Fonts: Terminology (4/93)

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TOPIC --

When using a TrueType font, Times Roman for instance, and I chose to
make it bold, does the printer select a true Times bold font? Or does it just
make the plain version bolder?

DISCUSSION ---

To work with fonts in your application, you need to understand some basic
font definitions. The following definitions are those used in the
LaserWriter Reference and Inside Macintosh manuals.

• Intrinsic font: A font whose characteristics are entirely defined in a
  FONT or NFNT resource. The plain style of any family is an intrinsic
  font. Other styles may or may not be intrinsic. QuickDraw or the
  LaserWriter can use an intrinsic font without modification.

• Derived font: A font whose characteristics are partially determined by
  modifying an intrinsic font.   A derived font might be one whose characters
  are slanted to achieve an italic style.

• Style: The characteristics other than size that uniquely define the fonts
  of a single font family. Times bold and Times italic are two styles of the
  Times font family.

Let us assume you are printing some italicized text. The LaserWriter
driver may choose an intrinsic font (if available) or modify the intrinsic
font to achieve the derived style. For example, Times Italic is an
intrinsic font and Avant Garde Book Oblique is a derived font.
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