



Zapf Dingbats

Designed in 1978 by Hermann Zapf. A dingbat is an ornament or spacer used in typesetting. As an extra way to decorate a document. The name dingbat was created by the old style metal-type print shops. Extra space around text or illustrations would be filled by “ding”ing an ornament into space then “bat”ing tight for inking.

Zapf Dingbats thanks most of its popularity to David Carson who published an article by Bryan Ferry in the magazine Ray Gun. He thought the article was so boring he decided it was unreadable and thus made it actually unreadable. However it is hardly ever mentioned that he printed the article in a normal font on the back of the unreadable article.

Hermann Zapf

Born 1918 and married to Gudrun Zapf – von Hesse.

For every detail of his life:
[Biography of Hermann Zapf](#)

Zapf Dingbats



Examples of Dingbats:

Dutchmen



Fleurons



Easter Art



Teddies



Smilly



Buttons



Feel inspired? [Create you own Dingbats!](#)