

Smithee

Design:
Alex Chavot

Styles:
Extra Condensed Light
Extra Condensed Regular
Extra Condensed Medium
Extra Condensed Bold
Extra Condensed Black

Formats:
OpenType OTF (Mac & PC)
EOT, Woff, Woff2 (web)

Published:
2013-2020

The basis for Smithee was found in an old French foundry's wood type specimen in the archives of the Musée de l'imprimerie et de la communication graphique, in Lyon. Although there was no mention of the foundry's name to be found (the specimen's cover only stated "Caractères d'Affiches – Bois et Galvanos"), the variety of available styles all fell under the rather utilitarian generic designation "Série A". Its mechanical – and rather straight forward – shapes (b, d, p, q...) balanced with some subtle, more organic, twists ("a", "s") immediately caught our eyes. In the wide range of displayed styles, we chose to develop the most condensed one which strongly reminded us of Edward Wright's titling for Whitechapel Art Gallery's 1956 exhibition "This Is Tomorrow" as well as the archetypal lines of condensed credits at the bottom of most movie posters. "Série A" thus became "Smithee", in reference to "Alan Smithee" – a commonly used pseudonym for directors whose film was clearly taken away from them and heavily recut against their will in ways that completely altered said film. Smithee expands into a 5 weights family to address a wide range of typographic needs. Filled with a bunch of alternate letters, Smithee's industrial personality subtly shift to a more friendly tone as it gets bolder and thanks to its quirky shapes: a straight-sided condensed sans for expressive and daring typographic treatments!



Family overview

5 styles

Smithee Extra Condensed Light

Smithee Extra Condensed Regular

Smithee Extra Condensed Medium

Smithee Extra Condensed Bold



Smithee Extra Condensed Black



+

Extra Condensed Light
– 170 pt

PSEUDONYMS

+

Extra Condensed Regular
– 170 pt

FICTITIOUS

+

Extra Condensed Medium
– 170 pt

DIRECTOR

+

Extra Condensed Bold
– 170 pt

CAMERA

Extra Condensed Black
– 170 pt

FAKERS

+

Extra Condensed Light
– 170 pt

Industrialized

+

Extra Condensed Regular
– 170 pt

Normatives

+

Extra Condensed Medium
– 170 pt

Structure

+

Extra Condensed Bold
– 170 pt

Modular

Extra Condensed Black
– 170 pt

Normal

+

Extra Condensed Light
– 90pt

**ALAN SMITHEE IS AN
OFFICIAL PSEUDONYM**

+

Extra Condensed Light
– 54pt

**USED BY FILM DIRECTORS WHO
WISH TO DISOWN A PROJECT. COINED
IN 1968 AND USED UNTIL IT WAS**

+

Extra Condensed Light
– 36pt

**FORMALLY DISCONTINUED IN 2000, IT WAS THE SOLE PSEUDO-
NYM USED BY MEMBERS OF THE DIRECTORS GUILD OF AMERICA
(DGA) WHEN A DIRECTOR, DISSATISFIED WITH THE FINAL PROD-
UCT, PROVED TO THE SATISFACTION OF A GUILD PANEL THAT HE
OR SHE HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO EXERCISE CREATIVE CONTROL**

+

Extra Condensed Light
– 24pt

**OVER A FILM. THE DIRECTOR WAS ALSO REQUIRED BY GUILD RULES NOT TO DISCUSS THE
CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING TO THE MOVE OR EVEN TO ACKNOWLEDGE BEING THE PROJECT'S
DIRECTOR. THE SPELLING "ALAN SMITHEE" BECAME STANDARD, AND THE INTERNET MOVIE DATA-
BASE LISTS ABOUT TWO DOZEN FEATURE FILMS AND MANY MORE TELEVISION FEATURES AND
SERIES EPISODES CREDITED TO THIS NAME. A PERSISTENT URBAN LEGEND SUGGESTS THAT THIS
PARTICULAR SPELLING WAS CHOSEN BECAUSE IT IS AN ANAGRAM OF THE PHRASE "THE ALIAS
MEN", BUT THIS IS APOCRYPHAL. THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL WAS TO CREDIT THE FICTIONAL**

+

Extra Condensed Light
– 90pt

Alan Smithee is an official
pseudonym used by film

+

Extra Condensed Light
– 54pt

directors who wish to disown a project.
Coined in 1968 and used until it was
formally discontinued in 2000, it was the

