
GFOSS Project I want to Contribute:

Addition of Greek glyphs in Open Source Fonts

How I want to contribute in the project:

I would like to contribute by adding Greek support for Eczar, including polytonic, for all 5 weights.

Eczar is designed by Vaibhav Singh, produced by David Březina, and published by Rosetta Type Foundry: github.com/rosettatype/Eczar – fonts.google.com/specimen/Eczar.

As a typeface, Eczar has a strong personality, with five weights from Regular to Extra-Bold and can be used to set text from body copy to display. At the moment, only six Serif fonts that support Greek are available from Google Fonts and –in my opinion– do not provide this flexibility. Eczar already supports Latin and Devanagari. Devanagari are designed with an axis mirrored in relation to the Latin. This is a significant start regarding the addition of Greek glyphs, since one has a glimpse of the designer's original aesthetics and design intentions; it also provides a good basis for certain letterforms that could be transferred into the Greek design, rendering a balanced outcome for all the supported scripts.

Timeline:

May 30 – June 6

Exploration of typographic forms, bring balance between the original design and the Greek additions, sketches of basic characters for the regular and Extra-Bold weights.

June 7 – June 21

Lowercase character set for Regular.

June 21 – June 29

Uppercase, diacritics, polytonic for Regular.

June 30

Phase 1 Evaluation

July 3 - July 14

Lowercase character set for Extra-Bold.

July 17 – July 21

Uppercase, diacritics, polytonic for Extra-Bold.

July 24 – July 27

Kerning, initial interpolation tests.

July 28

Phase 2 Evaluation

July 31 – August 11

Fix interpolation compatibility issues and selection of intermediate weights. Complete 5 weights.

August 14 – August 18

Final touches, documentation.

August 21 – August 29

Final week. Kept empty for any unpredictable delays.

Why I am interested in participating in GSoC:

Participating in GSoC is an opportunity to give something back to the community. I have been using Google Fonts for years, from personal to work related projects. However the lack of Greek support in the majority of them, leads to design limitations, especially for non-profit organisations or tight budget projects. Expanding fonts with Greek support, broadens one's options and creativity, creates uniqueness and individuality. This project is an ideal occasion to generate awareness for the Greek type design scene; I would be proud to be a part of it and offer my skills and knowledge towards this goal.

Why I believe you should choose me:

As a person, I am always eager to learn and try to utilise my knowledge and experience from my multidisciplinary background in my workflow. Since last September, I study at the Post-Graduate course "Typography & Language" at Ésad in Amiens. The program is type design oriented and with the various courses and workshops, it has helped me to improve my skills, enlarge my historical knowledge on typography through research and provided me with a toolset for critical thinking. Workshops with Frederik Berlaen (introduction to Python) and with Frank Griesshammer (Adobe FDK tools), have introduced me to coding, a new exciting chapter of possibilities for improving my process in type design. I try to work smart, hard and efficiently; I am sure that the goals will be fulfilled within the GSoC timeline I provide – and that we will also have fun during it.
