



# Blankenhorn Script

## Styles

# Blankenhorn Script

## Separate PDF

# Blankenhorn Brush Blankenhorn Formal

**Encoding** Latin Extended

**File Formats** Opentype CFF, Truetype, WOFF, WOFF2

**Design** Tobias-David Albert (2014 – 2019)

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## About the Font

LL Blankenhorn is a family of three script fonts that emulate German lettering styles from the post-war era. It closely references the work of Fritz Blankenhorn (1921–2011) as in-house designer at Deutscher Bücherbund. His distinctive hand-lettering style debuted beautifully on the cover of Max Frisch's *Homo Faber* in 1957. Following 1962, it established itself as a trademark for the best-selling novels of Johann Mario Simmel (1924–2009), one of Germany's most commercially successful writers of the postwar era.

Finding the right approach to transpose these dynamic handwritten letters into fixed digital form proved difficult. At first, a traced version allowed James Goggin to evoke Blankenhorn's style, yet it was static and lacked the energy of the original. Furthermore, vector re-creation of the original fluid hand-rendered letter combinations proved laborious and produced awkward results.

Only a few years after Blankenhorn's death did we realise that, in order for the project to advance, it needed the skills of a qualified calligrapher, preferably one with experience in digital type. In 2014, we approached Tobias-David Albert, who had been aware of Blankenhorn's distinctive lettering style and, after careful evaluation of his numerous book covers, identified three threads to elaborate on. His digital 'handwriting' pushed the project in a promising direction, and over the course of several years, he emulated the

many missing elements required for exceptionally wide-reaching language support.

OpenType allows for multiple sets of alternate characters and letter combinations, joined together as ligatures, to be included in a font. In order for LL Blankenhorn to come alive as a dynamic script font, Tobias drew more than 5000 such unique glyph combinations, making sure that each of the brush-painted letters would subtly adjust their shape and position to each of their potential neighbours (and, even once he was done, he then went back to work on the kerning). The result is a particular kind of digital script lettering which, much like hand writing, is composed on the fly. The typeface doesn't so much consist of individual letters, but rather of letter combinations, syllables and words. Only when applied does it take on its final shape.

While it is supporting the full set of Latin languages (as listed in the Technical Information section), the designer carefully optimised LL Blankenhorn in terms of the more elaborate and complex diacritics of these following 26 languages: Afrikaans, Albanian, Catalan, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Hungarian, Icelandic, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish, and Turkish.







## Glyph Overview

Ligatures  
Swash Feature  
- Final Form

ğğ ğğ ğğ ü ü ü ü ü ü in in in in in in in in in in ix ix  
ll ll ll nn nn of of of of of ol ol ol ol ol ol ol ol ol ol  
on on on on on on on on on on oo oo oo oo oo oo oo oo oo oo  
ôo ôo ôo ôo ôo ôo ôo ôo ôo ôo ôo ôo ôo ôo ôo ôo ôo ôo  
ôr ôr ôr ôr ôr ôr ôr ôr ôr ôr ôr ôr ôr ôr ôr ôr ôr ôr  
ou ou ou ou ou ou ou ou ou ou oz oz oz oz oz oz oz oz oz oz  
ÿ ÿ ss ss ss ss ll ll ll ll ll ll ll ll ll ll ll ll ll ll ll ll  
üü üü üü ÿ ÿ ÿ ÿ ÿ ÿ ÿ ÿ ÿ ÿ

## Layout Features

Standard  
Ligatures  
Per Default

Gottfried	Gottfried
Soft Eis	Soft Eis
Schoolfriend	Schoolfriend
Hurra	Hurra
Hammer	Hammer
Etrusker	Etrusker
Frühling	Frühling
Kukačka	Kukačka
oöverträffat	oöverträffat
Privée	Privée

Swash  
Feature

unmöglich	unmöglich
fragend	fragend
Beer	Beer
ist	ist
arc-en-ciel	arc-en-ciel
ivairiapusiška	ivairiapusiška
Privée	Privée
înrâuriri	înrâuriri
Može i bez kavijar	Može i bez kavijar