+

Extra Condensed Light
– 36pt

sole pseudonym used by members of the Directors Guild of
America (DGA) when a director, dissatisfied with the final product,
proved to the satisfaction of a guild panel that he or she had not
been able to exercise creative control over a film. The director
was also required by guild rules not to discuss the circumstances

+

Extra Condensed Light
– 24pt

leading to the move or even to acknowledge being the project's director. The spelling "Alan Smithee" became standard, and the Internet Movie Database lists about two dozen feature films and many more television features and series episodes credited to this name. A persistent urban legend suggests that this particular spelling was chosen because it is an anagram of the phrase "the alias men", but this is apocryphal. The original proposal was to credit the fictional "Al Smith", but that was deemed too common a name, and in fact was already in use within the film industry. The last name was first changed to "Smithe", then "Smithee", which was thought to be distinctive enough to avoid

+

Extra Condensed Regular
– 90pt

**ALAN SMITHEE IS AN
OFFICIAL PSEUDO-**

+

Extra Condensed Regular
– 54pt

**NYM USED BY FILM DIRECTORS
WHO WISH TO DISOWN A PRO-
JECT. COINED IN 1968 AND USED**

+

Extra Condensed Regular
– 36pt

**UNTIL IT WAS FORMALLY DISCONTINUED IN 2000,
IT WAS THE SOLE PSEUDONYM USED BY MEMBERS
OF THE DIRECTORS GUILD OF AMERICA (DGA) WHEN
A DIRECTOR, DISSATISFIED WITH THE FINAL PRODUCT,
PROVED TO THE SATISFACTION OF A GUILD PANEL**

+

Extra Condensed Regular
– 24pt

**THAT HE OR SHE HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO EXERCISE CREATIVE CONTROL OVER
A FILM. THE DIRECTOR WAS ALSO REQUIRED BY GUILD RULES NOT TO DISCUSS
THE CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING TO THE MOVE OR EVEN TO ACKNOWLEDGE BEING
THE PROJECT'S DIRECTOR. THE SPELLING "ALAN SMITHEE" BECAME STANDARD,
AND THE INTERNET MOVIE DATABASE LISTS ABOUT TWO DOZEN FEATURE FILMS
AND MANY MORE TELEVISION FEATURES AND SERIES EPISODES CREDITED TO
THIS NAME. A PERSISTENT URBAN LEGEND SUGGESTS THAT THIS PARTICULAR**

+

Extra Condensed Regular
– 90pt

**Alan Smithee is an
official pseudonym**

+

Extra Condensed Regular
– 54pt

**used by film directors who wish
to disown a project. Coined
in 1968 and used until it was**

+

Extra Condensed Regular
– 36pt

**formally discontinued in 2000, it was the sole
pseudonym used by members of the Directors Guild of
America (DGA) when a director, dissatisfied with the
final product, proved to the satisfaction of a guild panel
that he or she had not been able to exercise creative**

+

Extra Condensed Regular
– 24pt

**control over a film. The director was also required by guild rules not to discuss
the circumstances leading to the move or even to acknowledge being the project's
director. The spelling "Alan Smithee" became standard, and the Internet Movie
Database lists about two dozen feature films and many more television features
and series episodes credited to this name. A persistent urban legend suggests that
this particular spelling was chosen because it is an anagram of the phrase "the
alias men", but this is apocryphal. The original proposal was to credit the fictional**

+

Extra Condensed Medium
– 90pt

**ALAN SMITHEE
IS AN OFFICIAL**

+

Extra Condensed Medium
– 54pt

**PSEUDONYM USED BY FILM
DIRECTORS WHO WISH TO
DISOWN A PROJECT. COINED**

+

Extra Condensed Medium
– 36pt

**IN 1968 AND USED UNTIL IT WAS FORMALLY
DISCONTINUED IN 2000, IT WAS THE SOLE
PSEUDONYM USED BY MEMBERS OF THE
DIRECTORS GUILD OF AMERICA (DGA) WHEN
A DIRECTOR, DISSATISFIED WITH THE FINAL**

+

Extra Condensed Medium
– 24pt

**PRODUCT, PROVED TO THE SATISFACTION OF A GUILD PANEL THAT HE OR
SHE HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO EXERCISE CREATIVE CONTROL OVER A FILM.
THE DIRECTOR WAS ALSO REQUIRED BY GUILD RULES NOT TO DISCUSS
THE CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING TO THE MOVE OR EVEN TO ACKNOWLEDGE
BEING THE PROJECT'S DIRECTOR. THE SPELLING "ALAN SMITHEE"
BECAME STANDARD, AND THE INTERNET MOVIE DATABASE LISTS ABOUT
TWO DOZEN FEATURE FILMS AND MANY MORE TELEVISION FEATURES**

