TYPE SPECIMEN

VERSION 1.8 / 2026

Lining Antique

A REVIVAL OF ATF LINING ANTIQUE NO. 525, 1912

BY Design

ABOUT THE TYPEFACE

Lining Antique No. 525 appears on page 624 of the American Specimen Book of Type Styles, published by American Type Founders in 1912: a sturdy slab serif with bracketed serifs and ball terminals, cast in twelve sizes from 5½ to 42 point. We came across it while tracing the lettering of an old advertisement in a Polish-language Chicago newspaper, and could not find a digital version of it anywhere.

Lining Antique BY is our revival. Every letter was traced from the 1912 page and then redrawn to one set of rules: one stem weight, one serif, one bracket, one curl. That lets the face hold up at sizes the original was never cast in. Where the specimen was silent we drew the missing letters from the face's own parts: J, Q, V, X and Z, j, q, w and z, the punctuation, the accents and the whole of Latin Extended-A.

The name keeps both halves of the original. Antique was the nineteenth-century founders' word for a slab serif. Lining refers to the American standard line: a shared baseline that let printers mix sizes and faces in one line without packing them with spacers.


Lining Antique No. 525

42 Point
MINER Insured

36 Point
BIRDS FIND NEST
Kind Ladies Report

30 Point
RIGHT SOUND BANKS
Introduced Mining Stock

24 Point
MATE RESCUED SINKING MAN
Dreadful Mine Explosion Described

18 Point
REPORTS CONFLICT
Made Particular Brand
Familiar Faces Present

8 Point
DEMANDS REFUSED POLITICIANS
City Fathers Asked Important Point
Eminent Lawyer Retained by Banker
Prominent Societies Organized Band
Grand Reception Given Haughty Duke

12 Point
HONEST SALESMEN COMBINE
Rich Americans Entertained Lord
Explains Ancient Historical Event
Some Bet $1234567890 Big Stack

7 Point
BANKERS USED VERY CURIOUS METHOD
Funds Vanished Quickly From Ironclad Bank
Depositors Arrange for Immediate Statement
Sound Institution Advanced Necessary Fund
Farmer Spends Large Fortune During March
Grand Charity Entertainment Given Recently

10 Point
MERCHANTS ERECT MANY EDIFICES
Numerous Ancient Residences Destroyed
Society People Invading Southern Resort
Inside Decorations Pronounced Beautiful

6 Point
PROMINENT CITIZENS RETURNED SOUTH
Summer Vacations Granted Young Musicians
Money Promptly Advanced Business Project
High Mountain Climbing Expert Found Dead
American Faces Always Command Attention
Runaway Boy $1234567890 Received Cash

9 Point
FIRM SECURED GENEROUS CONTRACTS
Construction Parties Arrange Practical Work
Builder Refused Special Inducements Offered
Important Discovery Made During Argument

5½ Point
REMARKABLE DISCOVERIES CAUSED CONFUSION
Scientific Research Explains Some Difficult Problems
Merchants Received Important Letters From Abroad
United States Government Erected New Department
Great Enthusiastic Meetings Held During Campaign
Newspaper Managers Expect Very Pleasing Results

624

AMERICAN SPECIMEN BOOK OF TYPE STYLES, AMERICAN TYPE FOUNDERS, 1912, P. 624

THE 1912 SHOWING LINES, SET IN THE REVIVAL

42 POINT

MINER Insured

36 POINT

BIRDS FIND NEST

36 POINT

Kind Ladies Report

30 POINT

RIGHT SOUND BANKS

30 POINT

Introduced Mining Stock

24 POINT

MATE RESCUED SINKING MAN

24 POINT

Dreadful Mine Explosion Described



STEMS

86 lowercase, 106 capitals

SERIFS

44 lowercase, 50 capitals, bracketed

TERMINALS

One ball and one spiral curl

UNITS

1000 per em

ABCDEFGHIJKLM
NOPQRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklm
nopqrstuvwxyz

0123456789 &?!$€£@

96 PT

Kind Ladies R

72 PT

Introduced Mining

48 PT

Honest Salesmen Combine Fo

36 PT

Grand Reception Given to Haughty Dul

24 PT

Eminent Lawyer Retained by Banker in Difficult Case of L

18 PT

Prominent Citizens Returned South after Summer Vacations in the Northern

14 PT

Funds Vanished Quickly from Ironclad Bank, Depositors Arrange for Immediate Statement of Accou