Arbitrary  
Fractions

23 5/12 × 32 3/4	23 5/12 × 32 3/4
6 2/5 × 9 4/5	6 2/5 × 9 4/5
90 2/3	90 2/3

## LL Blankenhorn Script – Layout Features

Contextual  
Multiplication  
Glyph

1x1

14x36 cm

1x1

14x36 cm

Superscript

North<sup>1</sup>, East<sup>2</sup>

North<sup>1</sup>, East<sup>2</sup>

Subscript

H<sub>20</sub>

H<sub>20</sub>

Ordinals

1<sup>a</sup> 1<sup>o</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup>

1<sup>a</sup> 1<sup>o</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup>

Stylistic Set 1  
Uppercase  
Alternates  
D, F, H, I, K, M,  
N, P, R, S, T, V,  
W, Y

Dunja Dracula Dřeno

Fantasia Finka Fjord

Hurra Hrabal Hřeb

Insel İcky

Kitty Keriet

München

Niemand

Protokol

Rendezvous Řadiče

Stefanie Šably

Tokio Tiha Tjorten

Vaterland Vřava

Wind Writer

Yacht

Dunja Dracula Dřeno

Fantasia Finka Fjord

Hurra Hrabal Hřeb

Insel İcky

Kitty Keriet

München

Niemand

Protokol

Rendezvous Řadiče

Stefanie Šably

Tokio Tiha Tjorten

Vaterland Vřava

Wind Writer

Yacht

Stylistic Set 2  
Uppercase  
Alternates  
D, I, M, N, R, S

Dunja Dracula Dřeno

Insel İcky

München

Kilichan

Dunja Dracula Dřeno

Insel İcky

München

Kilichan

Stylistic Set 3:  
Alternate r

Das Herz einer Frau

Hurra Geschir

ruhig ruhig

Paar Paar

Traum Dream

Etrusker Affront

Hřati Åhrår

Das Herz einer Frau

Hurra Geschir

ruhig ruhig

Paar Paar

Traum Dream

Etrusker Affront

Hřati Åhrår

Stylistic Set 4:  
Alternate a\_u  
Alternate e\_i

Frau Frau

aus der Traum

Matthäus

Skipaitgerö

sei einer keiner

Frau Frau

aus der Traum

Matthäus

Skipaitgerö

sei einer keiner

# LL Blankenhorn Script – Layout Features

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Stylistic Set 5:  
Alternate k