Extra Condensed Medium
– 90pt

**Alan Smithee is an
official pseudonym**

Extra Condensed Medium
– 84pt

**used by film directors who
wish to disown a project.
Coined in 1968 and used until**

Extra Condensed Medium
– 78pt

**it was formally discontinued in 2000, it was
the sole pseudonym used by members of the
Directors Guild of America (DGA) when a
director, dissatisfied with the final product,
proved to the satisfaction of a guild panel that**

Extra Condensed Medium
– 72pt

**he or she had not been able to exercise creative control over a film.
The director was also required by guild rules not to discuss the
circumstances leading to the move or even to acknowledge being
the project's director. The spelling "Alan Smithee" became standard,
and the Internet Movie Database lists about two dozen feature films
and many more television features and series episodes credited
to this name. A persistent urban legend suggests that this particular**

+

Extra Condensed Bold
– 90pt

**ALAN SMITHEE
IS AN OFFICIAL**

+

Extra Condensed Bold
– 54pt

**PSEUDONYM USED BY
FILM DIRECTORS WHO
WISH TO DISOWN A PRO-**

+

Extra Condensed Bold
– 36pt

**JECT COINED IN 1968 AND USED UNTIL IT
WAS FORMALLY DISCONTINUED IN 2000,
IT WAS THE SOLE PSEUDONYM USED
BY MEMBERS OF THE DIRECTORS GUILD
OF AMERICA (DGA) WHEN A DIRECTOR,**

+

Extra Condensed Bold
– 24pt

**DISSATISFIED WITH THE FINAL PRODUCT, PROVED TO THE
SATISFACTION OF A GUILD PANEL THAT HE OR SHE HAD
NOT BEEN ABLE TO EXERCISE CREATIVE CONTROL OVER A FILM.
THE DIRECTOR WAS ALSO REQUIRED BY GUILD RULES NOT
TO DISCUSS THE CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING TO THE MOVE
OR EVEN TO ACKNOWLEDGE BEING THE PROJECT'S DIRECTOR.
THE SPELLING "ALAN SMITHEE" BECAME STANDARD, AND THE**

+

Extra Condensed Bold
– 90pt

**Alan Smithee
is an official**

+

Extra Condensed Bold
– 54pt

**pseudonym used by film
directors who wish to
disown a project. Coined**

+

Extra Condensed Bold
– 36pt

**in 1968 and used until it was formally
discontinued in 2000, it was the sole
pseudonym used by members of the
Directors Guild of America (DGA) when
a director, dissatisfied with the final**

+

Extra Condensed Bold
– 24pt

**product, proved to the satisfaction of a guild panel that he or
she had not been able to exercise creative control over a film.
The director was also required by guild rules not to discuss
the circumstances leading to the move or even to acknow-
ledge being the project's director. The spelling "Alan Smithee"
became standard, and the Internet Movie Database lists
about two dozen feature films and many more television**

+

Extra Condensed Black
– 90pt

**ALAN SMITHEE
IS AN OFFICIAL**

+

Extra Condensed Black
– 54pt

**PSEUDONYM USED BY
FILM DIRECTORS WHO
WISH TO DISOWN A**

+

Extra Condensed Black
– 36pt

**PROJECT COINED IN 1968 AND USED
UNTIL IT WAS FORMALLY DISCONTIN-
UED IN 2000, IT WAS THE SOLE PSEU-
DONYM USED BY MEMBERS OF THE
DIRECTORS GUILD OF AMERICA (DGA)**

+

Extra Condensed Black
– 24pt

**WHEN A DIRECTOR, DISSATISFIED WITH THE FINAL
PRODUCT, PROVED TO THE SATISFACTION OF A GUILD
PANEL THAT HE OR SHE HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO EXERCISE
CREATIVE CONTROL OVER A FILM. THE DIRECTOR WAS
ALSO REQUIRED BY GUILD RULES NOT TO DISCUSS THE
CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING TO THE MOVE OR EVEN TO
ACKNOWLEDGE BEING THE PROJECT'S DIRECTOR. THE**

Extra Condensed Black
– 90pt

**Alan Smithee
is an official**

Extra Condensed Black
– 54pt

**pseudonym used by
film directors who
wish to disown a pro-**

Extra Condensed Black
– 36pt

**ject. Coined in 1968 and used until it
was formally discontinued in 2000,
it was the sole pseudonym used
by members of the Directors Guild
of America (DGA) when a director,**

