

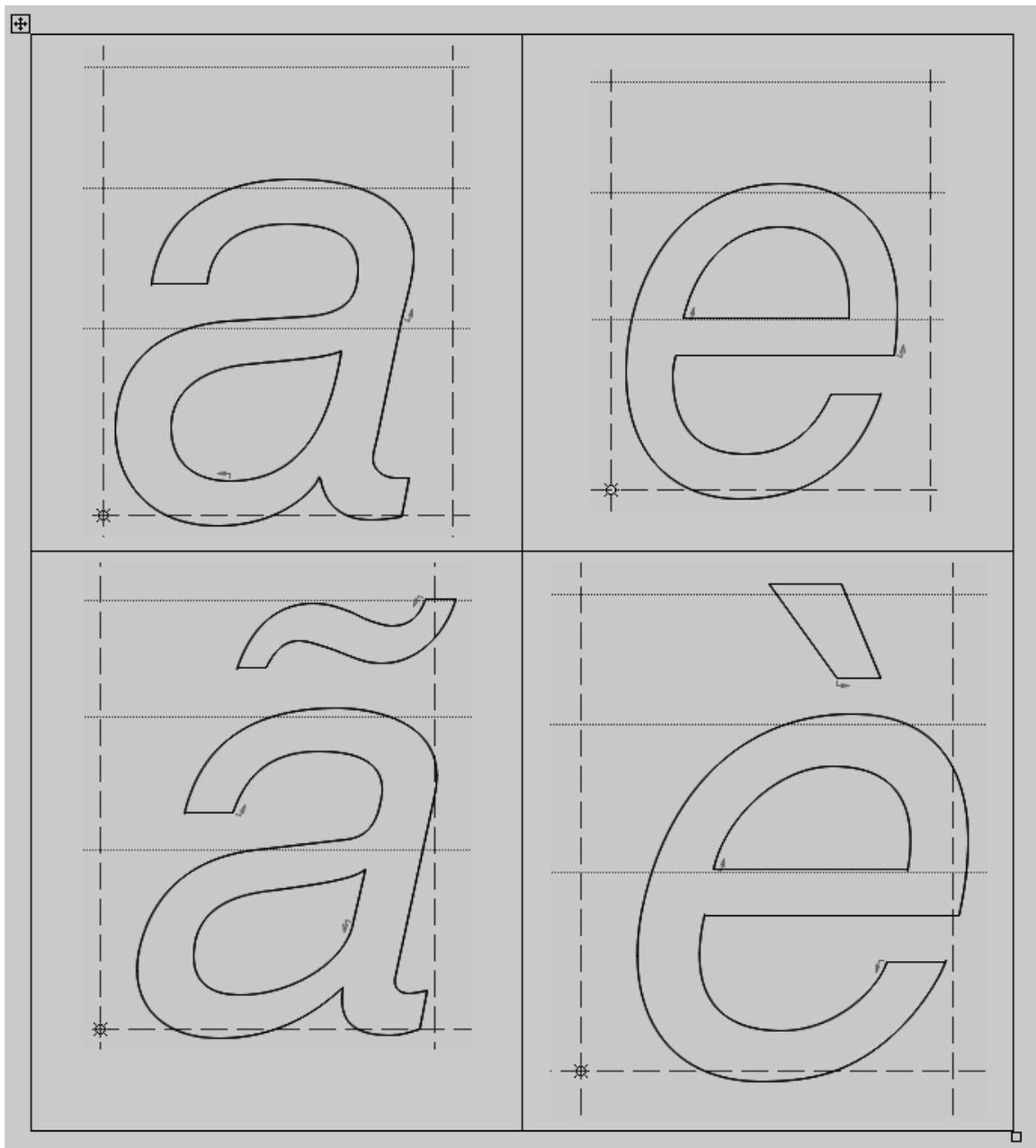
Helvetica Crap Forever

An pictorial report for font-buying dimwits

by Ulrich Stiehl, August 2010

<i>Mangel</i>	Mangel
<i>Mängelrüge</i>	Mängelrüge

One of the most striking peculiarities of most font buyers is the fact that most font buyers do not care about the most elementary quality requirements of fonts. Have a look at this picture:



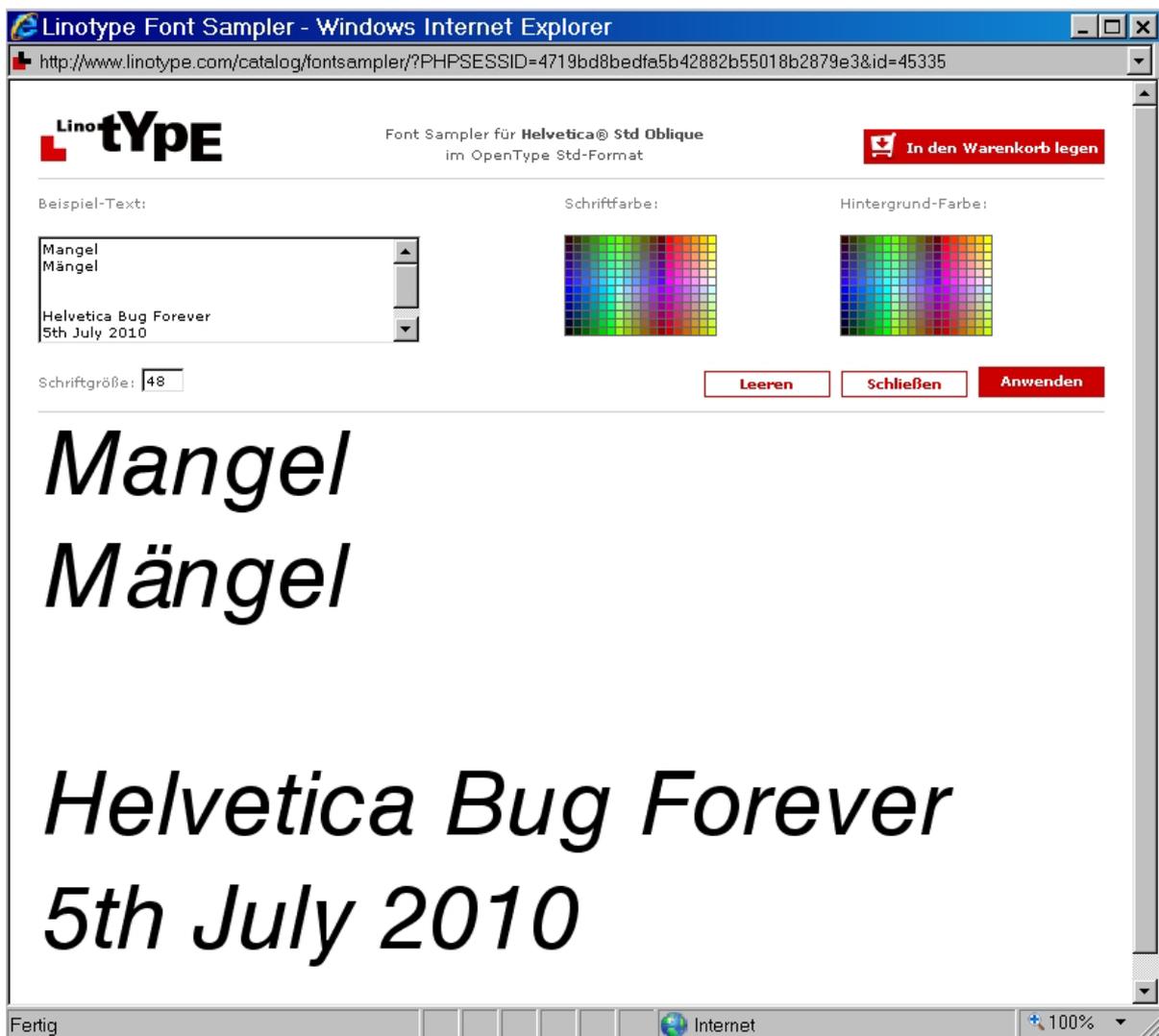
Although Helvetica is one of the most often used fonts, no font buyer ever noticed nor cared that since the introduction of OpenType fonts ten years ago in 2000, the accented letters of the italic and bold italic OTF versions of Helvetica have defective side bearings with the consequence that Helvetica Oblique and Bold Oblique are entirely useless for quality composition in languages with accented characters, e.g. German, French, Italian, Spanish, etc.