11 PT

Remarkable Discoveries Caused Confusion. Scientific Research Explains Some Difficult Problems of the Day, and Newspaper Ma

9 PT

Merchants Received Important Letters from Abroad. United States Government Erected New Department. Great Enthusiastic Meetings Held During Campa

18 PT / 23 PT

A slab serif is a working letter. It was cut for posters, timetables, auction bills and the classified columns of the daily paper, where it had to survive cheap ink, soft paper and a press running fast. Its serifs are not ornaments but supports: they hold each letter on the line and keep the words together when the impression is light.

12 PT / 16 PT

Lining Antique carries that habit into the present. The stems are even and the joins are plain. The curves come from the 1912 cutting, while the serifs, brackets and terminals follow a single rule, so a word set at nine points looks like the same voice as a headline set at ninety. The figures line with the capitals by default; old-style, tabular and fraction figures are a feature away. Small capitals are drawn rather than scaled, so they match the weight of the lowercase, and five stylistic sets change the character of the face without changing its colour on the page.

9 PT / 12.5 PT

Lining Antique carries that habit into the present. The stems are even and the joins are plain. The curves come from the 1912 cutting, while the serifs, brackets and terminals follow a single rule, so a word set at nine points looks like the same voice as a headline set at ninety. The figures line with the capitals by default; old-style, tabular and fraction figures are a feature away. Small capitals are drawn rather than scaled, so they match the weight of the lowercase, and five stylistic sets change the character of the face without changing its colour on the page. A slab serif is a working letter. It was cut for posters, timetables, auction bills and the classified columns of the daily paper, where it had to survive cheap ink, soft paper and a press running fast. Its serifs are not ornaments but supports: they hold each letter on the line and keep the words together when the impression is light. Every accented letter of the Latin Extended-A block is included, which covers most languages written in the Latin alphabet across Europe, from Icelandic to Turkish. Kerning is set by hand for the hard cases, the T, the V, the open quotes, and checked by machine for collisions across more than five thousand pairs.


Rg&Qy

	DEFAULT	FEATURE ON
STANDARD LIGATURES LIGA	Official fluffy waffles	Official fluffy waffles
SMALL CAPITALS SMCP	Printed in Chicago	Printed in Chicago
ALL SMALL CAPITALS C2SC	ATF Lining Antique	ATF LINING ANTIQUE
OLD-STYLE FIGURES ONUM	From 1912 to 2026	From 1912 to 2026
TABULAR FIGURES TNUM	1111 / 2468 / 9035	1111 / 2468 / 9035
FRACTIONS FRAC	1/2 3/4 5/8 15/16	1/2 3/4 5/8 15/16
SLASHED ZERO ZERO	Order 1020 / 0	Order 1020 / 0
SUPERIORS SUPS	x2 + y2 = z2	x² + y² = z²
CASE-SENSITIVE FORMS CASE	(H-BOMB) ¿QUÉ?	(H-BOMB) ¿QUÉ?

	DEFAULT	FEATURE ON
SINGLE-STOREY A AND G SS01	baggage	baggage
STRAIGHT-TAIL J AND Y SS02	joyfully	joyfully
STRAIGHT-LEG R SS03	RARER	RARER
Q WITH CROSSING TAIL SS04	QUOTA	QUOTA
ET AMPERSAND SS05	Bread & Salt	Bread & Salt

UPPERCASE

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X

Y Z

LOWERCASE

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x

y z

FIGURES

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

ACCENTED AND EXTENDED

À Á Â Ã Ä Å Æ Ç È É Ê Ë Ì Í Î Ï Ð Ñ Ò Ó Ô Õ Ö Ø

Ù Ú Û Ü Ý Þ ß à á â ã ä å æ ç è é ê ë ì í î ï ð

ñ ò ó ô õ ö ø ù ú û ü ý þ ÿ Ā ā Ă ă Ą ą Ć ć Ĉ ĉ

Ċ ċ Č č Ď đ Đ đ Ē ē Ĕ ĕ Ė ė Ę ę Ě ě Ĝ ĝ Ğ ğ Ġ ġ

ACCENTED AND EXTENDED (CONT.)

