quality

To get the highest quality text possible when printing, make sure that you have selected the **Best** print quality option in the Print dialog box. With certain printers the best quality option is represented by the highest printer resolution available, such as the HP DeskJet's 300 x 300 resolution. Also, select the **Vertical Condense** option, if available, to get the correct width-to-height proportions for the printed fonts.

New Phone Number for Customer Support

If you have questions about using Pointless, and you can't find a solution in the User's Manual or Update Booklet, you can contact our technical support staff directly by calling **(619) 487-9233**.



POINTLESS