A font buyer may be compared with a dimwitted person who does not notice nor care that the black string on his left shoe differs from the white string on his right shoe. This explains, why thousands of dimwitted font buyers, who, during the past ten years, wasted money by buying the defective OpenType Helvetica, never noticed that the side bearings of the accented letters of Helvetica Oblique and Bold Oblique have been flawed by arbitrary, faulty shifts to the right.

There are promotional websites (e.g. <http://www.helveticaforever.com>), and promotional books (e.g. "Helvetica Forever: Geschichte einer Schrift" by Lars Müller), which do not dare to disclose these technical faults of Helvetica. But the Linotype Font Sampler reveals the defects of Helvetica:

Here is a font test for German:

Visit <http://www.linotype.com>, select Helvetica Std Oblique (or Bold Oblique) in OpenType format, then enter the test words "Mangel" and "Mängel" in German language, and you see what I mean (unless you belong to the dimwitted Helvetica font buyers, who never noticed this Helvetica defect):



Here is a font test for French:

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Linotype Font Sampler - Windows Internet Explorer". The address bar shows the URL: <http://www.linotype.com/catalog/fontsampler/?PHPSESSID=4719bd8bedfa5b42882b55018b2879e3&id=45335>. The page header includes the Linotype logo, the text "Font Sampler für Helvetica® Std Oblique im OpenType Std-Format", and a red button "In den Warenkorb legen".

The interface features three main sections: "Beispiel-Text:" with a text input field containing "default (sans accent)", "défaut (avec accent)", and "Linotype Bug Forever"; "Schriftfarbe:" with a color selection grid; and "Hintergrund-Farbe:" with another color selection grid. Below these is a "Schriftgröße:" field set to "48" and three buttons: "Leeren", "Schließen", and "Anwenden".

The main display area shows the following text in a bold, italicized sans-serif font:

default (sans accent)
défaut (avec accent)

Linotype Bug Forever

The browser status bar at the bottom shows "Fertig", "Internet", and "100%" zoom.

Here is a font test for Italian:

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Linotype Font Sampler - Windows Internet Explorer". The address bar shows the URL: <http://www.linotype.com/catalog/fontsampler/?PHPSESSID=ee382dfe7f20f93fa324cb95c95bbaee6&id=45343>. The page header includes the Linotype logo, the text "Font Sampler für Helvetica® Std Bold Oblique im OpenType Std-Format", and a red button "In den Warenkorb legen".

The interface features three main sections: "Beispiel-Text:" with a text input field containing "Tiramisù, Caffè", "Incapacità Línótýpé", and "Incapacità Mònòtýpè"; "Schriftfarbe:" with a color selection grid; and "Hintergrund-Farbe:" with another color selection grid. Below these is a "Schriftgröße:" field set to "48" and three buttons: "Leeren", "Schließen", and "Anwenden".

The main display area shows the following text in a bold, italicized sans-serif font:

Tiramisù, Caffè
Incapacità Línótýpé
Incapacità Mònòtýpè

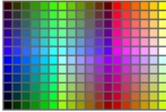
The browser status bar at the bottom shows "Fertig", "Internet", and "100%" zoom.

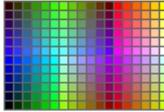
Here is a font test for Spanish:

Linotype Font Sampler - Windows Internet Explorer
http://www.linotype.com/catalog/fontsampler/?PHPSESSID=ee382dfe7120f93fa324cb95c95baee6&id=45343

Linotype Font Sampler für Helvetica® Std Bold Oblique
im OpenType Std-Format [In den Warenkorb legen](#)

Beispiel-Text:

Schriftfarbe: 

Hintergrund-Farbe: 

Schriftgröße: [Leeren](#) [Schließen](#) [Anwenden](#)