Ģ ģ Ĥ ĥ Ħ ħ Ĩ ĩ Ī ī Ǐ ǐ Į į İ ı Ĳ ĳ Ĵ ĵ Ķ ķ Ĺ ĺ

Ļ ļ Ľ ľ Ł ł Ń ń Ņ ņ Ň ň Ō ō Ŏ ŏ Ő ő Œ œ Ŕ ŕ Ŗ ŗ

Ř ř Ś ś Ŝ ŝ Ş ş Š š Ţ ţ Ť ŧ Ũ ũ Ū ū Ŭ ŭ Ů ů Ű ű

Ų ų Ŵ ŵ Ŷ ŷ Ÿ Ź ź Ż ż Ž ž Ș ș Ț ț ȷ Ƀ

PUNCTUATION AND SYMBOLS

! ” # $ % & ’ ( ) * + , - . / : ; < = > ? @ [\

] ^ _ ` { | } ~ ¡ ¢ £ ¤ ¥ ¦ § ¨ © ª « ¬ ® ¯ ° ±

² ³ ´ µ ¶ · ¸ ¹ º » ¼ ½ ¾ ¿ × ÷ ˆ ˇ ˘ ˙ ˚ ˛ ˜ ˝

– — ‘ ’ ‚ “ ” „ † ‡ • … ‰ ‹ › ⁄ € ™ −

LIGATURES

ff fi fl ffi ffl

SMALL CAPITALS

A Á Ă Â Ä Æ À Ā Ą Å Ã B C Ć Č Ç Ĉ Ċ D Ḋ Đ E É Ĕ

Ě Ê Ë Ė È Ē Ę Ð F G Ğ Ĝ Ġ Ɣ H Ħ Ĥ I İ Ĭ Î Ï İ IJ

Ī Į Ĩ J Ĵ K L Ĺ Ľ Ł M N Ń Ň Ñ O Ó Ŏ Ô Ö Œ Ò Ő Ō

Ø Õ P Q R Ŕ Ř S Ś Š Ş Ŝ T Ť Þ U Ú Ŭ Û Ü Ù Ű Ū Ǵ

Ķ Ļ Ņ Ŗ Ţ Ș Ț Ų Ů Ũ V W Ŵ X Y Ý Ŷ Ÿ Z Ź Ž Ż

FIGURE SETS

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3

4 5 6 7 8 9

ALTERNATES

@ ɑ á à â ä ã å ā ă ą ɡ ĝ ğ ġ ģ ĭ î ij l ɣ ý ÿ ŷ

R Ŕ Ř Ŗ Q ꞔ

ENGLISH	The compositor sets the line, adjusts the space and checks every letter.
DUTCH	De zetter zet de regel, verdeelt het wit en controleert elke letter.
GERMAN	Der Setzer prüft jede Zeile, gleicht den Abstand aus und schließt die Form.
FRENCH	Le typographe règle l’interligne avant de tirer la première épreuve.
SPANISH	El cajista compone la línea, ajusta el espacio y revisa cada acento.
TURKISH	Dizgici satırı kapatmadan önce harflerin aralığını özenle düzeltir.
POLISH	Zecer składa wiersz, sprawdza odstępy i poprawia źle wybite znaki.
CZECH	Sazeč pečlivě vyrovná řádek a zkontroluje každé písmeno s háčkem.
HUNGARIAN	A betűszedő gondosan igazítja a sort, mielőtt levonatot készít.
ROMANIAN	Zețarul aliniază rândul și verifică fiecare literă înainte de tipar.
DANISH	Sætteren justerer linjen og retter hvert bogstav før trykningen.
ICELANDIC	Setjarinn lagar línuna og leiðréttir hvern staf fyrir prentun.

Lining Antique BY

STYLE
Regular

VERSION
1.800

GLYPHS
572

FORMAT
OpenType CFF

SCRIPT
Latin, Latin-1 and Latin Extended-A

FEATURES
kern liga smcp c2sc onum lnum tnum pnum frac numr dnom sups zero case ss01–ss05 salt

SOURCE
ATF Lining Antique No. 525, American Specimen Book of Type Styles, 1912

DESIGN
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