Extra Condensed Black
– 24pt

**dissatisfied with the final product, proved to the
satisfaction of a guild panel that he or she had not
been able to exercise creative control over a film.
The director was also required by guild rules not to
discuss the circumstances leading to the move or
even to acknowledge being the project's director.
The spelling "Alan Smithee" became standard, and**

+

Stylistic set 1 [SS01]
Alternative a

Bogart Bogart

+

Stylistic set 2 [SS02]
Alternative g

Siegel Siegel

+

Stylistic set 3 [SS03]
Alternative j

Prijs Prijs

+

Stylistic set 4 [SS04]
Alternative r

Brest Brest

Stylistic set 5 [SS05]
Alternative t

Horst Horst

Stylistic set 6 [SS06]
Alternative y

Taylor Taylor



OpenType Features

OFF

ON

All caps

lowercases to uppercases

LOWERCASES TO UPPERCASES

Case-sensitive forms

¿h;h --- (h) [h] {h} <h> «h» ·h @

¿H iH --- (H) [H] {H} <H> «H» ·H @

Standard ligatures

The first flight effect

The first flight effect

Historical ligatures

Historical

Historical



Contextual alternates

1x2 30x40
← → ↑ ↓
↖ ↗ ↘ ↙
↕ ↔

1x2 30x40
← → ↑ ↓
↖ ↗ ↘ ↙
↕ ↔

Proportional lining figures

#€\$¢£¥ƒ00123456789

#€\$¢£¥ƒ00123456789

Tabular lining figures

#€\$¢£¥ƒ00123456789

#€\$¢£¥ƒ00123456789

Proportional oldstyle figures

#€\$¢£¥ƒ00123456789

#€\$¢£¥ƒ00123456789



Tabular oldstyle figures

#€\$¢£¥ƒ00123456789

#€\$¢£¥ƒ00123456789

Slashed zeros

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Superscript/Superior

H..() + - × ÷ = 0123456789

H..() + - × ÷ = 0123456789

Subscript/Inferior

H..() + - × ÷ = 0123456789

H..() + - × ÷ = 0123456789

Numerators

H..() + - × ÷ = 0123456789

H..() + - × ÷ = 0123456789

Denominators

H..() + - × ÷ = 0123456789

H..() + - × ÷ = 0123456789





OpenType Features

OFF

ON

Fractions

1/2 30/40 100/1000 567/890

 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{30}{40}$ $\frac{100}{1000}$ $\frac{567}{890}$

Ordinals

10^{2o} 3^A 4^a N^o n^o No no1^o 2^o 3^a 4^a N^oStylistic set 1 [SS01]
Alternative aananas
[a à á â ã ä å æ ç è]ananas
[a à á â ã ä å æ ç è]Stylistic set 2 [SS02]
Alternative ggigabytes
[g ĝ g̃ ĝ ḡ]gigabytes
[g ĝ g̃ ĝ ḡ]Stylistic set 3 [SS03]
Alternative jjujitsu
[j j̃ ĵ j̄]jujitsu
[j j̃ ĵ j̄]Stylistic set 3 [SS03]
Alternative rrestaurant
[r r̃ r̂ r̄]restaurant
[r r̃ r̂ r̄]Stylistic set 4 [SS04]
Alternative tattention
[t t̃ t̂ t̄]attention
[t t̃ t̂ t̄]Stylistic set 5 [SS05]
Alternative yheydays
[y ŷ ỹ ŷ ȳ]heydays
[y ŷ ỹ ŷ ȳ]Stylistic set 6 [SS06]
Alternative ampersand

&

&

Stylistic set 7 [SS07]
All alternatesa à á â ã ä å æ ç è ĝ g̃ ĝ ḡ j j̃ ĵ j̄
r r̃ r̂ r̄ t t̃ t̂ t̄ y ŷ ỹ ŷ ȳ &a à á â ã ä å æ ç è ĝ g̃ ĝ ḡ j j̃ ĵ j̄
r r̃ r̂ r̄ t t̃ t̂ t̄ y ŷ ỹ ŷ ȳ &Stylistic set 8 [SS08]
Open circled figures

012345678910

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Stylistic set 9 [SS09]
Closed circled figures

012345678910

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



The End

Contact:

info@apexfoundry.com

Alex Chavot
3 passage de la Moselle
75019 – Paris [France]

www.apexfoundry.com

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