***estúpido, catastrófico
escoria de la tipografía
Hélvéticà Línótýpíká***

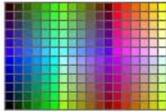
Internet 100%

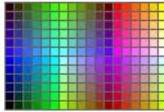
Herunterladen von Helvetica® Bold Oblique - Linotype.com - Windows Internet Explorer
http://www.linotype.com/de/13449/helvicaboldoblique-schrift.html

Linotype Font Sampler - Windows Internet Explorer
http://www.linotype.com/catalog/fontsampler/?PHPSESSID=36cfaac2fd70f151b445a8b8cee9bd30&id=45343

Linotype Font Sampler für Helvetica® Std Bold Oblique
im OpenType Std-Format [In den Warenkorb legen](#)

Beispiel-Text:

Schriftfarbe: 

Hintergrund-Farbe: 

Schriftgröße: [Leeren](#) [Schließen](#) [Anwenden](#)

***Señor Wildenberg
Dirección General
Hêlvêticâ Crâp fôr Evêr***

Fertig Internet 100%

This is the solution to the defective Helvetica:

Señores: *Ésta es la solución* (Helvetica)

Señores: *Ésta es la solución: Arial*

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Linotype Font Sampler for Arial® Std Bold Italic. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <http://www.linotype.com/catalog/fontsampler/?PHPSESSID=42371e619004c2975684bb6ddca37aeb&id=164784>. The page features the Linotype logo and a title "Font Sampler für Arial® Std Bold Italic im OpenType Std-Format". A red button labeled "In den Warenkorb legen" is visible. The "Beispiel-Text:" field contains the text "Señores Linotype", "Ésta es la solución", and "Arial Italic". The "Schriftgröße:" is set to 48. Below the controls, the text "Señores Linotype", "Ésta es la solución", and "Arial Italic" is displayed in a large, bold, italicized font. The browser's status bar at the bottom shows "Fertig" and "Internet" with a 100% zoom level.

Ten years and one month after

Ten years ago, the OpenType format was introduced, and thereafter, the Helvetica PostScript fonts were converted to the OTF format. During this font conversion, the side-bearing errors were made.

One month ago, at the website <http://www.typophile.com/node/71858>, I described the side-bearing bugs contained in the OpenType version of the standard Helvetica font which has been sold during the past ten years to innumerable font-buying dimwits who waste money on faulty Linotype fonts.

Frank Wildenberg, who runs the Linotype outfit, often visits the above Typophile website and also my own font forgers website <http://www.sanskritweb.net/forgers>.

One month ago, Frank Wildenberg also read the above Typophile thread, but he did not care to remove these Helvetica bugs. Why should he bother to correct these defective Helvetica fonts?

None of the font-buying dimwits, who buy Linotype fonts, ever noticed the technical faults of the defective OpenType Helvetica fonts, or of any other defective Linotype fonts, for that matter.

None of the dimwitted German font buyers, none of the dimwitted French font buyers, none of the dimwitted Italian font buyers, none of the dimwitted Spanish font buyers ever noticed that Linotype has been selling innumerable defective Helvetica fonts during the past ten years.

Therefore, Bruno Steinert and Frank Wildenberg never cared about removing the Helvetica bugs, since they know that the dimwits buying Linotype fonts will never notice such Linotype font bugs.

Helvetica Bugs Forever

Linotype Font Sampler - Windows Internet Explorer
http://www.linotype.com/catalog/fontsampler/?PHPSESSID=a99daf5deb45d8490d9a2cb0beb2bfb1&id=45335

Linotype
by Monotype Imaging

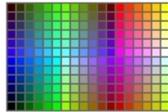
Font Sampler für **Helvetica® Std Oblique**
im OpenType Std-Format

[In den Warenkorb legen](#)

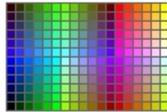
Beispiel-Text:

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1st Ôct. 2010 Thrée Mônths Åfter

Schriftfarbe:



Hintergrund-Farbe:



Schriftgröße:

[Leeren](#) [Schließen](#) [Anwenden](#)

*Hélvéticâ Bügs Fõrëvêr Ånd Êvër
1st Ôct. 2010 Thrée Mônths Åfter*