*Dunkel*

*Brücke*

*Päälikkö*

*kamen*

*Äikem*

*Dunkel*

*Büicke*

*Päälikkö*

*kamen*

*Äikem*

---

Stylistic Set 6:  
Alternate d

*die Liebenden*

*die Liebenden*

---

Stylistic Set 7:  
Alternate h

*Ich gestehe*

*Ich gestehe*

No Open Type Features

Mutter

Default Ligatures

Mutter

Stylistic Alternates

-SS01  
Alt. M

Mutter

-SS02  
Alt. M

Mutter

-SS04  
Alt. r

Mutter

No Open Type Features

Brotzeit

Default Ligatures

Brotzeit

Stylistic Alternates

-SS03  
Alt. i

Brotzeit

-SS04  
Alt. r

Brotzeit

-Swash  
Feature

Brotzeit

73 Points  
- Partially Swash  
Feature  
- Word spacing  
reduced  
- Alternate l

*It Can't Always Be Caviar*

94 Points  
- Partially Swash  
Feature  
- Word spacing  
reduced  
- Alternate r

*Eiaina kaviaaria*

68 Points  
- Swash Feature  
- Word spacing  
reduced

*On n'a pas toujours du caviar*

90 Points  
- Swash Feature  
- Word spacing reduced

*Non è sempre caviale*

59 Points  
- Partially Swash  
Feature  
- Word spacing  
reduced

*Het kan niet altijd kaviaar zijn*

145 Points  
– Alternate P, C  
– Swash Feature

Dépêchés et  
Caviar

---

55 Points  
– Alternate N, r  
– Swash Feature

No sólo  
de caviar vive  
el hombre

---

73 Points  
– Alternate  
A, J, K, kk  
– Swash Feature

Ikke Altid  
Kaviar

160 Points

- Partially Swash Feature
- Word spacing reduced
- Individual line spacing

Es muß  
nicht immer  
Kaviar sein

Blankenhorn Script  
105 pt

Bis zur bittereren Neige

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Blankenhorn Brush

Liebe ist nur ein Wort

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Blankenhorn Formal

Wir heißen euch hoffen

Blankenhorn Script  
30 pt

*Les parents de Simmel étaient originaires de Hambourg. Son père juif Walter Simmel était chimiste, sa mère Lisa, née Schneider, était monteuse à la société cinématographique Wien-Film. Son père s'est enfui à Londres pour échapper aux nazis, tandis que presque tous ses*

Blankenhorn Brush

*Simmels Eltern stammten aus Hamburg. Sein jüdischer Vater Walter Simmel war Chemiker, seine Mutter Lisa, geb. Schneider, Lektorin bei der Filmgesellschaft Wien-Film. Sein Vater floh vor den Nationalsozialisten nach London, während fast alle*

Blankenhorn Formal

*Simmel'in ailesi Hamburg'dan geldi. Yahudi babası Walter Simmel bir kimyagerdi, annesi Lisa, née Schneider, film şirketi Wien-Film'de editördü. Babası Nazilerden Londra'ya kaçarken, baba tarafındaki akrabalarının neredeyse tamamı Naziler tarafından katledildi.*

# Technical Information

Latin	Afrikaans	Koyra Chiini	Soga
	Albanian	Koyraboro Senni	Somali
	Asturian	Langi	Spanish
	Asu	Latvian	Swahili
	Basque	Lithuanian	Swedish
	Bemba	Lower Sorbian	Swiss German
	Bena	Luo	Tachelhit
	Breton	Luxembourgish	Taita
	Catalan	Luyia	Tasawaq
	Chiga	Machame	Teso
	Colognian	Makhuwa-Meetto	Turkish
	Cornish	Makonde	Upper Sorbian
	Croatian	Malagasy	Uzbek
	Czech	Maltese	Volapük
	Danish	Manx	Vunjo
	Dutch	Meru	Walser
	Embu	Morisyen	Welsh
	English	North	Western Frisian
	Esperanto	Ndebele	Yoruba
	Estonian	Northern Sami	Zarma
	Faroese	Norwegian Bokmål	Zulu
	Filipino	Norwegian	
	Finnish	Nynorsk	
	French	Nyankole	
	Friulian	Oromo	
	Galician	Polish	
	Ganda	Portuguese	
	German	Prussian	
	Gusii	Quechua	
	Hungarian	Romanian	
	Icelandic	Romansh	
	Igbo	Rombo	
	Inari Sami	Rundi	
	Indonesian	Rwa	
	Irish	Samburu	
	Italian	Sango	
	Jola-Fonyi	Sangu	
	Kabuverdianu	Scottish Gaelic	
	Kabyle	Sena	
	Kalaallisut	Serbian	
	Kalenjin	Shambala	
	Kamba	Shona	
	Kikuyu	Slovak	
	Kinyarwanda	Slovenian	

Open Type	aalt	Access All Alternates	ss01	Stylistic Set 01
Features	cswl	Contextual Swash	ss02	Stylistic Set 02
	dnom	Denominators	ss03	Stylistic Set 03
	frac	Fractions	ss04	Stylistic Set 04
	liga	Standard Ligatures	ss05	Stylistic Set 05
	numr	Numerators	ss06	Stylistic Set 06
	ordn	Ordinals	ss07	Stylistic Set 07
	salt	Stylistic Alternates	sup	Superscript
	sinf	Scientific Inferiors		

Codepage Please refer to the Technical Document

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